

DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Educational Programs/Policy/Strategy 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: December 29, 2016
  - B. Date media were faxed agenda: December 29, 2016
  - C. Media who were faxed an agenda: Telegraph Herald; Des Moines Register; KWWL; KCRG; KGAN; Radio Dubuque; Townsquare Media Group; and Chamber of Commerce.
  - D. Board Committee: **Educational Programs/Policy/Strategy Committee**
  - E. Date and Time of Meeting: **January 3, 2017, 2:45 p.m.**
  - F. Place of Meeting: The Forum
  - G. 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: Jim Prochaska, Lisa Wittman, Tami Ryan, Mike Donohue, Tom Barton. District representatives present: Stan Rheingans, Mike Cyze, David Olson, Barb Vrotsos, Nancy Bradley, Heather Gudenkauf, Shirley Horstman.

Ms. Wittman called the meeting to order at 2:49 p.m. at the Forum.

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Course Enrollment Data

This topic was deferred to the next meeting.

Policy #6226 – Instructional Materials Selection, Review and Reconsideration

David Olson, Director of Secondary Education, reported on the research related to the procedures used for curriculum development and selection as directed by committee members at the last meeting. Urban Education Network (UEN) districts, area education agencies, online materials from other school districts, National Council of Teachers of English, and IASB were consulted and reviewed. Parents are included in curriculum studies, but the actual adoption must be the responsibility of school employees and administration. Parents are notified of course content in the following ways: course guide, syllabus, 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house, dialogue with teachers at any time. How are reading materials chosen and by whom? The curriculum coordinator, content leaders and teachers are involved in this process. Barb Vrotsos, World Language/English/ELL Coordinator, indicated there is a form currently in existence to add or delete materials from a collection. Upon review, this form needs to be revised and will align with Policy 6226 and the Iowa Core. Parents asked what the “line” is in selecting novels. There was no evidence that there is a “line” in Language Arts anywhere in the United States. There are many variables about what is appropriate for an individual student and their personal family beliefs. Board members feel the district did its due diligence on this topic. Parents are given a choice by choosing an alternative novel in the event there is a novel recommended that is of concern.

School Start Times

It was recommended to have a board work session on this topic when a recommendation is prepared.

School Calendars

Mr. Rheingans reported that approximately 100 online responses were received regarding the proposed calendars. After reviewing input, he is proposing the start date to be August 23 both years and a half day inservice the day before Thanksgiving break. Board 1.9.17

#6104 – Global Education

Reviewed, no changes recommended. Board 1.9.17

#6203 – Resource People

Reviewed, no changes recommended. Board 1.9.17

#6212 – Early Graduation

Reviewed, no changes recommended. Board 1.9.17

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Joni Lucas, Secretary  
Board of Education