

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 67th G.A., 1978 Session, Official Meetings Open to Public.

- I. Complete the Following Before Starting the Meeting
- A. Date agenda was posted for meeting: September 29, 2023
 - B. Date media was emailed agenda: September 29, 2023
 - C. Board Committee: **Educational Programs/Policy Committee**
 - D. Date and Time of Meeting: **October 3, 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, Anderson Sainci and Lisa Wittman. District representatives present: Amy Hawkins, Lisa Tebockhorst, Brian Kuhle, Julie Lange, Shirley Horstman, Joe Maloney, Mark Burns, Tammy Duehr, Amy Evarts, Lorlie Ryan, and Mimi Holesinger.

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

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Tammy Duehr, Educational Support Leader, gave an update on HMH (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) which is the elementary language arts curriculum. Duehr explained the process of how this curriculum was chosen, and all the work behind the scenes that occurred to get this curriculum in the hands of teachers. This is the second year that the new curriculum has been used in kindergarten through fifth grade. Around forty-three hundred students and four hundred and forty-one teachers use this program each day.

Teachers Amy Evarts from Sageville Elementary and Lorlie Ryan from Lincoln Elementary, had positive things to say about the curriculum. They liked the materials as they are very user friendly, and some go home with the students at the end of the year. The selection of books and levels work well to meet the needs of each student. The books are high quality and provide a wide range of genres. The digital platform called ED, helps keep instruction current.

Joe Maloney, Lisa Tebockhorst, and Tammy Duehr reported out on the Summer Reading Academy program that ran in July. Two-hundred and fourteen first graders going into second grade, attended the program. Ninety percent of the students that attended maintained their reading progress or improved. Attendance was better this year with seventy percent of the students staying the whole day. Maloney mentioned that they continue to reach out to more community partners to help enrich the program in the afternoon session. A third of the 1st graders in the district attend but more work is needed to increase those numbers. Suggestions were made to help get the word out to families including having talking points for teachers to engage parents at conferences. Committee members suggested to change the name of the program and gave ideas for how to market it.

Mark Burns, Lisa Tebockhorst and Julie Lange presented on testing data for ELA and Math. The district uses the ISASP (Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress) test which is a fully digital test that students take online. Accommodations are built in for those students who need it. Lange shared a document showing the District's ISASP Proficiency Percentiles from the 2020-21 school year until the 2022-23 school year for grades three to eleven. Elementary staff look at these results and take each level of every standard and break it down. This way they can provide differentiated instruction and look for gaps in learning and use professional learning to support those gaps. In secondary, the high school instructional coaches focus on the standards and adjust the scope and sequence of instruction. Each level looks at data by standard and student then identify ways to bring students up to the standards. Coaches also look at attendance data versus ISASP data to see those effects on proficiency.

Policy #4100 – Recruitment and Selection

Revised – Board-10.09.23

Policy #4201 – Staff Evaluations

Revised – Board-10.09.23

Policy #4619 – Required Employee Professional Development

Revised – Board-10.09.23

Policy #5506 – Student Disclosure of Identity

New – Board-10.09.23

Policy #6202 – Parent and Family Engagement

Revised – Board-10.09.23

Policy #8035 – Fiscal Management

New – Board-10.09.23

Other Items

Superintendent Hawkins stated that the District is moving toward virtual learning days instead of canceling school for bad weather. Students will go to virtual learning in the secondary schools using the Canvas platform and elementary will have differentiated worksheet/activity packets. On virtual learning days, all staff will be instructed to come to school on a two hour late start schedule and work on professional learning. Any staff that have school aged children can bring them to work on those virtual days. This change will allow the last day of school to be before the end of May and not have to make up snow days at the end of the year.

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Carolyn Mauss, Board Secretary