

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 28, 2002

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in regular session pursuant to law and the rules of the Board on Tuesday, May 28, 2002. The meeting was held in the Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa in the Board Room. President Hester called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

On roll call the following members were present: President Jim Hester; Directors Richard Clewell, Steve Hunter, Steve Imming, Mavis Lee, and Susan Low. Absent: Director Patt Zamora. Student board members attending the regular meeting were Kyle Peterson and Nichole Taylor (North High) and Malory Smysor (West High).

7:00 PM

### REGULAR MEETING

#### RECOGNITIONS

##### I. RECOGNITIONS

###### A. **FORD/AAA Auto-Skills Competition \* *David Thede, Central High Instructor***

David Thede told the Board for the sixth consecutive year the Davenport School District has been represented at the State Finals of the Ford/AAA Auto Skills Competition. This competition consists of two parts. The first part is a written examination held in February and it is open to any senior automotive student in any Iowa high school. This year's competition had 90 schools take the written test. Students were divided into teams of up to eight students per team. The two highest scores from each team were then judged against all of the teams taking the test and the top ten scoring teams advanced to the State Finals. Representing DCSD this year were **Larry Grenko** (Central High) and **Eric Smith** (West High) from the Auto Technology Program. These students had the highest total score on the written examination in the state, with Larry having the highest individual score in the state. After qualifying for the state finals they went to DMACC in Ankeny to take the "Hands-On" final. In the Hands-On test the students were given identical Ford vehicles which have been "bugged" and were given 90 minutes to return the vehicles to perfect condition. In the state finals they placed ninth at this year's event. Both of these young men have represented the District and the Technology Education Department extremely well throughout their high school careers and will continue to do so long after they have graduated. Board members congratulated these fine students for their hard work and accomplishments.

###### B. **William Paul Baresel, Central High School \* *Tom Voorhees, Associate Principal***

Tom Voorhees introduced Gretchen Court from the Colonial Dames of America. Ms. Court told the Board the 1977 the Congressional Seminar Project has been one of the major projects supported by the National Patriotic Service Committee of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. The project was held under the auspices of the Washington Workshops Foundation, a private, nonprofit, non-partisan educational program in American government for high school students. A national essay contest is conducted through Patriotic Service Chairmen of the 44 State Societies. All essays were judged locally, regionally, and nationally before 60 winners were announced. The winners will be sent to Washington, D.C. for a week of citizenship education about the national government. Funds for the project are contributed by the National Society, various Corporate Societies, endowments, and individual Dames. The Davenport chapter contributed funds toward transportation expenses for William to attend the model congress session.

The essay title this year dealt with the topic about other than the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, which document influenced the continuity of the Republic? **William Paul Baresel**, a junior at Davenport Central high school has been awarded a scholarship to the seminar in June. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Kim Baresel. William talked briefly about his report on the federalist papers and how they provided a guide for our country. Dr. Blanche congratulated William and wished him success in a potential career in politics.

C. **Buchanan Elementary \* Larry McLain, Principal**

Larry McLain said the staff members at Buchanan School have had impact on children and on others that goes beyond the traditional perception of what a teacher, para educator, cook or custodian does. **Jennifer Kilfoy** is a shining representative of these people. As Reading Specialist and Grant Manager, she has formal responsibilities that have had widespread impact on instruction and student learning. On a more informal basis, she seems to be everywhere at once. Mrs. Kilfoy has organized numerous activities that have increased parent involvement, such as a "Read and Feed" evening last May. As a result of the turnout of over 350 people, she spent a day sitting on our roof.) She is a consistent volunteer in helping other staff with special programs and evening events. She provides support for our staff, both on a professional and personal level. She counsels children and their parents, providing them with a concerned ear, encouragement, and concrete assistance. Mrs. Kilfoy's accomplishments as an educator are legion. Her colleagues in education respect her greatly. As a sign of this respect, she has been recognized in Who's Who in America for Teachers and recently has been nominated for Disney's American Teacher Award.

The Board had an opportunity to hear about Buchanan's **Discovery Junction** Summer Camp and Discovery Junction Prep School programs that provided educational, recreational and enrichment programming to over 100 children. Since early October, the Discovery Junction extended day program has had a positive impact on over 120 Buchanan students. Funded by a three-year 21st Century grant and augmented by Title I funding, the after-school program provides homework assistance, academic tutoring, enrichment activities and recreation for two hours after school is dismissed. Transportation home is provided to these children at the end of their day. Mr. McLain was proud to recognize the accomplishments of the many people who have contributed to this effort. Foremost among those to be recognized are **Lindsay Reynolds**, Site Facilitator for the program, **Tora Moore** media specialist and Education Coordinator for Discovery Junction, and **Jane Flesher**, Homework Coordinator. Miss Reynolds outlined the contributions of other teachers, volunteers, and agencies to this excellent effort.

Finally, Mr. McLain wanted to take this opportunity on behalf of the entire Buchanan staff to honor the memory of 20 years of dedication and contribution by **Darlene Misner**, their cook-in-charge. Mrs. Misner had a positive impact on all our children each and every day. On Saturday, May 11, Darlene passed away. She had been an important part of the Buchanan family and will truly be missed. The staff wanted to say in public what an important part of the Buchanan family she was; they loved Darlene and she will be greatly missed. Dr. Blanche thanked the staff and representatives from Buchanan for all the fine things they are doing for students.

**D. Garfield Elementary KLJG Radio 90 FM \* *Bill Schneden, Principal***

Bill Schneden said that Garfield school was very proud of the student-run radio station. He thanked the Board for the recent addition to our building providing for a beautiful new station as part of the plan. With the help of many people including our business partners, Mr. Mark Sade our art teacher and radio advisor, technical assistance helpers, parents, and many students, we were able to be on the air every day at KLJG radio 90 FM. This radio project allowed Garfield students the opportunity to explore the world of communications, advertising, and marketing. They learn about interviewing skills, public relations, and other work-related and lifetime learning skills. Mr. Mark Sade, the radio advisor, and students shared a very brief PowerPoint presentation on this radio project. Tom McGuire, a para educator at Williams and volunteer at Garfield, assisted with the presentation. Dr. Blanche thanked the students and staff for this exciting project at Garfield.

**E. Truman Elementary \* *Ken Krumweide, Principal and Myrna Miller, Co-Director of Professional Development School***

Ken Krumweide and Myrna Miller said Truman Elementary School wished to recognize **Sister Michelle Schiffgens**, from Marycrest International University, for her years of dedication to the Davenport Community School District. Marycrest and Truman began efforts for the implementation of a Professional Development School (PDS) in June of 1995. For the past seven years, Sister Michelle was instrumental in the success of this endeavor. The Truman/Marycrest PDS has been a model PDS in our state. With Sister Michelle's leadership both faculties have worked together in building the best educational practices, designing and delivering a curriculum for the preparation of new teachers, and conducting action research that has added to our knowledge base of how to make schools into real learning communities. The PDS provided simultaneous renewal for both faculties. We thank Sister Michelle for this opportunity and we wish the very best to her as she enters retirement. Mr. Krumweide presented a special award to Sister Michelle for her years of dedicated service to the Davenport Community School District and to the Truman Professional Development School. Sister Michelle expressed her appreciation to everyone for helping her over the last 32 years. She was given a challenge to make a quality program even more innovative and distinguished, and the PDS program at Truman was developed.

**F. Madison Elementary \* *Carolyn Merrill, Principal***

Carolyn Merrill recognized **Mrs. Lorrie Brock** for her five years of working with the TAG students at Madison. Mrs. Brock encourages her students to be independent thinkers and goal setters. She believes in challenging her students by entering them in many district contests. The students have competed in Knowledge Master—a computer contest, Math Olympics, Eco Meet, and Continental Math League. The students are studying Spain and corresponding with a student in Spain. The third grade TAG students performed the play, "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." Parents and Madison students enjoyed the performance. During Peace Week, Mrs. Brock and her students placed hands locked together around the building to show unity and peace. As part of peace efforts, the students collected \$150 that was donated to the New York Fire Department. Mrs. Brock was thanked for her dedication to the students of Madison school.

The TAG students, under the direction of Mrs. Lorrie Brock, have developed the Mustang News. There is a team of students assigned to various tasks. The writers—Samantha Adrales, Hailey Bennett, Mary Betsworth, Vicky Castillo, Sierra DeMarr, Nicole Hutter, Devon Richards, and DaShante Shipp, interviewed people and wrote the news. The editors—Alexis Ashcroft, Tess Duer, Josh Jakes, and Maaike Mielenhausen edited the news before it went to print. Madison is very proud of our young newspaper staff. Finally a beautiful hand-made quilt of knowledge was displayed for the Board and they heard how this masterpiece was hung in the hallway at Madison school. Dr. Blanche thanked the staff and parents at the school for working together to strengthen opportunities for students.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Thursday, May 30, 7:00 PM, Graduation for 2001 @ North High School
- B. Monday, June 3, 7:00 PM, Committee of the Whole, Administration Service Center, Board Room (Note the change in time and location for this meeting.)
- C. Friday, June 7, 7:00 PM, North High graduation, @ North High School
- D. Sunday, June 9, 1:00 PM, West High graduation @ The Mark in Moline
- E. Sunday, June 9, 4:00 PM, Central High graduation @ The Mark in Moline
- F. Monday, June 10, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, DSASC, Board Room
- G. Monday, June 24, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, DSASC, Board Room
- H. Open Forum for Community Input
  - 1. Alan Guard, 204 E. Dover Court, Davenport addressed the Board about the pending appeal decision concerning the closing of Johnson and Grant schools. The decision won't come in until July or August, and if the State rules in favor of the school district, there will be no further appeal. Mr. Guard said the parents really care about their children and they did their homework and took legal action to keep the schools open. He hoped the Board could be grateful to have interested parents like them who are doing what they think is best for their children, the teachers, and the district. The discussions have moved all of us forward. In that spirit, Mr. Guard hoped that the Board would do the same steps and at their next meeting vote to say they would not appeal the State's decision if the ruling came in favor of the parents. He told the Board they should do the honorable thing and respect the decision of the administrative law judge when it was made. He said it would be unfair to have the Board appeal the decision and drag this into September or later. He would appreciate having this as an item for action at the next board meeting. He also added a request for the Board to rehire Carolyn Merrill as principal at Madison.
  - 2. Tracy White, 5503 N. Linwood Avenue, Davenport spoke about dismissing Mrs. Merrill and movement of other minority principals in the district. As a member of the African American community and a parent, she had concerns about decisions recently made to move principals and to remove Mrs. Merrill from her position. It leaves the community to question why the district was doing these things. Who hired Mrs. Merrill if she had no experience in the first place? Why were we sending Mrs. Goldstone to Walcott where she would not be accepted? Why was Mr. Simmons removed from Central and sent to a school that would probably be bought by St. Ambrose? This was sending a bad message to the African American community and the message was clear. If we were not going to be looking out for the best interest of these people, the African American community would be.

## 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 following four board meetings were presented for approval: Special Call Expulsion May 3, 2002; Committee of the Whole May 6, 2002; Regular Board Meeting May 13, 2002; and Special Call Expulsion May 16, 2002.

#### C. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

##### RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Rekers, Sonja	Effective: 06/04/2002
Language Arts/Reading Grade 6	Years of Service: 11 yrs. 7 mos.
Sudlow Intermediate	

##### RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Young, Lisa Marie	Effective: June 4, 2002
Reading Recovery Teacher	Reason: Relocation
Buchanan/Wilson	Years of Service: 1 yr. 11 mos.

##### LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Buckley, Shannon	Maternity/Health/FMLA
Math	Effective: 4/8/02 – 5/29/02
North High	4/8/02 – 5/29/02 with pay

Collins, Michelle	Maternity/Health/FMLA
Grade 3	Effective: 4/2/02 – 6/4/02
Harrison Elementary	4/2/02 – 5/28/02 with pay
	5/29/02 – 6/4/02 without pay

Heinze, Kenneth	Extension of Health Leave with Pay
LOA	Effective: 5/13/02 – 6/04/02

Jack, Cathy	Maternity/Absent without Pay
Science	Effective: 4/5/02 – 6/4/02
West High	4/5/02 – 4/17/02 with pay
	4/18/02 – 6/4/02 without pay

Quick, Kelly	Maternity/FMLA
Special Education/MultiCat/SCI	Effective: 4/3/02 – 5/21/02 AM with pay
Young Intermediate	5/21/02 PM – 6/4/02 without pay

Weibel, Ida	Extension of Health Leave with Pay
LOA	Effective: 5/1/02 – 11/14/02

## SABBATICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Jansson, Ellen	One Year Sabbatical Leave
Family and consumer Science	Effective: 8/20/02 – 8/19/03
West High	

## RESIGNATIONS FROM SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Humphries, Jason	Effective: May 8, 2002
7 <sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball	\$1661.00
Wood Intermediate	Reason: Further Education

## SUPPLEMENTAL APPOINTMENTS

Cavanaugh, Gerald	7%
Assistant Sophomore Softball Coach	\$1,661.00
Central	

Estes, Turner	7%
Assistant Sophomore Baseball Coach	\$1,661.00
West High	

Valleroy, Bridget	4%
Assistant Inter. Swimming Westside	949.00
Smart	

## RETIREMENT: CLASSIFIED

Vens, Judith	Effective: June 4, 2002
Para Educator	Reason: Retirement
Jackson	Yrs. of Service: 12 years, 9 months

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Goossen, Barbara	Effective: June 25, 2002
10-1/2 Month Clerical	Reason: Personal
J. B. Yong Intermediate	Yrs. of Service: 15 years, 4 months

Jones, Jeffrey Scott	Effective: April 17, 2002
Custodian	Reason: Other Employment
Madison Elementary	Yrs. of Service: 7 yrs 6 mos

Kofron, Karen	Effective: May 17, 2002
Food Service Cashier	Reason: Other Employment
J. B. Young Intermediate	Yrs. of Service: 3 mos

McCallister, Flora	Effective: June 4, 2002
Para Educator	Reason: Moving
J. B. Young Intermediate	Yrs. of Service: 5 years

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

**MOTION:** Director Low moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda with the addendum (correcting the minutes from the May 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting). Director Clewell seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Low, Clewell, Imming, Hunter, Lee, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

### IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following resolution was recommended by the Administration for adoption --

“Resolved that all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, and reviewed by the administration and the Board ad hoc committee, 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.”

**MOTION:** Director Imming moved the Board approve the resolution regarding the bills without exception. Director Low seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Imming, Low, Lee, Clewell, Hunter, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

## OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

### V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

#### A. **Public Hearing/Board Policy 605.06 Internet: Appropriate Use**

The Board conducted a public hearing to allow for community input concerning the recommended revisions to Board Policy 605.06 Internet: Appropriate Use, which is required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act. President Hester noted the Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Quad City Times* newspaper on Saturday, May 18, 2002. No one came forth to be heard so the public hearing was declared closed. Following the public hearing, the Board took action on the recommendation from the administration to revise Board Policy 605.06 Internet: Appropriate Use, as discussed at previous meetings.

**MOTION:** Director Low moved the Board approve the revisions in Board Policy 605.06 Internet: Appropriate Use, as discussed at previous meetings. Director Imming seconded the motion.

Director Clewell talked about having concerns in terms of what was being proposed. We should make maximum use of the Internet as an educational tool, but the application of the chat rooms and messaging was questionable as to the educational opportunities it provides. His concern was for the teachers having to police what the students were doing on the Internet as it related to work in class. With 25 to 30 students in a classroom, this might become too much of a burden. Director Clewell had talked with Tom Wagner about his concerns and he understands that we don’t want students to miss the opportunity to utilize the Internet as a good resource. He hoped over the next year, we can converse with teachers about this matter to find out if there are problems caused by the Chat Rooms or messaging for students.

Dr. Blanche said we would make a notation to get back to the Board about implementing the policy. Director Imming thought there was some merit to having this access for students. As he envisioned the use in classes, the chat groups could be set up with experts in various fields of study and students could pose questions in a controlled environment.

**ACTION:** The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Low, Imming, Clewell, Hunter, Lee, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Change Order Williams Intermediate Renovation**

The administration recommended approval of a change order in the amount of \$28,107.18 to comply with the Life and Safety requirements for the addition and renovation work at Williams Intermediate School that were previously discussed. (The changes are to provide and install additional doors, frames, associated hardware, additional partitions, modify partitions, electrical and mechanical changes that include fire/smoke dampers.)

**MOTION:** Director Imming moved the Board approve the administration's recommendation of a change order in the amount of \$28,107.18 for Williams Intermediate to meet requirements for the renovation work going on at that school. Director Low seconded the motion.

Director Hunter asked when this change order was discussed? Mr. Good said the Board went over this at the Committee of the Whole meeting in May. After the project was started, the City mandated further changes for the fire code requirements. There was an initial review, but after the projected started they said we had to go further to meet codes. Director Hunter said this change was for going beyond the original scope of the project.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Imming, Low, Lee, Hunter, Clewell, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Bid # 657 Partial Replacement of Roofs @ Madison/Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Director Imming moved the Board accept the low Bid #657 from Rufoth Sheet Metal in the amount of \$66,800 including alternate #1 for partial replacement of roofs at Madison, including sections 4, 5, and 6. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing on Bid #657 for roofs at Madison. No one came forth to be heard so the public hearing was declared closed.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Imming, Clewell, Hunter, Low, Lee, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Bid #658 Wilson School Door Replacement/Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Director Imming moved the Board accept the low Bid #658 from East Moline Glass in the amount of \$45,755 for replacement of exterior doors at Wilson. Director Low seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing on Bid #658 for replacement of exterior doors at Wilson. No one came forth to be heard so the public hearing was declared closed.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Imming, Low, Lee, Hunter, Clewell, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Bid #657 Partial Replacement of Roofs @ Madison/Public Hearing**

**Bids and Quotations**

RE: Bid No. 657  
 For Board Meeting - 5/28/2002

**1. Item, material or service being bid, with a brief description:**

Partial replacement of roofs at Madison Elementary including sections 4, 5 and 6.

**2. Rationale:**

The existing roof is in poor condition with numerous leaks.

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

<u>Support Services</u>	<u>Bill Good</u>	<u>\$85,000</u>	<u>PPFL</u>	
<u>Department</u>	<u>Administrator</u>	<u>Budget or</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Req. Number</u>
		<u>Estimate</u>		

**4. Number of bids sent to vendors:** 9 **Date:** May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2002.

**5. Number of bids received from vendors:** 3 **Date:** May 17<sup>th</sup> 2002.

**6. Listing of Vendors:**

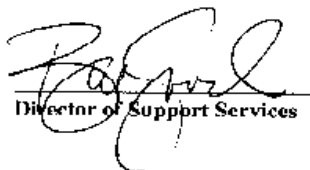
- Rafath Sheet Metal – Dubuque, IA. – Base Bid: \$41,000.00 Alternate #1: \$25,800.00  
**Total Bid: \$66,800.00**
- White Roofing – Eldridge, IA. – Base Bid: \$46,609.00 Alternate #1: \$28,307.00  
**Total Bid: \$74,916.00**
- River Bend Roofing -- Kewanee, IL. – Base Bid: \$43,285.00 Alternate #1: \$29,970.00  
**Total Bid: \$73,255.00**

**7. Recommended Bid:**

The low bid from Rafath Sheet Metal in the amount of \$66,800.00 including alternate #1.

**8. Other Comments:**

Alternate #1 includes the reroofing of section #6.  
 Work to be performed during summer.

  
 Director of Support Services

  
 Chief Financial Officer

**D. Bid #658 Wilson School Door Replacement/Public Hearing**

**Bids and Quotations**

RE: Bid No. 658  
For Board Meeting - 5/28/2002

**1. Item, material or service being bid, with a brief description:**

The replacement of exterior doors at Wilson Elementary School.

**2. Rationale:**

The existing doors are inefficient and in very poor condition.

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

<u>Support Services</u>	<u>Bill Good</u>	<u>\$85,000</u>	<u>PP&amp;L</u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Administrator</b>	<b>Budget or Estimate</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Req. Number</b>

**4. Number of bids sent to vendors:** ... 4      **Date:** May 1<sup>st</sup> 2002

**5. Number of bids received from vendors:**   3        **Date:** May 1<sup>st</sup> 2002

**6. Listing of Vendors:**

East Moline Glass, East Moline, IL. - Total Bid: \$45,755.00

American Industrial Door, Davenport, IA. - Bid rejected due to not meeting bid requirements.

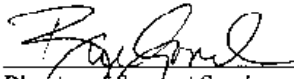
Midwest Glazing, Davenport, IA. - Total Bid: \$45,946.00

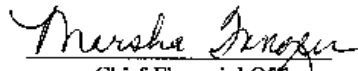
**7. Recommended Bid:**

The low bid from East Moline Glass in the amount of \$45,755.00

**8. Other Comments:**

Work to be performed during summer break.

  
Director of Support Services

  
Chief Financial Officer

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Student Board Members Reports

Director Low congratulated Kyle Peterson for the scholarship he recently won. Student board members Kyle Peterson, Nichole Taylor, and Malory Smysor had an opportunity to share information on activities and programs of interest at their high schools. Nikki presented a PowerPoint presentation on Quad City Scholars and the Horizons group at North High School. The purpose of the Quad City Scholars is to provide extra support for students. She talked about the background of the group, help received from coordinator Kim Riley Quinn, and activities students did during the year such as a minority business exchange, career programs, writers workshops, and the annual fashion show. The Quad City Scholars is a positive support system and provides scholarships from \$250 to \$750. Nikki explained Horizons was a young, women's leadership group at North High started about five years ago. The goal of the group is to build confidence, strive to be the best, and promote future leaders. There are independent issues to explore dealing with the leadership role of women, and Kim Riley Quinn was also the volunteer coordinator for this group. Their activities included yellow ribbon program, domestic violence awareness programs, star of the week and good deeds program sponsored by Target, and the valentine day sales. They had a young, women's leadership conference where students talked about issues effecting them. There was an angel tree project after 9/11 and they decorated angels to send to Channel Beach High School for the students effected by the tragedy, and other proceeds went for Christmas gifts. Nikki talked about parties, unity day, and an end-of-the-year field trip to Six Flags. She thanked the members of the Board for allowing her to give them a high school perspective of issues.

Kyle Peterson from North High didn't have any significant issues for the Board to consider changing, but he felt attending school in Davenport had been a great opportunity for him from kindergarten through this senior year. He spoke about some concerns at North High that the Board may want to review. He thanked the Board for the great improvements in the gym and cafeteria at North and all the positive things going on in the district. (1) There was one area that was an exception--the boys' restrooms in the original section of the building at North. Students feel this is disrespectful of their privacy by not having doors on the toilets. There are walls and hinges, but no doors for the boys. The guys feel this is unfair and would like it changed. (2) The second problem was with the facets in the bathrooms--you can only wash with one hand at a time because they don't stay on. Why not make them automatic like in the new addition. (3) Could the administration review passing time at the high school that is only five minutes between classes. The students would like to have a little extra time [say eight minutes] so they would have more time to visit with each other. It is not a major problem having five minutes, but a majority of the students would like more time in between classes. (4) Students would like to be able to earn credit for gym when they participate in an athletic activity. This change would encourage people to get involved with sports and many students feel we should receive credit toward gym by participating because of the time involved. (5) Lastly would it be possible to build a football field at each of the high schools? Other schools in the Mac conference all have their own fields for sporting events and we have to share Brady Stadium. These new fields could seat 2000 to 4000 people and create more interest in sports. Kyle thanked the Board and said he enjoyed coming to the meetings. It has been a difficult year, and board members have handled the pressure with dignity and honor. He thanked the Board again for this experience and felt he learned a lot about the district.

Malory Smysor was from West High and talked about the student senate. She has been on this for four years and Suzie Stark has been the advisor. She was concerned that Ms. Stark puts in hours of work but was not compensated for her efforts like the coaches for sports and other activities. Dr. Blanche told Malory that Ms. Stark actually gets one instructional period during the day to work with the student senate. She doesn't receive extra compensation but it is worked into her schedule. Dr. Blanche added a note that Ms. Stark is tireless and does an outstanding job with her students.

President Hester presented recognition certificates to Nichole, Kyle, and Malory for their service to the youth in our community and for serving as Student Board Members for the Davenport Community School District. The certificates for the other students will be sent to their respective schools. President Hester and the other board members appreciated the work of these students and for presentation of an interesting report tonight. Board members took time to shake the students' hands and to wish them well.

#### **B. Textbook Adoption 2002-2003**

Betsy Fair, Kathy Learn, and John Bernatz made a presentation on the textbook adoptions being recommended by the administration in several areas for 2002-2003. There was an opportunity for the Board to ask questions and to see copies of the textbook materials. A copy of the textbook replacements and the adoption of new course materials will be part of the minutes of record. There was information about the selection of the textbooks and how the materials were reviewed and feedback received. There was consensus for the books being recommended by the teams. Each recommendation was explained and approximate costs were shown for the book selection for German, French, Spanish, Music, Social Studies, Algebra, English, and Biology. The administrators talked about technology integration, graphs, classroom sets for teachers, reduced shipping costs, and integrated lessons and labs. Each course had selections that would update the classroom experience for students and bring in the most current materials. There will be opportunities for students to interact with video clips and interact with travels on the web as part of the material being provided to students.

There was discussion about bench marks, focus on the writing process, and test taking skills. There are many choices for the students to explore in the replacement books and with new adoptions being recommended. They talked about cost reductions for materials and staying within or under budget. There will be supplements to the textbooks to update materials and it is cheaper to publish these. Mr. Bernatz talked about the music materials and how this is the final phase of purchases for the elementary classes as part of a three-year plan. There was a selection committee that reviewed the materials and they made the recommendations. If there were questions, the coordinators would be happy to get back to the board members later. All the materials would be available for review up in the Board Room during the next two weeks. Board members asked some questions and received answers about the books being recommended. There are many enhancement activities and extra experiences for students that are provided in many of the books. Ms. Fair talked about access to computers, and she did feel this was an equity issue for some students who did not have computers at home. The computer labs are booked solid by students who want to take advantage of learning more things via the computer and through the Internet.

The Board will be asked to consider the adoption of recommended textbooks and approve fund expenditure for replacement and purchases of books or the 2002-2003 budget at the next regular meeting in June.

**C. Waiver for Early Start Date for School Calendar**

Ethel Reynolds shared information with the Board about the Iowa Code 279.10(4) that allows the Board of a school district to make a request to the Director of the Department of Education to "commence classes for regularly established elementary and secondary schools prior to the earliest starting date specified in subsection 1." Two steps must be taken to request the waiver: (1) The Board must hold a public hearing on the early start calendar waiver request for 2002-03 prior to July 1, 2002. (2) The Board has to determine that a starting date on or after the earliest starting date specified in Iowa Code section 279.10 subsection 1 will have a significant negative educational impact. The present code says school shall start the week when September 1 falls. Almost all the school districts in Iowa need to apply for the waiver, but we simply have to report on the public hearing and action by the Board on the Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) Report. Children's Village at Hoover and Monroe considered "innovative calendars" last fall, or continuous calendars. This is a little different process that was needed. Director Hunter couldn't believe the State requires this every year from all the districts. Director Imming questioned the usage of the term continuous or year-round calendar and thought maybe using an "alternative calendar" would be a better description.

**D. Middle School Report**

Bob Mata, Nancy Jacobson, Erika Goldstone, and other staff members or parents made a presentation about middle school strengths and weaknesses that was requested by board members to review the program offerings at the intermediate buildings. Mr. Mata showed a PowerPoint presentation on reducing the achievement gap and how the middle schools are decreasing the percentages in the gap with a goal of 7%. Dr. Goldstone introduced one of her parents from J. B. Young, Paul Holcomb, who talked to the board members about the benefits of teaming through a middle school. He was extremely supportive of the teaming concept and shared personal experiences. He talked about the parents' involvement, sharing concerns with teachers in a non-threatening atmosphere, and working with the student to make improvements and to set goals. It is a tough transition period for students and there is a lot going on in the lives of teenage children. The team concept allows parents and teachers unified contact with the students. They met for issues involving academic and behavior success, and they shared what the child needed to meet goals. They identified problems and included the student in the discussion. There is a lot of peer pressure to perform and there is positive feedback for the children. It is an effective system and an excellent educational opportunity.

Director Lee left the meeting around 8:30 PM during the presentation on middle schools.

Two teachers were introduced who gave the teachers' perspective on the teaming approach in middle school. Sandy Kratz, 7<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher, and Steve Mielenhause, 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher used a PowerPoint presentation to talk about the benefits teaming at the middle school. This provides ability for students to make connections in the class and it allows students to gain a sense of belonging in a larger school. It creates a common ground to work on accommodations for students with special needs. There is common time where parents can call to visit the school. They can discuss appropriate actions to be taken for students. They celebrate team success by planning award recognition and parties or assemblies. There are benefits to addressing student progress and responsible behavior is rewarded. Teachers can use the extra time for professional development to improve their skills. They also talked about statistical data that showed marked improvements in scores on tests for students.

Director Hunter brought up the issue of when did team members bring problems to the attention of the building principals? Since the Board deals with expulsions and exclusions, it seems as though these cases show there was insufficient intervention for students. How could the district do more to bring the principal into this process for subsequent intervention? Mr. Mielenhouse said the numbers are disturbing, but we will be adopting some ideas to address these concerns next year. Middle school time is difficult for many students, and we are on the edge of understanding where the kids are coming from. But the teaming process allows teachers time during the day to find out solutions by working together. With the junior high model, the teachers don't have this opportunity. Director Hunter asked for further elaboration on some behavioral issues, and he would like to hear more about how this is being addressed. Director Clewell felt one of the vital issues was student achievement and that looks positive. However, he wondered if there was an increase in the number of parents engaging with teachers with this teaming arrangement? Mr. Mielenhouse said there was definitely an increase and it was difficult for incoming sixth grade parents to get used to the process because in grade school they only dealt with one teacher; now they had six teachers for their child. We are getting positive feedback from families on this plan. Ms. Kratz felt the children's parents were more comfortable now coming in, and we have a record of parents coming in to discuss behavior concepts and what works best. If a parent is uncomfortable with a large meeting, we suggest meeting with one or two teachers, or even a one-on-one setting at first. We have been very successful.

Director Imming noted under the old way, scheduling meetings with parents to talk with all the teachers was very difficult. This seems to be a better system. He even attended a teaming meeting for a student with special needs. How well we accommodate the needs of the student was very interesting to hear and learn of the opportunities available. Ms. Kratz also noted that the middle school students don't really think the teachers talk to each other, and they are surprised when they learn we have communicated about some issue dealing with a problem. Director Hunter asked if there was any kind of introduction to this system at the elementary level so parents could become more comfortable. Mr. Mielenhouse mentioned the "Boost Program", which targets lost souls and helps kids make friends. There are discussions with fifth grade teachers who are enlightened to learn about this for preparation.

Principal Tim Wernentin introduced Brian Barnhart, a student from Wood Intermediate school, who talked about his first-hand experiences. Brian said the teachers called him in to explain what problems he was having, and they told him how he could change. My parents got involved and people showed how they wanted me to become successful and they helped me work through some problems and improve drastically. Brian said his grades went from F's and D's to C's and B's. Mr. Wernentin added that Brian has to take the responsibility for his work, but the teachers helped keep an eye on his progress and supported him. President Hester remembered when there were issues about whether to have junior high schools or middle schools. There were concerns about the costs and if this would work. But we are finding out after three to five years, this is making a difference. We were moved by the need to help students, and there seems to be more things to do to get parents involved. We were one of the only districts that did not have middle schools, and now we can't imagine going back to the old way. With the expulsions that the Board has to see, there is always a point in time when we see the student gives up; and it takes time and effort to bring them back. President Hester thanked the teachers for their efforts and what they are doing to help the middle school children in our district. We did the right thing, but the teachers need to take the credit. Director Hunter asked for some following up report addressing the curriculum adoption for Algebra for All and if the numbers of students continuing at the high school level are increasing through this program.

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

### VII. ADMINISTRATIVE AND INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS

Dr. Blanche expressed condolences to the family and friends of Christine McCreight, the Associate Principal at North High, who passed away recently. She will be greatly missed by the students, staff, friends, and her family. She just received her 30-year pin for service and everyone in the district will miss her. President Hester also expressed sympathy to the family and said we would all miss Chris.

### VIII. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Director Imming reminded the Board of the need to review IASB legislative priorities and to discuss this topic at a meeting. Five areas are usually selected for our recommendation to IASB. Board members should look over the list and think about what ideas they would like to have sent to the legislators for consideration in the coming year.

## ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Director Low moved the Board adjourn. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Low, Clewell, Imming, Hunter, and Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

President Hester declared the meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

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Linda M. Smith, Board Secretary