

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 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: February 3, 2017
 - B. Date media were faxed agenda: February 3, 2017
 - 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: **February 6, 2017, 2:00 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, Tom Barton, Craig Beytien, Mike Donohue. District representatives present: Stan Rheingans, Mike Cyze, David Olson, Nancy Bradley, Shirley Horstman.

Ms. Wittman called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. at the Forum.

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Course Enrollment Data

David Olson, Director of Secondary Education, indicated that the district is analyzing course data to determine underrepresented groups. The high school curriculum is rigorous, but who are the capable students that aren't taking advantage of advanced placement courses, concurrent enrollment or postsecondary options? Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) is a non-profit organization that looked at some of our data to identify underrepresented groups. We also have studied our CTE enrollment data to find gender imbalances. We have had promotional programs for 8th graders to get both genders interested in a non-traditional course for that gender.

Low income and students of color that participate in advanced placement:

10% nationwide, 15% in DCSD

Middle/upper income white/Asian students that participate in at least one AP course:

38% nationwide, 30% in DCSD

AP exam pass rate:

DCSD 76%, Iowa 55%, US 57%.

These data examples are only part of all the data we challenge ourselves to analyze in order to bring the right courses to our high school students.

Special Education Report

Shirley Horstman, Director of Special Education & Student Services, reported that as of today 1,677 students are entitled for special education services of the 11,256 students enrolled. This means that 15% of the students enrolled are entitled. The national average is 9%, Iowa average is 12%, so the Dubuque Community School District is slightly higher than these averages. The district offers a continuum of services for entitled students, ages 3 to 21. Shirley reported on the programs that are offered in our schools: multi-categorical, life skills, autism, behavior, personal learning program (PLP), deaf and hard of hearing (DHH), and vision. She shared elementary school program clusters that will be implemented next school year. Students will remain in their current school/program until they age out, new students coming into the programs will begin with the new cluster system. Keystone services were discussed. Extended School Year (ESY) was discussed. This summer ESY will be offered at Kennedy Elementary School only, one middle school and both high schools. Students are currently being identified by IEP teams whether they fit the criteria by law. In the past, students were

identified by category when it should be by student need. The purpose of ESY is to sustain learning over the summer so

there is no learning loss. Four Oaks is struggling to employ highly certified teachers. They are currently serving 45-50 students. Lawther is currently serving 60-65 students.

Strategic Plan Timeline and Goal Review

Superintendent Rheingans briefly reviewed the proposed timeline to update the Strategic Plan with final approval by the board in November 2017.

#2208 – Public Information

Revised - Board 2.13.17

#6214 – Parent Conferences

Minor revisions - Board 2.13.17

#10001 – Parent Teacher Groups

Reviewed, no changes recommended. Board 2.13.17

Other Items

Mr. Barton is getting parent complaints that some teachers are supporting political affiliations in the classroom, which is prohibited. This will be a reminder at upcoming principal meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Joni Lucas, Secretary
Board of Education