

DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Retreat and Work Session-Minutes

July 23, 2025

President Parks called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. at the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque's Butler meeting room with the following board members present: Bradley, Hamel, Jacobitz-Kizzier, Jones, Parks, and Wittman. Absent: Sainci. Additional officers of the Board present: Mauss and Hawkins

Superintendent Hawkins welcomed everyone to the retreat and reviewed the agenda.

Mike Cyze, chief communications officer, updated the board of the rules surrounding the upcoming bond referendum and reviewed their roles as board members.

Brenda Duvel, executive director of special education, introduced an initiative that will be a part of the district this coming school year. Teach to Heal is a program that addresses mental health and the effects of trauma within the educational system. This approach creates support for not only students but educators and administrators. The developer of the program, Danielle Theis, will offer some professional development at the start of the year staff kickoff on Friday, August 15th.

Superintendent Hawkins invited the board to identify positive things that are going well as a board and areas that may need improvement.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Carolyn Mauss, Secretary  
Board of Education