

**SPECIAL MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
OCTOBER 24, 2005—5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

President Batcheller called the special meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Benson, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Mounts, and Peterson.

Approval of Agenda

Director Mounts moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

Approval of/Adjourn to Closed Session

Director Peterson moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to go into a closed session to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation as provided in Section 21.5(c) of the Code of Iowa. The motion carried 7-0, and the board went into closed session at 5:04 p.m.

Return to/Adjourn From Open Session

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to return to open session (at 5:52 p.m.) and adjourn the special meeting. President Batcheller announced that no action would be taken at this time. The motion carried 5-0 (Directors Benson and Mounts were absent from the table), and the board adjourned from the special meeting at 5:52 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
OCTOBER 24, 2005—6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Batcheller called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Benson, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Mounts, and Peterson.

Approval of Agenda

Director Mounts moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the agenda with emendations (membership on the Equity and District Advisory Committees added as a consent action item). The motion carried 7-0.

Citizen Input

None received.

Presentation Regarding the NASA Explorers School Grant

Matt Allner, on behalf of the NASA Core Team Members from West Middle School, presented information regarding the NASA Explorers School grant.

Presentation on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sandra O'Brien disseminated a poster to the board regarding Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The theme for the day is a day of service. Their ad hoc challenge is for each school to come up with their own program for this day, or use it as a day of service. Dr. Madison accepted the challenge on behalf of the administrative team.

Board Member Reports

Director Johnson: Attended a differentiated math class last week. Really impressed with the rigor of the course. The teacher was excellent.

Director Benson: Attended the Finance Oversight Committee meeting this morning. The group reviewed transactions involving the Local Option Sales Tax dollars.

Director Batcheller: Stated that he, Dr. Madison, and Directors Mounts and Daane attended a legislative forum in Lawton last week at which 12 or 13 area legislators were in attendance. Several districts and AEAs were represented. It

was a chance to bring forward their thoughts on property tax equity and SILO. They were reminded that this is an elective legislative session so it is always difficult to get tax policy discussed.

President Batcheller announced future meetings as follows:

- Board Finance Committee is scheduled for November 1, 2005, at noon, in the Education Service Center
- Board Policy Committee is scheduled for November 2, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in the Education Service Center
- Board Student Achievement Committee is scheduled for November 4, 2005, at 10:30 a.m. in the Associate Superintendent's office
- Equity Committee is scheduled for November 15, 2005, at 11:30 a.m., at Western Iowa Tech Community College
- Public Relations Committee is scheduled for November 15, 2005, at 3:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center
- Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2005, at 8:00 a.m., at 421 Nebraska Street
- Building Oversight Committee will be scheduled in the future by Mel McKern

Acting Superintendent's Report

Dr. Linda Madison: Our superintendent is recovering well, having been released from the hospital this afternoon. Will be visiting with us from time to time and working from home.

Excited to announce that Jackie Warnstadt, teacher at Leeds Elementary School, was selected as this year's Iowa Teacher of the Year. We will honor Jackie at a meeting in the near future.

Consent Action Items

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the consent action items, which consisted of the minutes of meetings held October 10, 2005; the human resources report; the finance report; and the reappointment of Leif Erickson, Suzan Stewart, and Barbara Berry Whitley to three-year terms on the Equity Committee, as well as to appoint Lakim Burley and Kim Calvillo to three-year terms; and the reappointment of Deanna Butcher, Dr. Barry McArdle, and Madhvi Hains to three-year terms on the District

Advisory Committee, as well as to appoint Mike Krysl to a three-year term and Kimberly DeVall and Claryce Evans to complete one-year terms with the option to apply for a three year term in 2005. The motion carried 5-0, with Director Johnson abstaining on the minutes and Director Batcheller abstaining on the finance report.

Allowable Growth Requests for At-Risk and Dropout Prevention

Director Benson moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to set the at-risk allowable growth funds in the amount of \$453,000 for the 2006-2007 year as recommended by Superintendent Williams. Janeese Martin of the Tax Research Conference addressed the board and asked that if an increase is approved by the board this evening that they remember the increase during the budget process and make a suitable reduction in the budget. The motion carried 7-0.

Boys and Girls Home School Contract

Director Mounts moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the contract between the district and the Boys and Girls Home School. The motion carried 6-0, with Director Daane abstaining.

Board Priorities and Goals FY 2005-2006

Director Johnson moved and Director Jorgensen seconded the motion to approve the board goals for fiscal year 2005-2006 with emendations. Director Batcheller went through the changes in the Board goals since the last meeting. Discussion took place and Director Jorgensen asked for strategies to be listed under each goal. Dr. Madison indicated that she and President Batcheller had discussed this and it can be done. Mr. Daane suggested that board committees having to do with each area complete this task. Citizen input was received from Flora Lee in regard to some areas of the proposed goals. The motion carried 7-0.

Discussion/Information

William Stoneburg presented the revenue outlook for budget year 2006-2007. He reported that he doesn't feel the state will cut back our funds this year.

Dr. Madison indicated that she and Directors Daane and Mounts serve on the Board Student Achievement Committee. In preparing the report/recommendations, they visited with parents, students, and faculty. They formulated their ideas and met with head teachers last week and talked with more parents, and met again to make some changes in this document. Dr. Madison reported on these changes. Discussion took place among the board; and citizen input was received from the following:

- Sue Wright had questions regarding adding another year of English, not language arts; feels we need a complete year of English in eighth grade. Wants parents to help students choose their classes, not counselors making these choices. She also addressed the issue of the grading scale not being consistent.
- Flora Lee had questions regarding the weighting issue and the possibility of two years to complete the algebra course and whether these teachers are qualified to teach algebra. In regard to equity issues, looks at equity as far as from high school to high school. Encouraged counselors to also be trained in addition to the teachers. Asked that enhancement program instructors be motivated and passionate.
- Cheryl Pappadackis, head teacher for mathematics, asked that if they go with capstone credits now, could that be revised in the future. She also spoke regarding the differentiated math program. Need professional development in the classroom because our teachers need time to learn strategies and to collaborate with their own departments. Would like to see academies in the high school as we do in the middle schools.
- Paul Crandell, counselor at North Middle School, stated that he appreciates the board's support of career development, as it has been his life-long passion. Believes that career development is a life-long process that should begin in elementary school and keep evolving, and should be embedded in the curriculum so that students see the importance of choosing careers that they will enjoy throughout their lifetimes. Feels we need to get parents involved in the process but doesn't feel that seventh grade students are ready, and that we should begin the process somewhat in the eighth grade. Thanked the teachers at North Middle School who allow the counselors two days in the classrooms with students.
- Terry Gaalswyk, acting math chair at Western Iowa Tech Community College, stated that ten of the district's freshman students are taking college level Algebra at WITCC this year. These students will be taking Calculus I next year. This is the only program of its kind in the country. Chad Piersma, North High School freshman, stated that he enjoyed this class as it really challenges him. These students are taught by Maziar Ouliaeinia who in 1990 instructed the Iranian math team in the International Olympiad of Mathematics.
- Teresa Piersma's concern is that we are not recommending high school course credit for high school courses taken in middle school. Director Daane stated that he would rather see more at the beginning of the funnel than at the top. We will offer a section or more of Geometry in middle school.

Doyle Massey presented information on the district's PLATO grant. He stated that Senator Harkin has been able to secure almost \$2 million for us in PLATO grant funds. Mr. Massey introduced Rick Otto, the PLATO project manager, as an outstanding, natural-born teacher. These grants are used to increase student achievement, and appear to be quite successful.

Rita DeJong introduced Mark Olson of the Juvenile Detention Center, Doug Harrold with the Western Hills Area Education Agency, and Dan Watson and Don Mathews of the Juvenile Court Service. Rich Caldwell, Molly Twohig, and Dr. Angela Banks are a part of the committee but could not be present. Kathy Schuver gave the PowerPoint presentation on the Woodbury County Alternative School Program. Mrs. DeJong stated that this is a very conscientious committee which meets weekly.

Adjourn

Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 7-0, and the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.