

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
NOVEMBER 11, 2003—6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance—President Anne James called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Daane, James, Jorgensen, Kruse, Mounts, and Peterson.

Approval of Agenda—Director Batcheller moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a vote on the Reaffirmation of District Facility Plan and the O & M Four-year Projected Facilities Maintenance Cost Plan for Local Option Sales Tax prior to the vote on VII A. The motion carried 7-0.

Citizen Input—None.

Board Reports—Director Kruse: Board Finance Committee has been meeting and making progress.

Director Batcheller: Reported he had given the superintendent the first draft of the transportation report. The report was delayed due to the fact that he felt we needed a two-year cycle instead of just one year in order to make better-informed recommendations.

Director Peterson: Good session with the task force. Good ideas and well attended. Board Policy Committee meeting was held today.

Director Mounts: Also attended the task force meeting. Very interesting. Students have been especially helpful. Attended Reading is Cool at Riverside Elementary School—quite an event. Attended museum to hear Chuchumbe.

Director Daane: Enjoyed working with the Board Policy Committee. Particularly enjoyed getting a perspective from someone in a different area and/or background than himself. Been a treat to receive input from folks with an education background. Attended the Heelan game last night in Des Moines. They represented our community beautifully. Offended when our community struggles like it does for every dollar we can find, and has 37 kids in some classrooms, and then they have so much money down there that they can build a stadium which cost over nine million dollars to build. Feels the imbalance in funding for our school districts in Iowa is a travesty, and our citizens need to get fired up and talk to our legislators and see what they can

do to change that. On a positive note, recently served as guardian ad litem for some students who attend one of our local middle schools. Very impressed with the elementary teachers, the entire middle school team (both sixth and seventh grade teams), and the counselor who attended. Amount of information they provided him with about the students and their needs, their observation about the family, and what was in the best interest for the students was outstanding.

Director James: Attended a reading session at Smith Elementary School and observed a child in a pull-out situation in Reading Recovery who was slated by another school district to go into special education. The Smith teachers worked with him and he is doing well. Guided reading is a treat to watch. Fun to see the kids are having a good time and learning. Unfortunately, she missed the West High School veterans' concert.

President James reported that future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Educational Equity Committee—November 18, 2003—11:30 a.m.—CC

Board Finance Committee—November 18, 2003—11:45 a.m.—ESC

Finance Oversight Committee—November 24, 2003—8:00 a.m.—at 421 Nebraska

Board Policy Committee—November 25, 2003— 11:45 a.m.—ESC

Superintendent's Report—Superintendent Williams: Attended the West High School veterans' concert and it was a fine concert, and is a fine tradition.

Pleased with the productive meeting of the task force. What's left of this process? Other than the action stage of committing how we will address the achievement gap, we have probably two more full meetings of the task force. A small group will take the priorities and will flesh this out probably using one writer. This will come back to the full group in early January. We will be in contact with Governor Vilsack and Department of Education Director Stilwill as they want to come back and have the committee share the report with them. Principals and the District Advisory Committee will have presentations on this report in its draft form. Also, it will be brought before the board for their input. We are not going to try to re-invent the wheel. Judy Stewart from NCREL met with the task force, as well as with all administrators Tuesday afternoon.

Busy with the plans for the movement of students to North and West Middle Schools from Hoover and Woodrow Wilson Middle Schools. Had a preliminary discussion of the virtual high school, in regard to what might be advantages, licensure restrictions, benefits from educational, motivational and cost point of view.

Transportation study very completely done as were the reports on the nurses and activities supervisors. Will bring to the board in the future. The superintendent's recommendations will come to the board following his study of these three reports.

Consent Action Items—Director Mounts moved and Director Kruse seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of the meetings held October 28, 2003; the human resources report; and the fiscal report. The motion carried 6-0, with Director Batcheller abstaining on the finance report.

Reaffirmation of District Facility Plan and the O & M Four-year Projected Facilities Maintenance Cost Plan for Local Option Sales Tax—Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion that the Sioux City Community School District Board of Directors reaffirm its long-term school facility plan originally adopted October 15, 1996, with revisions in June 1998; January 2001; March 2001; and September 2002; and that the Sioux City Community School District Board of Directors reaffirm its Operation and Maintenance Department Four-Year Projected Facilities Maintenance Cost Plan for Local Option Sales Tax Money originally adopted in January 1999, with updates on September 10, 1999; July 17, 2000; May 11, 2001; June 12, 2001; and March 7, 2002. The motion carried 5-0 with Directors Daane and Jorgensen abstaining.

Harkin Fire & Safety Grant/Harkin Construction Grant—Director Daane moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the seeking of a Harkin Fire & Safety Grant and a Harkin Construction Grant. The motion carried 7-0.

Board Goals—Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve their board goals. The motion carried 7-0.

Filling of Equity Committee Vacancy—Director Kruse moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to approve the interim appointment of Lori J. Gentry to complete this year's term of Sally O'Donnell who found it necessary to resign from the Committee. The motion carried 7-0.

Discussion/Information—Carlos Venable Ridley reported to the board on the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative. He informed the board that we have received our third year funding. We will also have carry-over dollars for the fourth year. We are on task with the sustainability plan., which is discussed at all partner meetings.

Superintendent Williams addressed FY '04 budget reductions with the board. Indebted to Dr. Madison, his cabinet, and the Finance Department (as well as Mr. Venable Ridley who came up with \$75,000), for working to come up with the \$1.4 million in budget reductions. Mr. Williams disseminated a document listing reductions of a non-sustainable nature, i.e., in FY 2005.

Superintendent Williams discussed the NCLB watch year status.

Pete Garlinghouse addressed the board regarding the fall level test results. He explained the difference between the ITBS and level tests. The achievement test is another reference tool that we use to see how well our students are doing with regard to district curriculum.

Superintendent Williams shared proposed revisions on the following board policies:

501.2—Entrance Requirements; 501.3—School Attendance Areas; 501.4—Attendance Records; 501.5—Residency of Students; 501.6—Non-resident Students; and 501.7—International Students. Citizen input was received from Lynn Richardson regarding board policy 501.7—International Students, in regard to some sponsors not living in our school district.

Board Goals Addressed This Evening—President James asked the board to look at the three circles of their goals and to name one that we've done tonight. Board members reported that all three—achievement, financial management, and community involvement—were addressed this evening.

Adjourn—Director Batcheller moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 7-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.