

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: April 28, 2023
  - B. Date media was emailed agenda: April 28, 2023
  - C. Board Committee: **Educational Programs/Policy Committee**
  - D. Date and Time of Meeting: **May 2, 2023, at 4:30 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: Nancy Bradley, Jim Prochaska, Kate Parks, Tami Ryan, Katie Jones, and Lisa Wittman .  
District representatives present: Amy Hawkins, Brenda Duvel, Lisa Tebockhorst, Mark Burns, Shirley Horstman, Steph King, Karin Anderson, Lynn Glaser, Michelle Leicht, Mimi Holesinger, Tricia Pitz, Dierre Littleton, Mike Cyze, Kevin Kelleher, Eddie Santiago, Brian Howes, and Val Loewenberg.

Nancy Bradley called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Agenda was approved as submitted.

Strategic Plan

Representatives of the graduation requirements committee with Mark Burns, Director of Secondary Education, as the facilitator, updated the committee. The committee was tasked to review and possibly modify graduation requirements to allow more student choice connected to career pathways or college, which is listed as a priority initiative in the District's strategic plan. Burns wanted feedback from the committee on the following recommendations which include modifying graduation requirements to require 44 total credits, including 13 elective choices which better aligns us with other school districts in the Mississippi Valley Conference, create new VERTEX career pathways or career clusters, increase opportunities for registered apprenticeships, internships, and concurrent classes and develop a new 9<sup>th</sup> grade seminar elective class to help students transition to high school. The committee was very supportive of the recommendations and were glad to see more flexibility. Burns will come back in the fall to update the Ed Programs Committee.

Lisa Tebockhorst, Director of Elementary Education, updated the committee on the priority initiative of exploring District/community partnerships that provide strong early childhood programming while also addressing community childcare needs as part of the \$10,000.00 BELIEF (Blended Early Learning in Educational Foundations) grant. In working with Dubuque Initiatives and other local organizations, the District has looked for ways to help families overcome barriers accessing quality childcare before and after school. Tebockhorst was asking for feedback on the idea of the District building a new preschool center at the former Medline building on Chavenelle Road. This could also provide families with wraparound childcare services with a partnership with the Dubuque Community Y, which plans on building a childcare center there as well. The District would maintain a preschool in each of its elementary buildings moving one classroom from each of the buildings with two preschool classrooms (Kennedy, Irving, Prescott, Table Mound, and new this coming year, Hoover) to the new preschool center. Kevin Kelleher stated that the District is budgeting \$3 million for the buildout of the center to be funded by the one-cent sales tax. The purchase of the building portion for the preschool center would come from PPEL funds.

Educational Programs

Equity Update – Dierre Littleton, Director of Equity updated the Ed programs Committee on the achievements over the last two years with diversity, equity, belonging, and inclusion. These achievements include promoting equity and inclusion, diversifying curriculum, and training staff on cultural awareness and sensitivity. Also, Littleton Stated that the District has created safe and welcoming spaces for students and staff of all backgrounds to express themselves and share ideas. Littleton also informed the committee that he was leaving after his contract is up at the end of June. The Board thanked him for his work and wished him well in his new position as VP for Equity and Inclusion for the St. Louis Public Schools.

Policy #7200 Field Trips

Revised – Board-5.08.23.

Policy #8051 Gifts to Public Officials and School District Employees

Reviewed – Board-5.08.23.

Policy #8061 Requisitions

Revised – Board-5.08.23.

Policy #8063 Receiving Supplies and Equipment

Reviewed – Board-5.08.23.

Policy #8064 Approval of Payment for Goods and Services

Reviewed – Board-5.08.23.

Policy #10402 Website Accessibility

Reviewed – Board-5.08.23.

Other Items

Superintendent, Amy Hawkins, announced that the district was awarded the Leap (Leadership Enrichment After-School Programs) Grant for an additional five years of programming at Washington and Jefferson Middle Schools.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 6, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Carolyn Mauss, Board Secretary