

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 13, 2003

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in Regular Session on Monday, January 13, 2003, pursuant to law and the rules of said Board. The meeting was held at the Davenport Schools Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa, in the Board Room. President Susan Low called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: President Susan Low; Directors Richard Clewell, Alan Guard, Steve Hunter, Anne Losasso, Dan Portes, and Larry Roberson. Student board member William Baresel from Central High was also in attendance.

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. SMART INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL * *Kristina Scupham, Principal*

The Davenport Community School Board recognized the **Stepping Stones Before and After School Program** at Smart Intermediate School. Principal Kris Scupham gave a brief explanation of how the 21st Century Grant provided funding to support this exciting program at Smart Intermediate. Ms. Scupham introduced **Shaney Shewry**, Site Program Facilitator, who gave an informative outline of the program. **Cynthia Cox** and **Linda Kauchak**, Educational Program Coordinators, also touched on some of the educational components of the program. There were about 150 students last summer and 25 staff members in the program. They work on reading, math, and science plus have a recreational component in the program. There are many enrichment activities to supplement what the teachers are doing and there even is breakfast for the children in the morning program. The afternoon projects include math, reading, science, and play time with snacks provided. Community agencies are the fourth component.

Smart Intermediate School students **Jeff Jasper, Kerriana Morgan, Jordan Powers, Brittany Schaffer, Sandy Schaffer, Alex Schutte** and **Aleah Olander** shared their views as participants involved with the activities offered before and after school. Each student had an opportunity to speak about things they had done and what they liked about the program. They all agreed the activities had helped them and provided support with their educational needs at school. **Corina Caven**, a parent of six children, gave her perspective from the viewpoint of a parent involved with the Stepping Stones Before and After School Program. This program gives the children a quiet place to study and provides the extra help her children need with their homework. She is informed and learns parenting skills that help her communicate with her children better. They have a wonderful summer program, they go on field trips, and have great teacher support.

Dr. Blanche thanked the students, staff, and Mrs. Caven for sharing their stories about the value of the Stepping Stones program. It is valuable to hear directly from parents and staff and to know what is happening. You are all doing a great job with the children.

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Wednesday, January 15, 6:15 AM, Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast at North High; 6:45 AM Program in the Auditorium
- B. Thursday, January 16, 7:00 PM, Kimberly Center Graduation Ceremony, @ West High School Auditorium
- C. Monday, January 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday -- No School
- D. Wednesday, January 22, 7:30 AM, Community Education Meeting, Kimberly Center
- E. Thursday, January 23, 4:00 PM, District Initial Proposal to DEA, Kimberly Center, Community Room 201
- F. Thursday, January 23, 5:00 PM, Local School Improvement Advisory Committee, Smart Intermediate, Media Center
- G. Saturday, January 25, 8:00 to 11:00 AM, Legislative Forum @ St. Ambrose Library
- H. Monday, January 27, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, DSASC, Board Room
- I. Tuesday, January 28, 9:45 AM, Urban Education Network Lobby Day, Des Moines
- J. Monday, February 3, 5:30 PM, Committee of the Whole @ Sudlow Intermediate; tour of building at 5:00 PM
- K. Open Forum for Community Input
 - 1. Phillip Hofinga and Kim McKnight made a written request for extra time to speak during Open Forum and were granted five minutes. Mr. Hofinga presented the report on their perspective of the savings realized from the closing of neighborhood elementary schools. He summarized events that took place last year with the closing of Grant and Johnson schools. He talked about where the bulk of the savings came from and how they felt this had failed with no teaching positions saved. He told the Board about things they had given up by eliminating the two central-city schools. Mr. Hofinga then commented about the costs to the district for taking this action and how it caused the loss of students. He didn't feel the \$200,000 savings gained by the school closings was enough compared with the costs to the community. Mr. Hofinga concluded with his suggestions for the future: (1) Look before you leap; (2) Commit to sound educational policy; (3) Listen to the community; and (4) Learn from your mistakes. Board members were given a copy of the presentation and support data.
 - 2. Leigh Reitz, 1741 West 17th Street, Davenport, talked about pulling her children out of the district and enrolling them at Marquette Academy. She complained about the lack of services for her grandson with special needs who wasn't required to do any work and only got average grades. She wanted to open enroll out of Davenport and hoped this wouldn't be an issue for her. It was about education and not because of sports that they were leaving. She felt the problem with sports had to do with the coaching not the kids.
 - 3. Kim McKnight, 735 West Locust, Davenport, said the new policy on open enrollment will not affect her child who is Native American, but she had concerns about the education in large districts. She wondered about any short-term gains we might have with the new policy, and how it will force students to attend instead of giving them a choice. It will not be the district of choice and people want smaller schools. The students are going to private schools and to the surrounding areas because they are smaller environments. The Iowa Supreme Court has ruled for parents' choice, and she wondered about people checking a specific race on the box for open enrollment in order to allow their children to open enroll. Will this new policy do what you want? How will it apply to the No Child Left Behind legislation? Is it addressed in the policy?

4. Irene Hart, 2505 East Locust, Davenport, also spoke out against the open enrollment policy changes. She didn't think we wanted to compete with other districts and she found this to be restrictive. She felt the school district was insecure with their programs and they were taking away people's choice. She complained about the attitude of some board members who she spoke with and didn't think they cared. She didn't think the Board reflected the opinions of the public but only the few people they represented from the East Side of the city who were wealthy. She thought the people in our community have not been equally represented on the Board, and they will negatively market the district if they pass this new policy on open enrollment. The policy will drive away the young and rich families who might move to our district.
5. Noah Bieber, 5022 Northwest Blvd., Davenport was the co-editor of the newspaper at Central High and had reviewed the policy on open enrollment. He felt the open enrollment policy was against the rights of people and a disregard for people's needs. As the co-editor of the paper, he said the opinion of the public was not behind the changes. He would write down the names of anyone voting for this policy and have it published. He encouraged others to do the same such as the River City newspaper and other publications. People will bare this in mind and the Board needed to remember their actions would have consequences. They will be held accountable because he felt the public was against this policy and they will remember who voted for it in the next election.

CONSENT AGENDA

III. CONSENT AGENDA

To conserve time and focus attention on non-routine matters on the agenda, the Board considered a number of items grouped together as a Consent Agenda, all items to be approved in one motion.

A. Reading of the Minutes of the Last Regular and Intervening Meetings

The minutes from the regular board meeting and intervening meetings were presented for approval as follows: December 2, 2002 Committee of the Whole; December 4, 2002 Special Call Expulsion; December 9, 2002 Regular Meeting (with correction in Personnel); December 10, 2002 Board Vacancy Appointment; December 16, 2002 Special Call Expulsion; and December 18, 2002 Special Call Expulsion.

B. Financial Report

It was recommended the Treasurer's monthly reports of receipts and disbursements of the various funds for the period ending November 30, 2002 be approved.

C. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Bolich, Margaret	Effective: January 8, 2003
Math – Grade 8	Yrs. of Service: 21 yrs 6 mos
Sudlow Intermediate	

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Hedquist, Rachel	Leave without Pay 01/21/03 to end of the
Kindergarten	2002-2003 school year
Garfield Elementary	

Ware, Melissa	FMLA with Pay 11/18/02 – 12/20/02
SCI	FMLA without Pay 01/06/03 – 02/07/03
Walcott Intermediate	

RESIGNATIONS FROM SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Metzger, Jack	10%
Assistant Boys' Swim Coach	\$2,384.00
North High	

Robinson, L. Dennis	10%
Assistant Varsity Girls' Track Coach	\$2,384.00
West High	

SUPPLEMENTAL APPOINTMENTS

Estes, Turner	12%
Assistant Varsity Girls	\$2,860.00
Basketball Coach	
West High	

Hotchkiss, Marci	7%
Asst Girls Basketball 8 th Gr	\$1,668.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

Olsen, Raub	10%
Sophomore Wrestling Coach	\$2,384.00
West High	

Underwood, Bryan	10%
Assistant Sophomore Girls'	\$2,384.00
Basketball Coach	
West High	

Weisrock, James	7%
7 th Gr Heqd Wrestling Coach	\$1,668.00
Walcott Intermediate	

Weisrock, James	7%
8 th Gr. Head Wrestling Coach	\$1,668.00
Walcott Intermediate	

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Blessing, Susan	Effective: January 21, 2003
PreSchool	Salary: \$37,952.00 prorated to \$18,463.50 for
Madison Elementary	The remaining 90 days of the 2002-2003 school year

Gibbs, Ben	Effective: January 6, 2003
Counselor	Salary: \$25,709.00 prorated to \$13,896.76 for
Blue Grass/Monroe/Walcott	The remaining 100 days of the 2002-2003 school year

Hemming, Michele	Effective: November 18, 2002
Spec. Ed Multicat Resource	Salary: \$25,709.00 prorated to \$16,954.00 for
Wilson Elementary	the remaining 122 days of the 2002-2003 school year

Reeder, Shannon	Effective: January 6, 2003
Special Ed SCI	Salary: \$24,485.00 prorated to \$13,235.14 for the
Wood Intermediate	remaining 100 days of the 2002-2003 school year

Wynsma, Joseph	Effective: January 8, 2003
Counselor Facilitator	Salary: \$34,279.00 prorated to \$18,158.61 for the
Madison/Jackson/Buffalo	remaining 98 days of the 2002-2003 school year

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Andrews, Freddie	Effective: November 15, 2002
Para-educator	Yrs. of Service: 3 mos
Eisenhower Elementary	

Dau, Tina	Effective: December 20, 2002
Para-educator	Yrs. of Service:
Williams Intermediate	

Hinton, Diane	Effective: December 19, 2002
Para-educator	Yrs. of Service: 2.5 mos.
Lincoln Elementary	

Huberts, Cora	Effective: December 13, 2002
Food Service Worker	Yrs. of Service: 3 yrs 5 mos
West High	

Krueger, Stephanie	Effective: November 22, 2002
Para-educator	Yrs. of Service: 2 mos
Harrison Elementary	

Marxen, Lisa
Para-educator
Fillmore Elementary

Effective: December 2, 2002
Yrs. of Service: 2 mos

Patrick, Kathleen
Para-educator
Garfield Elementary

Effective: December 20, 2002
Yrs. of Service: 2 mos

Piatt, Craig
Lead Custodian
Operations Center

Effective: January 24, 2003
Yrs. of Service: 7 yrs 6 mos

Ryan, Susan
Food Service Cashier
Harrison Elementary

Effective: December 13, 2002
Yrs. of Service: 3 yrs 7 mos

Short, Mary
Para-educator
Wood Intermediate

Effective: December 12, 2002
Yrs. of Service: 1 yr, 3 mos

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Dau, Tina
Para-educator
Williams Intermediate

Effective: September 12, 2002
through November 21, 2002

Orcutt, Christine
Para-educator
Truman Elementary

Effective: December 17, 2002
through January 28, 2003

RETURNS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Huff, Kathy
Clerk II
KCAE

Effective: November 18, 2002
Rate of Pay: \$10.57
8.0 hrs/day

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Bates, Jane
Para-educator
Hoover

Effective: December 9, 2002
Rate of Pay: \$10.10
6.0 hrs/day

Cardoso, Patricia
Para-educator
Hoove

Effective: December 16, 2002
Rate of Pay: \$10.10
6.0 hrs/day

Cehak, Cindy
Para-educator
Eisenhower Elementary

Effective: December 10, 2002
Rate of Pay: \$6.55
7.0 hrs/day

Deffenbaugh, Mark Para-educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: December 3, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Defoe, Debbie Food Service Worker West High	Effective: December 5, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.86 2.75 hrs/day
Doeppke, Magdalena Para-educator Hoover	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 8.0 hrs/day
Earp, Hannah Para-educator Hoover	Effective: January 6, 2003 Rate of Pay: \$10.10 6.25 hrs/day
Harrington, Lydia Para-educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Johnson, Donald Food Service Worker Monroe Elementary	Effective: December 5, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.86 1.5 hrs/day
Kohler, Janice Para-educator Buchanan Elementary	Effective: January 6, 2003 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Long, Amy Para-educator Wilson Elementary	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Malone, Roxanne Para-educator Hoover	Effective: December 9, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 8 hrs/day
Overstreet, Lauryn Para-educator Hoover	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$10.10 6 hrs/day
Papouchis, Melissa Para-educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: December 13, 2002 Rate of pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Ramsey, Michelle Para-educator Central High	Effective: December 16, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 7.0 hrs/day

Rummels, Thomas Assoc Student Support Manager Jefferson Elementary	Effective: January 6, 2003 Rate of Pay: \$10.00 6 hrs/day
Seward, Anthony Para-educator Wood Intermediate	Effective: January 6, 2003 Rate of Pay: \$9.40 5.0 hrs/day
Suzuki, Mikio Para-educator Lincoln Elementary	Effective: January 6, 2003 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Tedla, Yonas Para-educator Madison Elementary	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$6.55 6.0 hrs/day
Weihrauch, Elsie Para-educator Williams Intermediate	Effective: December 2, 2002 Rate of Pay: \$11.10 7.0 hrs/day

* Not a Teacher ** Substitute Teacher *** Not a Replacement

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as written. Director Losasso seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Clewell, Losasso, Guard, Hunter, Portes, Roberson, and Low. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

A resolution was recommended by the Administration for adoption regarding bills.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board adopt the following resolution:

Resolved that all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, and reviewed by the administration and Board Treasurer, the same be and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, that the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented. Director Portes seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Guard, Portes, Clewell, Hunter, Losasso, Roberson, and Low. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. District Voluntary Desegregation Plan Resolution

The administration recommended approval of the resolution for a Voluntary Desegregation Plan for the Davenport School District. The plan includes the revised Board Policy #501.16 Open Enrollment Between Districts, as previously discussed.

MOTION: Director Hunter moved approval of the following resolution:

Whereas, the Davenport Community School District previously has undertaken efforts to achieve racial equality and to prevent racial isolation; and

Whereas, since 1989, the Iowa Open Enrollment Act has effected the minority and non-minority student ratios within the District and has undermined the District's achievement of its desegregation goals; and

Whereas, a revision of the District's Voluntary Desegregation Plan is necessary in order to ensure that the District's desegregation goals are fulfilled.

Now therefore, be it RESOLVED that the District hereby adopts a voluntary desegregation plan entitled the "Davenport Community School District Voluntary Desegregation Plan" in the form previously discussed and reviewed.

Director Portes seconded the motion.

Director Portes responded to comments made that the Board was ignorant of the wishes of the public. He said it was the responsibility of the Board to revise the policy and to apply the desegregation plan to open enrollment. He spoke of this being a critical time to make changes in the policy and hopefully the marketing plan will tell people what a great place this district is. We do a fabulous job and we have a motivated and dedicated staff in the district. Director Portes expressed his concerns over comments made about the Board and said the Board will be monitoring this to be sure it is working. Board members have to make tough decisions although they may not always be popular to everyone. Director Clewell asked if it was appropriate to speak about the open enrollment policy since it was incorporated into the desegregation plan. He then went through the details of the decision-making process. Director Clewell had talked with many people in the last few months about these issues. The linking of the plan and policy, he believed, has had the desired effect in other districts. He didn't know if the marketing plan could reach those who never lived here first to get them to stay. He believed the plan and policy would achieve our goals and benefit all our children in the long run.

Director Roberson talked about how much he had thought about this matter and the right to make choices. He felt the Board has to look at all of the students and consider what is best overall. This is not the end of the world, but most of us feel this is correct. The Board should continue to review and make sure we are serving all the students. Director Roberson didn't think we have done a good job of marketing and maybe we have short-changed ourselves. Director Roberson said he has talked with people who live in the north and west part of Davenport and asked what we should do. Those people were in favor of the changes in the policy. It hurt to hear accusations against the Board and he hoped people would give us a chance to work with them to make things right. This district is a great place to learn and provides so many opportunities. Director Roberson invited people to call him and tell him what we could do to make this an even better place to learn.

Director Hunter commented that when this first came up, he objected to the policy and he didn't want to engage in another controversial issue. Desegregation issues are never timely or pleasant, but we are obligated to act ahead of a disaster. The legislators understood that urban districts would be impacted and they included using a desegregation plan into the law. Director Hunter noted that 87% of students leaving our district haven't ever attended our schools. He expressed concerns about development on the edges of our city that abut other districts to the north and west. It is convenient for them to attend other districts and it impacts our children when they do. Director Hunter also talked about the diversity in our district and opportunities for all the students because of this makeup. The Board has written into the plan and policy accountability, and now we need to move forward. Our enrollment is declining and neighboring districts are recruiting our students. We must look out for our community and this change will help.

Director Losasso felt it was important to address our desegregation plan and work toward reversing trends and regulate numbers. We need to move forward with the marketing plan and continue to improve academics and facilities. We have made dramatic improvements and have worked hard on areas of discipline. Director Guard talked about the statistics for other districts and problems they have encountered with open enrollment and desegregation plans. He felt this caused more segregation and isolation of minorities that provides for less opportunities and lost revenues. Director Guard said the economic development community has told him this is the worse thing we can do. They don't have this in Bettendorf, Pleasant Valley, or LeClaire. He said that doing the easy thing isn't always right and making people stay legally is the easy way out. The hard thing for us to do is to sell our district to potential students. We must overcome those who speak badly about us because of ignorance or a bad experience. He believed this was leading us in the wrong direction and didn't see it working in other districts.

President Low spoke in favor of the voluntary desegregation plan which has been pulled together into one comprehensive document. This plan will be a tool for tracking and it will closely reflect the makeup of the community. She talked about the constitution and references to separate but equal facilities. The open enrollment policy changes were the responsibility of the Board. Some board members feel this might not work and they must vote accordingly. We have written into the plan a review for information and accountability.

ACTION: The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Hunter, Portes, Clewell, Losasso, Roberson, and Low. Nay: Guard. Motion carried.

B. Resolution to Adopt Board Policy #501.16 Open Enrollment Between Districts Revised

The administration recommended approval of a resolution to adopt Board Policy #501.16 Open Enrollment Between Districts revised, as previously discussed and reviewed. The administration regulations relating to this policy were included in the recommendation.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved approval of the following resolution:

Now therefore be it further RESOLVED, that the District hereby adopts Policy #501.16 in the form previously discussed and reviewed as its revised Open Enrollment Policy and the administration regulations relating to this policy. Director Portes seconded the motion.

Director Portes said he concurred that Director Guard's reasoning was sound and very thoughtful. And he noted that Director Guard had this opinion from the beginning. If the discussion had been about allowing or not allowing open enrollment, it would have been different. But the new policy doesn't stop open enrollment, it just is monitoring it, and we are on solid ground to try. If it doesn't do what we want, we may have to review our decision later. But we need to stop the flow of students out of our district.

President Low commented that she was in support of the new policy. A lot of people have talked about parental choice, but this does not end open enrollment and because of state law, we are not able to end it. In some cases, the choice to go outside of our district, after all possibilities have been explored, might be needed. She shared some of her own personal experiences and encouraged people to keep their children in our district.

ACTION: The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Clewell, Portes, Hunter, Losasso, Roberson, and Low. Nay: Guard. Motion carried.

C. Rescinding Bid #680 Farm Lease for Kimberly and Wisconsin

President Low explained we had been advised that even though we had a written plan in our leases, we were notified we needed to have this farm lease re-bid next year. We needed to give written notice by September 1st to the current farmer about the bid. On the advise from counsel, the administration recommended the Board rescind the motion for action taken on December 9, 2002 with regard to leasing 85 acres of farm land at Kimberly and Wisconsin to David and Daron Oberbroeckling for the 2003 crop year. This was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 6, 2003.

MOTION: Director Guard moved that we rescind the motion for action taken on December 9, 2002, for Bid #680 with regard to leasing 85 acres of farm land at Kimberly and Wisconsin to David and Daron Oberbroeckling for the 2003 crop year. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Guard, Clewell, Hunter, Losasso, Portes, Roberson, and Low. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Resolution for Public Hearing & Setting the Date for Sale of the Old Buffalo School Property Located at 329 Dodge Street, Buffalo, Iowa

The administration recommended approval of a resolution setting the date for a public hearing on Monday, January 27, 2003 at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering the sale of real estate owned by the District located at 329 Dodge Street, Buffalo Iowa (Old Buffalo School) to the City of Buffalo for the sum of \$73,000; and resolving that a Notice of the Sale and Public Hearing be published.

MOTION: Director Portes moved approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Davenport Community School District is the owner of certain real estate located at 329 Dodge Street, Buffalo, Iowa and more particularly described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Davenport Community School District has received an offer to sell said real estate to the City of Buffalo for the sum of \$73,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Davenport Community School District is required to hold a public hearing on the proposed transfer pursuant to Iowa Code § 297.22.

RESOLVED that a public Hearing shall be held at the Administrative Service Center on January 27, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of considering the sale of real estate owned by the School District located at 329 Dodge Street, Buffalo, Iowa;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary shall publish Notice of Sale of Real Estate and Notice of Public Hearing in the *Quad City Times* at least once not less than ten (10) days but not more than twenty (20) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

Director Roberson seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Portes, Roberson, Clewell, Guard, Hunter, Losasso, and Low. Motion carried unanimously.

E. BID #681 – Network Switches & Interface Modules/Public Hearing

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board approved Bid #681 for network switches and interface modules in the amount of \$35,789 to Future Computer Solutions, Inc. Director Losasso seconded the motion.

The Board held a public hearing on Bid #681 for the network switches and interface modules for equipment to be installed at Adams, Blue Grass, Eisenhower, Garfield, Harrison, Hayes, Jackson, Lincoln, and Wilson. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was therefore declared closed.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Guard, Losasso, Portes, Hunter, Clewell, Roberson, and Low. Motion carried unanimously.

E. BID #681 – Network Switches & Interface Modules/Public Hearing

RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD

Bid No. 681 (Network Switches)

Board Meeting January 13, 2003

1. **Item, material or service being bid, with a brief description:** Fifty-eight (58) AT-8326GB network switches and eight (8) fiber interface modules. Equipment will be installed at (Adams, Blue Grass, Eisenhower, Garfield, Harrison, Hayes, Jackson, Lincoln, Wilson) elementary schools.
2. **Rationale:** Our original network infrastructure implemented in 1995 utilized 10MB network hubs. In the summer of 2000, we began to systematically replace hubs with 100MB switches to improve network speed and performance starting with the secondary schools. Using E-rate, Local Option, and State Technology dollars, we have been able to upgrade the equipment in all but nine elementary schools. State Tech funding has been eliminated and these nine schools do not qualify for E-rate funding. This bid covers the purchase of the equipment necessary to complete the upgrade in these remaining elementary schools.

Technology has become an integral part of the curriculum. Server based program interventions including CCC, Read 180, Accelerated Math, and Accelerated Reading - initiated to improve student achievement - require a faster network. This upgrade will enable us to keep pace with increased demands so that we may best meet the needs of students and staff.

3. **Department and person responsible for the expenditure of the budget:**

Department	Administrator	Budget	Fund account number
Learning Information Services	Tom Wagner	\$40,000	LOSST and PPEL

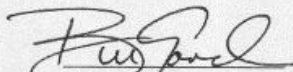
4. **Number of proposals sent to vendor:** The announcement of this RFP was published in the QC Times in compliance with bidding procedures. Bid packets were emailed to a total of 11 vendors, including 6 national vendors who received the RFB through a subscription service.


5. **Number of bids received from vendor:** 9

Listing of Vendors	Total Bid
Future Computer Solutions, Inc.	\$ 35,789.00
CDW-G	\$ 37,505.84
Sioux City Wintronic	\$ 39,140.66
Premio Computer, Inc.	\$ 40,996.00
PC Mall	\$ 41,733.40
Yates Cabling Systems	\$ 43,263.00
SDF Professional Computer, Inc.	\$ 43,653.72
The Lyell Group, Inc.	\$ 43,806.16
Graybar Electric	\$ 47,431.34

7. **Recommended Bid:**
Future Computer Solutions, Inc. \$ 35,789.00

8. **Other Comments:**
The technology equipment at those schools (Adams, Eisenhower, Garfield, Hayes, Jackson, Wilson) which received infrastructure upgrades recently, will be funded by local option sales and services tax. Other schools (Blue Grass, Harrison, Lincoln) will be funded utilizing physical plant and equipment levy contingency.


Approved by


Signature of Chief Financial Officer

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Renaming of the Board Room

President Low and Dr. Blanche presented the idea of renaming the Board Room at the Davenport Schools Administration Service Center in honor of Director Jim Hester, who passed away in November 2002. Board Policy #307.02 Naming Facilities says that any request to rename portions of buildings must come before the Board, with the administration being responsible for making the requests to the Board to change names in portions of buildings. President Low remarked the Board, community, and district **were** impacted by Jim Hester's **life** and his 13 years **of service on** the Board. During his illness she had hoped to find a way to let Jim know before his death how much he meant to people. We looked into a number of possibilities because Jim was instrumental in so many things such as forming the Harrison Street facility. But we don't know what future boards might do with the alternative learning center, so it was President's Low suggestion that we consider the Board Room for renaming. This would be an on-going tribute and reminder of Jim's service to the children in our schools.

Director Hunter said he believe because of the contributions of Mr. Hester, he stood out and was larger than life; Jim truly influenced the lives of many people. Director Hunter felt it was appropriate to name the Board Room after Mr. Hester. Director Clewell mentioned that we had too few heroes in our society, but Jim Hester was a hero and mentor. This seemed to be a very fitting honor. Director Roberson talked about Mr. Hester's deep concern about education and helping students do the best that they could do. He was an advocate for education and the naming of the Board Room after him was appropriate. Director Losasso added that Mr. Hester was dedicated and she also **saw** him as an advocate for students. President Low commented that Mr. Hester didn't like a big fuss made over things he did, but this was certainly a good way to honor his memory. This item would come up for action at the next regular board meeting to consider approval of naming the Board Room after Jim Hester.

B. Allowable Growth Projections

Chief Financial Officer Marsha Tangen gave an updated report on projections for Allowable Growth. She explained that we held our enrollment figures and that was good news and some new dollars would be generated. She talked about the history and financial impact on the district. The state foundation formula provides for an annual process to allow an increase in the state cost per pupil. Allowable growth refers to the dollar increase in the state cost per pupil. It is important to the budget process as new money. The amount of new money can be an early indicator if budget reductions will be necessary. Mrs. Tangen showed a graph of the history of allowable growth and explained the difference of state set percentage vs. district realized percentage. If enrollment is down, the percentage increase in funding for the next school year is less than the amount of allowable growth. If enrollment is up, the increase is greater than the percentage set by the state.

The Board also saw an example of allowable growth figures and realized percentages. They got information about the impact on our funding over the years caused by the changes in enrollment. It is impacted by increases in operating expenditures that are costs of providing an education program, and by negotiation settlements. There was additional data on expenditures, negotiation settlements, and allowable growth projections. If the percent set by the state is 2%, the amount to be realized by the district would be 1.74% or **\$1,363,009** for new money in the district.

The Board had an opportunity to discuss the projections and present questions or suggestions to the administration about Allowable Growth funding. There were questions about the allowable growth being set lower than 2% and what would we have to do with our budget **if** that happened. Director Clewell asked about budget guarantee and what that means to us. With the budget guarantee, the district will receive at least the same amount as the last year in funding. Without that in place, a district would have hundreds of less dollars for their budget. Dr. Blanche explained with the budget guarantee, we make up the difference with local property tax if we are short. They pledge not to raise taxes and then the burden is on the local property owners to come up with the money. Mrs. Tangen explained what happens is that the district is given the authority to tax more with the budget guarantee in place.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE AND INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS

Dr. Blanche talked about the Summer Literacy Academy award being received from the American Association of School Administrators. He read a letter of congratulations. President Low added this was a terrific program and an example of what we are doing right in our district.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Director Clewell reminded the Board about the UEN lobby day on February 28 in Des Moines. Dr. Blanche, Bill Thiessen, and Rachael Mullins would be attending along with him.

President Low told the Board we would need to set up a date and time for some expulsion hearings in the next week. They talked about their schedules and it looked like January 15 at 3:45 PM would work for a quorum; with an additional meeting on January 21 at 5:00 PM.

Vice President Hunter wanted to comment about the earlier presentation on school closings and the impact on our district. He said the decision to close schools was made after research and looking at the projected deficit ahead. There were several actions that came to the Board during that time, including increasing class size and introducing all-day kindergarten, along with closing of Grant and Johnson schools. He wanted to commend the students and staff of the receiving schools for making the students feel welcome in their new environments. The savings will be realized over time. All-day programs for kindergarten have impacted the budget but have allowed for additional students into our district. Johnson and Grant students were given opportunities to transfer to high achieving schools, so there was no disadvantage for them. He talked about doing things in the best interest of the students, and utilizing schools to their maximum will help with savings over time.

Director Guard responded that he thought the report was 100% correct and he had concerns with the figures of the administration. There are people who say closing schools saves money, but that is not the case. Director Guard talked about his predictions for losses in students, and when important decisions are being made, accurate figures have to be presented. He felt the numbers were ignored and the amounts projected for savings were not correct. Director Guard clarified that he did not have a part in the report presented during open forum, but those people talked with others to get their information. What they got was correct.

Director Hunter added that the students have been placed in schools that meet their needs and they will be successful. If there are things needed to accommodate their needs, then the district will need to offer them help.

Director Roberson asked about the Stepping Stones Program and what grades that included. He had wanted to thank them for their presentation, but the students left before he had a chance to compliment them on their efforts during the recognition. President Low informed Director Roberson that he should feel comfortable to speak up during the recognition time if he wants to ask questions or comment.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Portes moved the Board adjourn. Director Losasso seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

President Low declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Linda M. Smith, Board Secretary