

DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Educational Programs/Policy Committee

BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

This form is used by all multimember committees established by the Board of Education. Before any meeting is held, be sure you have met the requirements of Chapter 1037 Laws of the 67<sup>th</sup> G.A., 1978 Session, Official Meetings Open to Public.

- I. Complete the Following Before Starting the Meeting
  - A. Date agenda was posted for meeting: October 29, 2021
  - B. Date media was emailed agenda: October 29, 2021
  - C. Board Committee: **Educational Programs/Policy Committee**
  - D. Date and Time of Meeting: **November 2, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.**
  - E. Place of Meeting: The Forum
  - F. Attach agenda to this form. Verify that a copy of the agenda has been filed with the Secretary of the Board and the Administrator holding the Committee meeting.

If any of the above data does not comply with the open meeting law, do not begin the meeting.

Board members present: Anderson Sainci, Nancy Bradley, Lisa Wittman, Jim Prochaska, and Tami Ryan.  
District representatives present: Stan Rheingans, Julie Lange, Angie Breitbach, Brenda Duvel, and Mike Cyze.

Anderson Sainci called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Educational Programs

English Language Arts Study

Tammy Duehr is meeting monthly with a K-5 ELA curriculum study committee from August to June 2022. Goal is to choose new ELA curricular materials that support teaching the Iowa Core in an equitable way. The Committee hopes to narrow the material options by January of 2022. Key criteria for choosing curriculum includes inclusion of wide range of cultures and ethnicities and using the Five Pillars of Early Literacy which include phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. They may look at purchasing one or possibly multiple curricula to serve the elementary students. Funding for this new curriculum will be paid out of Esser and/or Instructional Support Levy funds.

New Math and Science Courses for 2022–2023 School Year

Angie Breitbach, Teacher on Special Assignment, spoke of the new science and math course offerings for the 22-23 school year. New math courses will be Applied Math 1 and 2, Foundations in College Math, for those who plan on a two or four-year college, and Math for Liberal Arts. New science courses include Environmental Science, Forensic Science, and Iowa Biodiversity and Conservation. Marine biology and astronomy will no longer be offered. These math and science courses are in alignment with the priority initiatives of supporting student voice and choice in coursework that connects with student experiences and educating and coaching students regarding various career pathways.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services

Brenda Duvel, Director of Special Education, updated the committee on ABA services. ABA services look at the context within which student behavior occurs. It is the largest research base and most recognized as it is applied to the treatment of individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism. In the past, Hills and Dales was the provider for ABA. Brenda and her team have changed that over the last three years so now the district provides ABA services to our special needs students. The Department of Education concluded that it is the responsibility of our school district to provide FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education) in a least restrictive environment. As a result, we have a board-certified Behavior Analyst, a behavior coach, and seven registered behavior technicians working with students in coordination with their IEP goals. Early intervention is key, so we don't have to continue to add programs. Benefits from the ABA program are team coordination, better outcomes, and transitions from classroom structure to lesser restrictive kinds of support. We are in the process in hiring another behavior analyst for the district to provide additional early interventions. In the future, the district may need to add an additional elementary site.

Policy #4009–Anti-Nepotism

Reviewed – Board 11.08.21

Policy #6105–School-to-Work Education

Reviewed – Board 11.08.21

Other Items

Julie Lange updated the committee on the computer technology in the district. A computer science leadership team is in place and meeting regularly.

Elementary:

- All 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are receiving coding instruction
- Highschool robotic team stations will be at Prescott and Audubon in December

Middle School:

- Robots have been ordered for robotics in all 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Students will experience high school robotics team in all 8<sup>th</sup> grade exploratory classes

High School:

- Preparing four stations to deliver robotics experience to elementary students
- Designed t-shirts for tour
- Looking at having the student run help desk turned into a graded class for the 2022-2023 school year

Julie will present more in-depth information about computer science in the coming months.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 7, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.



Carolyn Mauss, Board Secretary  
Board of Education