

**DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AND WORK SESSION
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
1800 GRAND
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 19, 2013**

PUBLIC FORUM — 5:45 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

The Board of Directors held a public forum on Tuesday, November 19, 2013, in the multi-purpose room at 1800 Grand Avenue, Cindy Elsbernd presiding.

Present: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Absent: Caldwell-Johnson

Speakers: Vicki Janssen, 7934 43rd Ave., Prole

Margaret Buckton, ISFIS, 4685 Merle Hay Rd., Suite 209, Des Moines

Andrew Rasmussen, 313 SE Sharon, Ankeny

Jerry Van Dyck, 923 40th Street, Des Moines

Barbara Nichols-Wood, 7616 Goodman Dr., Urbandale

Mike Walag, 5702 SE 7th Ct., Des Moines

REGULAR MEETING — 6:01 P.M.

Ms. Elsbernd called the November 19, 2013, meeting of the Des Moines Public Schools Board of Directors to order.

Present: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Absent: Caldwell-Johnson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA — 6:01 P.M.

Mr. Howard moved approval of the agenda; seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — 6:02 P.M.

Mr. Howard moved approval of the minutes for November 5, 2013; seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

PRESENTATION — 6:03 P.M.

Jan McMahill, dean, School of Education, Drake University, provided information on a joint effort between the schools, Drake and Nationwide Insurance. Kristin Scheckinger and Katie Albrecht were also present. Nationwide is providing a gift of \$250,000--\$50,000 for five years. One part of the project is called Book Blast; the second part is a Wednesday afternoon academy involving Drake students. Britney Jordan is the coordinator of the project called Griffin Academy and provided a PowerPoint presentation of some of the activities that have already taken place. Brian Crook, principal of Studebaker Elementary School, thanked Nationwide for the opportunities for the students made possible by their generous donation. The project will be at McCombs and Studebaker for the first two years. A determine will then be made on how to best use the dollars for the next three years.

Superintendent Ahart thanked Nationwide for their generous gift and Drake for their collaboration.

The Roosevelt cross country team was recognized as state qualifiers this year, placing ninth overall in team standings. Megan Schott placed fourth individually.

CONSENT ITEMS — 6:13 P.M.

- 7. Architect Payments
- 8. Construction Payments
- 9. Award of Bid No. B6808—General Construction Package Lincoln RAILS Academy at Kurtz.....
- 10. Award of Bid No. B6810—Fire Alarm Package Lincoln RAILS Academy at Kurtz
- 11. Brody Middle School Roof Replacement.....
- 12. Greenwood Elementary Masonry Restoration.....
- 13. Willard Elementary Masonry Restoration
- 14. Personnel Recommendations
- 15. List of Bills for Approval.....

Minutes

Mr. Barron moved that the board approve the consent items including the payment of bills previously authorized and certified by the secretary in the amount of \$894,532.34 and unpaid bills in the amount of \$2,732,440.63; seconded by Pastor Cheatom.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney
Nay: None
Motion passed 6-0.

Other — 6:09 P.M.

- 16. Final Plans for Merrill Classroom Addition

November 19, 2013

Public Hearings — 6:09 P.M.

- 17. Merrill Middle School Addition Bid No. B6832
- 18. Easements to the City of Des Moines at 2941 Dean Ave., Willard Elementary School

Other, continued — 6:12 P.M.

- 19. City of Des Moines, Capitol Core Neighborhood Improvement Plan*
 - 20. 2014 Legislative/Policy Agenda*
 - 21. Smaller Learning Communities Grant*
 - 22. Request for Modified Allowable Growth (MAG) for Increased Enrollment, Open Enrollment and Limited English Proficient Programs.....
 - 23. Monitoring Report for Management Limitation 2.3—Financial Condition and Activities for the Quarter Ending September 30, 2013
 - 24. School Finance 101*
 - 25. Statewide Penny Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2013
 - 26. Middle School Program Update FY 2015*
- *Discussion only, no action.*

ITEMS OF PRIVILEGE — 6:43 P.M.

- 27. Chair’s Report

- 28. Superintendent’s Report

ADJOURN — 6:47P.M.

The chair adjourned the regular meeting. Following a short break, the board will convene in the scheduled work session.

WORK SESSION — 7:06 P.M.

The board convened a work session at 7:06 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at 1800 Grand Avenue.

Present: Barron, Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney
Also present: Administrators Tom Ahart, Bill Good, Gregg Cuellar, Anne Sullivan, Holly Crandell, and Thomas Harper. Cathy Minchberg and Carol Taylor from the Center for Reform of School Systems facilitated the training.

Discussion included board member roles, working together as a governance team, image projection, and related items. A subcommittee of Caldwell-Johnson, Boesen and Barron will compile thoughts presented for further discussion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:35 p.m.

Item No. 7
Page 1 of 1**Subject: ARCHITECT PAYMENTS****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Attachments: None

Issue: Payment of architect / engineer invoices.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the following architect/engineer payments be authorized.

<u>Architect/Engineer/Project</u>	<u>Percent Paid</u>	<u>Estimated Fee</u>	<u>Previous Payments</u>	<u>Current Payment</u>
<u>Design Group</u>				
Hoyt Middle School Architect App 16 (SWP)	93%	\$375,000.00	\$343,426.26	\$3,711.24
<u>Wells + associates</u>				
Casady Education Center Architect App. 8 (SWP)	74%	\$390,380.00	\$278,467.73	\$9,295.47
<u>OPN Architects</u>				
Merrill Middle School Architect App. 06 (SWP)	47%	\$94,040.00	\$27,249.02	\$16,652.20
<u>Alvine Engineering</u>				
Lincoln RAILS at Kurtz Architect App 3 (SWP)	61%	\$273,200.00	\$29,856.00	\$138,107.36
<u>RDG Planning and Design</u>				
Park Avenue Elementary Architect App. 14 (SWP)	92%	\$96,250.00	\$86,157.99	\$2,743.51
Pleasant Hill Elementary Architect App. 15 (SWP)	89%	\$342,000.00	\$299,035.22	\$4,960.38
Central Campus Phase 3 Architect App. 20 (SWP)	95%	\$312,741.00	\$297,417.72	\$469.08
TOTAL				\$175,939.24

Presenters: None**Background:** None**Contact:** Bill Good

Item No. 8

Page 1 of 2

Subject: CONSTRUCTION PAYMENTS

For: ACTION

Contact: Bill Good

(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Attachments: None

Issue: Payment of contractor invoices.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the following contractor and supplier payments be authorized.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Percent Paid</u>	<u>Estimated Fee</u>	<u>Previous Payments</u>	<u>Current Payment Due</u>
<u>Cerebral</u> Jefferson Elementary Addition (SWP) GC App. 9 Sealed Bid No. B6641	94%	\$5,178,251.00	\$4,700,660.17	\$159,178.20
<u>Robinson Bros.</u> Lincoln RAILS Asbestos Abatement RETAINAGE RELEASE Quote No. B6771	100%	\$45,093.50	\$42,838.82	\$2,254.68
<u>Dean Snyder</u> Hoyt Middle School Addition / Ren. (SWP) GC App. 8 Sealed Bid NO. B6658	94%	\$7,912,357.00	\$7,314,231.45	\$139,234.85
<u>The Wilson Group</u> Prospect Windows RETAINAGE RELEASE Sealed Bid No. B6614	100%	\$106,106.00	\$100,360.85	\$5,745.15
<u>REEP</u> Lincoln RAILS Window Replacement RETAINAGE RELEASE Sealed Bid No. B6586	100%	\$517,118.00	\$491,262.04	\$25,855.96

Item No. 8

Page 2 of 2

ECCO Midwest

Findley Abatement RETAINAGE RELEASE Sealed Bid No. B6617	100%	\$130,145.33	\$123,638.06	\$6,507.27
--	------	--------------	--------------	------------

Edge Commercial

Pleasant Hill School Addition (SWP) GC App. 9 Sealed Bid No. B6640	95%	\$4,106,049.00	\$3,845,474.60	\$41,216.70
---	-----	----------------	----------------	-------------

Kurtz Elevator Addition (SWP) GC App. 7 Sealed Bid No. B6688	95%	\$251,176.00	\$238,056.70	\$560.50
---	-----	--------------	--------------	----------

Print Shop GC App. 1 Sealed Bid No. B6787	5%	\$506,900.00	\$0.00	\$25,327.00
---	----	--------------	--------	-------------

Rochon Corp.

Casady Educ. Center GC App. 1 Sealed Bid No. B6776	7%	\$7,680,000.00	\$0.00	\$510,623.33
--	----	----------------	--------	--------------

Lang Construction

Findley Elementary Addition (SWP) GC App. 9 Sealed Bid No. B6613	95%	\$4,711,181.00	\$4,402,682.62	\$68,064.09
---	-----	----------------	----------------	-------------

Two Rivers Group

Prospect Facility App. 6 (SWP) Sealed Bid No. B6706	90%	\$2,489,860.58	\$1,973,675.41	\$261,447.00
---	-----	----------------	----------------	--------------

A J Allen

Hoover VAV GC App. 6 (SWP) Sealed Bid No. B6722	95%	\$761,862.00	\$713,498.45	\$10,270.45
---	-----	--------------	--------------	-------------

TOTAL			\$1,256,285.18	
--------------	--	--	-----------------------	--

Presenters: None**Background:** None**Contact:** Bill Good

Item No. 9

Page 1 of 1

Subject: AWARD OF BID NO. B6808 – GENERAL CONSTRUCTION PACKAGE
LINCOLN RAILS ACADEMY AT KURTZ

For: ACTION

Contact: Bill Good
(harold.good@dmschools.org: 242-8321)

Attachments: None

Issue: Award of contract for the general construction package for the renovation of Lincoln RAILS at Kurtz.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends a contract for the Base Bid and Alternate 2 be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder Dean Snyder Construction in the amount of \$6,729,700.

Presenters: None, Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.

Background: This project will enhance energy efficiency and safety/security measures. It will provide electrical upgrades including new lighting, a fire sprinkler system, upgraded technology, and improvements to the mechanical systems and climate controls.

The district received bids on November 12, 2013. The results are as follows:

	Base Bid	Alternate # 1 (ADD)	Alternate # 2 (ADD)
Breiholz Constr. – DM, IA	\$6,790,000	\$87,000	\$116,000
Brocon Services – Johnston, IA	\$6,780,000	\$90,000	\$124,000
Dean Snyder – Ankeny, IA	\$6,629,000	\$85,280	\$100,700
Edge Commercial – Grimes, IA	\$7,028,000	\$90,680	\$88,500
Lang Construction – WDM, IA	\$6,718,000	\$85,600	\$98,800
Larson & Larson – DM IA	\$6,716,000	\$84,000	\$120,000
Rochon Corp – Urbandale, IA	\$6,878,000	\$87,000	\$110,000

Alternate # 1: Add theatrical lighting changes in the auditorium

Alternate # 2: Add door hardware changes in the existing building.

Funding Source: Statewide Penny (Students First Program)

Contact: Bill Good

Item No. 10**Page 1 of 1****Subject: AWARD OF BID NO. B6810 – FIRE ALARM PACKAGE
LINCOLN RAILS ACADEMY AT KURTZ****For: ACTION****Presentations: None****Contact: Bill Good****Attachments: None**

(harold.good@dmschools.org: 242-8321)

Issue: Award of contract for the fire alarm package for the renovation of Lincoln RAILS at Kurtz.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends a contract for the Base Bid be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder Van Maanen Electric Inc. in the amount of \$76,850.

Presenters: None, Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.

Background: This project will install a new fire alarm system throughout the building to enhance safety for students and staff.

The district received bids on November 12, 2013. The results are as follows:

	Base Bid
Devries Electric – Pella, IA	\$78,000
Van Maanen Electric Inc. – Newton, IA	\$76,850

Funding Source: Statewide Penny (Students First Program) or potential Life Safety Grant.

Contact: Bill Good

Item No. 11**Page 1 of 1****Subject: BRODY MIDDLE SCHOOL ROOF REPLACEMENT****For: INFORMATION****Presentations: None****Contact: Bill Good**
(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)**Attachments: None**

Issue: Due to water leaks from roofing deterioration the building is in need of roofing replacement.

Presenters: None. Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.

Background: To correct the moisture infiltration problems, roofing will be removed and replaced with new Thermo Plastic Olefin (TPO) single ply membrane. Bids will be solicited as detailed in Chapter 26 of the Iowa Code.

A public hearing will be advertised and conducted at the December 10, 2013, board meeting. Bids are due on January 7, 2014, and Facility Management will seek board approval of the lowest responsive, responsible bid at the January 21, 2014, board meeting.

Plans are available at the Operations Center, Facility Management Dept., 1917 Dean Avenue.

Funding Source: Physical Plant & Equipment Levy (PPEL)

Item No. 12

Page 1 of 1

Subject: GREENWOOD ELEMENTARY MASONRY RESTORATION

For: INFORMATION

Presentations: None

Contact: Bill Good
(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Attachments: None

Issue: Exterior masonry repair.

Presenters: None. Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.

Background: To correct the moisture infiltration problems, masonry will be removed and replaced. Bids will be solicited as detailed in Chapter 26 of the IowaCode.

A public hearing will be advertised and conducted at the December 10, 2013, board meeting. Bids are due on January 7, 2014, and Facility Management will seek board approval of the lowest responsive, responsible bid at the January 21, 2014, board Meeting.

Plans are available at the Operations Center, Facility Management Dept., 1917 Dean Avenue.

Funding Source: Physical Plant & Equipment Levy (PPEL)

Item No. 13**Page 1 of 1****Subject: WILLARD ELEMENTARY MASONRY RESTORATION****For: INFORMATION****Presentations: None****Contact: Bill Good**
(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)**Attachments: None**

Issue: Exerior masonry repair.**Presenters:** None. Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.**Background:** To correct the moisture infiltration problems, masonry will be removed and replaced. Bids will be solicited as detailed in Chapter 26 of the Iowa code.

A public hearing will be advertised and conducted at the December 10, 2013, board meeting. Bids are due on January 7, 2014, and Facility Management will seek board approval of the lowest responsive, responsible bid at the January 21, 2014, board Meeting.

Plans are available at the Operations Center, Facility Management Dept., 1917 Dean Avenue.

Funding Source: Physical Plant & Equipment Levy (PPEL)

Item No. 14

Page 1 of 1

Subject: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

For: ACTION

Presentation: None

Contact: Anne Sullivan

Attachment: None

(anne.sullivan@dmschools.org/242-7763)

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the personnel recommendations.

Background:**ELECTIONS - GENERAL EDUCATION**

Name	School, Position	Effective Date
Enos, Jodie	Carver, K-5	11/04/2013

RESIGNATION

Name	School, Position	Effective Date
Koenig, Kathleen	Hiatt, Spanish	12/31/2013
Tincher, Sarah	Harding, ELL	10/01/2013

EARLY RETIREMENTS (effective date for all early retirements will be the last day for the 2013-14 school year)

Name	School	Position
Douglas, Mary	Student Services	Speech Pathologist
Grace, Mary Helen	Greenwood	Art
Jansen, Susan	Roosevelt HS	Multicat
Marcucci, Susanna	Roosevelt HS	Vice Principal HS
McLaughlin, Jean	Jefferson Elementary	4 th Grade
Raftis, Anne	Windsor	Multicat
Williams, Sheri	Jefferson Elementary	Vocal Music

Item No. 15**Page 1 of 1****Subject: LIST OF BILLS FOR APPROVAL****For: ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Thomas Harper**
(thomas.harper@dmschools.org/242-7745)**Attachment: None**

Issue: A list of previously paid and unpaid bills will be reviewed by one of the directors prior to the meeting who may randomly or specifically select various entries for detailed review with Business and Finance staff. Such director will make a motion for action to be taken by the board at the meeting.

Item No. 16**Page 1 of 1****Subject: FINAL PLANS FOR MERRILL CLASSROOM ADDITION****For: ACTION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Bill Good****Attachments: None**

(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Issue: Final plans for the classroom addition to Merrill Middle School.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the board approve the final plans and specifications prepared by OPN Architects for the new classroom addition for Merrill Middle School.**Background:** This project will add three classrooms to the west end of the existing school. Additionally, the project will modify the main entrance and add an elevator.

A copy of the plans and specifications are available for review at the District's Operations Center, 1917 Dean Ave.

Presenters: Bill Good, Alex Hanna and Brian Lane (OPN Architects)**Minutes**

Mr. Howard moved and Mr. Sweeney seconded approval of the final plans for the Merrill Middle School classroom addition.

A presentation was given by Mr. Hanna, principal of Merrill Middle School; Mr. Good, CFO; and N8 Stieler, OPN Architects. The basics of the project are an addition to add three classrooms and an elevator to the west end of the building, as well as creating an inviting entrance at this addition with ADA access and security enhancements. The existing bus drop off will be retained.

Project timeline includes the bid award occurring the first week in January; work beginning in spring with substantial completion by the middle of August. The budget is \$1,696,250.

The design does not allow for a second floor addition over the classrooms. Any additional expansion would occur on the north side of the space.

With no other discussion, the chair called for the vote.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 17**Page 1 of 1****Subject: MERRILL MIDDLE SCHOOL ADDITION BID NO. B6832****For: PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Attachments: None

Issue: Publication for the Public Hearing was included in The Des Moines Register on November 13, 2013. Approval of the plans and specifications for a three classroom addition at Merrill Middle School.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the plans and specifications prepared by OPN Architects for the classroom addition at Merrill Middle School.

Presenters: None. Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.

Background: This project will add three new classrooms to the west end of the existing school. Additionally, the project will modify the main entrance and add an elevator.

A copy of the plans and specifications are available for review at the District's Operations Center, 1917 Dean Avenue.

Funding: Statewide Penny (Students First Program)

Minutes

The public hearing was opened at 6:28 p.m. With no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Boesen moved the superintendent's recommendation with a second by Mr. Howard.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 18**Page 1 of 1****Subject: EASEMENTS TO THE CITY OF DES MOINES AT 2941 DEAN AVE,
WILLARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION****Presenters: None****Contact: Bill Good****Attachments: None**

(harold.good@dmschools.org; 242-8321)

Issue: The City of Des Moines is requesting the granting of a permanent easement for traffic signal and street lighting systems and a temporary construction easement at Willard Elementary, 2941 Dean Ave.

On November 5, 2013, the Board of Directors approved a resolution to hold a public hearing. As required by law, the notice of public hearing was published on November 6, 2013.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY for PERMANENT EASEMENT being conveyed to the City of Des Moines: A part of lot 20, Official plat of the south half of Section 1-T78-R24, an official plat, now included in and forming a part of the City of Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa and described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of lot 14, Block "N", Hartley's addition to Grant park, being an official plat, now included in and forming a part of the City of Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa: thence north 88° (degrees) 45' (Minutes) 07" (seconds) east, 316.91 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing north 88° 45'07" east, 10.00 feet; thence south 0°00'14" east, 10.00 feet; thence south 88° 45'07" west, 10.00 feet; thence north 0°00'14" west, 10.00 feet to the point of beginning and containing 100 square feet.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY for TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT: A part of Lot 14 and vacated alley lying east of and adjoining block "N", Harley's addition to Grant Park and a part of lots 10 and 20, in the official plat of the south half of Section 1, T78-R24, both being an official plat, and now included in and forming a part of the City of Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa and described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of said lot 14; thence north 88° 45'07" east a distance of 316.91 feet; thence south 0°00'14" east, 10.00 feet; thence north 88°45'07" east, 10.00 feet; thence south 0°00'14" east, 90.02 feet; thence south 88° 45'07" west 21.77 feet; thence north 0°04'37" west, 10.32 feet; thence north 89°52'14" west, 78.22 feet; thence north 0°00'14" west, 67.82 feet; thence south 88°45'07" west, 226.87 feet; thence north 0°04'03" west, 20.00 feet to the point of beginning and containing 0.31 acres (13559 S.F.)

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the granting of a permanent easement for traffic signal and street lighting systems and a temporary construction easement to the City of Des Moines.

Minutes

The public hearing was opened at 6:29 p.m. With no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Pastor Cheatom moved the superintendent's recommendation with a second by Mr. Barron.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 19**Page 1 of 1****Subject: CITY OF DES MOINES, CAPITOL CORE NEIGHBORHOOD
IMPROVEMENT PLAN****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Bill Good****Attachment: None**

(harold.good@dmschools.org/242-8321)

Issue: Overview of Capital Crossroads: Capitol Core Neighborhood Improvement Plan - The Capital Crossroads Vision Plan acknowledged that having healthy neighborhoods in the core of Des Moines is critical to the vitality and economic competitiveness of the region as a whole. This plan proposes five strategic initiatives that will complement and strengthen existing efforts to improve Des Moines' neighborhoods. Included are recommendations for better connecting neighborhoods with the school district and for better promoting all that Des Moines' neighborhoods and schools have to offer.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board review the information.

Presenters: Russ Cross, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, and Amber Lynch, City of Des Moines Neighborhood Planner

Minutes

Amber Lynch and Russ Cross provided an update on the plan. The goals of the group are to improve the perception and experience within Des Moines' neighborhoods; increase the demand for living in the Capitol Core; leverage existing assets to strengthen and enrich neighborhood character; and identify new resources to make meaningful, visible changes possible. Funding levels of resources to help neighborhoods are decreasing. It was also found that renewed activity in many of the neighborhoods will require identifying and encouraging community catalysts. Five strategic initiatives have been identified to move forward in neighborhood improvement, with the focus on physical improvements: 1) problem properties, 2) bringing new homes into neighborhoods, 3) improve commercial properties, 4) address infrastructure by repairing streets, curbs and sidewalks, as well as parks, to empower neighborhoods to improve their quality of life and identity, and 5) communicate assets in neighborhoods including schools.

Ms. Boesen thanked the presenters for providing awareness of the project and the need for continued collaboration with the city.

Item No. 20**Page 1 of 1****Subject: 2014 LEGISLATIVE/POLICY AGENDA****For: DISCUSSION/ACTION****Contact: Phil Roeder**

(phiip.roeder@dmschools.org/242-8153)

Attachment: 13-070

Issue: The Iowa General Assembly will convene in January. DMPS should adopt key items to support during the upcoming legislative session as well as a plan to support its agenda.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board adopt the proposed 2014 legislative and policy priorities.

Background: The Board has previously advanced a legislative agenda that reflects the concerns not only of public schools generally but, as a member of the Urban Education Network, those important to larger Iowa school districts. In addition, last year the Board adopted a legislative agenda that focused on issues of extra importance to DMPS, such as the expanded time for weighted ELL funding approved by last year's General Assembly.

At its November 12 work session, and at previous meetings, the Board discussed, in addition to the priorities supported through UEN, engaging legislators and executive branch leaders this year on the following four areas:

- Support for English Language Learners;
- Greater flexibility, i.e. use of categorical funds;
- Expand access to early childhood education;
- Greater cost effectiveness for college credit opportunities.

Minutes

A motion to approve the legislative and policy priorities for 2014 was made by Mr. Barron and seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeney

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 21**Page 1 of 1****Subject: SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES GRANT****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Tim Schott****Attachment: 13-072**

(timothy.schott@dmschools.org/242-7871)

Issue: Smaller Learning Communities (SLC) Grant Exit Report**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the board receive the SLC Grant Exit report from the grant evaluator, Dr. Jan McMahonill.**Presenters:** Dr. Jan McMahonill, Dean, Drake University School of Education**Background:** DMPS is closing out the final year of a multi-year federal grant to support the development of smaller learning communities at the high school level. Dr. McMahonill will provide an overview of the work accomplished through the grant and results of that work.**Minutes**

Jan McMahonill from Drake University reported on grant over the last six years as the external evaluator. Three goals were to create smaller learning community structures, work on high academic achievement and build professional learning communities. Over \$6 million was awarded and disbursed annually to each of the five comprehensive high schools which was approximately \$250,000/school/year.

Lincoln created the RAILS academy at a separate location and is still being used; East originally had a separate building for 9th grade, but is now part of the main building; North and Roosevelt created wings for 9th and 10th grades; and Hoover created "condos"—clusters of two, three and four common classes. Five coordinators and five academic interventionists were hired. Money was spent on reading and math improvement. For four years, 8.5 summer school was held to allow students to earn a couple of half credits prior to their freshman year. Additional changes included technology upgrades, creation of professional learning communities, professional development, curriculum revision materials, and after-school support. Challenges included increases in English-language learners, immigrants, and students and families in poverty. State funding decreased during this time, as well as many other changes in district leadership and state and federal requirements, testing, etc.

Some improvements and successes have been realized and additional information can be found in the final report—attachment 13-072.

Item No. 22**Page 1 of 2****Subject: REQUEST FOR MODIFIED ALLOWABLE GROWTH (MAG) FOR INCREASED ENROLLMENT, OPEN ENROLLMENT AND LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT PROGRAMS****For: ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Thomas Harper****Attachment: None**(thomas.harper@dmschools.org/242-8527)

Issue: Request to obtain modified allowable growth from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC).

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the request to the School Board Review Committee for modified allowable growth in the amount of \$3,290,426 for FY 2014 for projected costs due to increased enrollment, increased open enrollment out and increased Limited English Proficient (LEP) program expenditures.

Presenters: None, Thomas Harper will be present to answer any questions.

Background: It should be noted that modified allowable growth, while stated in dollars, is not cash but results in increased spending authority if approved by the SBRC. The district is entitled to ask for modified allowable growth for increased enrollment, open enrollment out and LEP expenditures based on the following set of circumstances:

- Increased enrollment - School districts that have an October 2014 certified enrollment greater than the October 2013 certified enrollment have the opportunity to receive an on-time funding budget adjustment up to 100% of the enrollment increase by making a request to the School Budget Review. The district's certified enrollment increase is 351.1 students (1.09% in certified enrollment over the prior year), resulting in a request to increase modified allowable growth and spending authority of \$2,172,958.
- Open enrollment out – Iowa Code section 282.18(9) allows a district of residence to apply for modified allowable growth if a student was not included in the resident district's enrollment count during the fall of the year preceding the student's transfer under open enrollment. Since open enrollment count is included in the increased enrollment count then the only allowable count is if the open enrollment count is greater than the increased enrollment count. The additional open enrollment out count beyond the increased certified enrollment is 31.7 students. The portion of the district's open enrollment out attributable to this set of circumstances results in a request to increase modified allowable growth and spending authority of \$190,232.

Item No. 22**Page 2 of 2**

- Iowa Code sections 280.4(3) and 257.31(5)(j) allow a district of residence to apply for modified allowable growth to continue funding a program for limited English proficient (LEP) students after the five years of weighting. The modified allowable growth will be calculated by multiplying the number of students being served beyond five years times the weighting amount, times the district cost per pupil in the current year. The district's LEP students after the five years count is 681 students resulting in a request to increase modified allowable growth and spending authority for is \$927,236.

To reiterate, while this three part request, when approved by the SBRC, will increase spending authority, it does not give the district additional cash/funds. These numbers could change if there are changes to the Certified Enrollment numbers. Additional funds can only be gained by an increase in property taxes. Approval to make a request to the SBRC for MAG is not equivalent to action on increasing the property tax rate. That type of discussion will come later as the district further discusses the budget issues for FY 2014.

Minutes

A motion to approve the request for modified allowable growth was made by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeny

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 23**Page 1 of 2****Subject: MONITORING REPORT FOR MANAGEMENT LIMITATION 2.3 –
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE QUARTER ENDING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2013****For: ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Thomas Harper**
(thomas.harper@dmschools.org/242-7745)**Attachment: 13-067**

Issue: Board Governance Policy 3.4 – Monitoring Superintendent Performance includes a schedule relative to monitoring reports that requires a quarterly monitoring report on Management Limitation 2.3 – Financial Condition and Activities.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board receive, discuss and take action on the quarterly monitoring report for Management Limitation 2.3 – Financial Condition and Activities for the Quarter Ending September 30, 2013.

Presenters: Thomas Harper will be available for questions.

Background: The Management Limitation 2.3 – Financial Condition and Activities Monitoring Report is included as Attachment 13-067. This report covers the quarterly period from July 1, 2013, through September 30, 2013, unless otherwise stated. Management Limitation 2.3 states: With respect to actual ongoing condition of the district financial resources, the Superintendent shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy, or a material deviation of actual expenditures from the Board's Ends priorities.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall not:

1. Fail to provide quarterly summaries of the financial condition of the district.
2. Fail to settle district payroll obligations and payables in a timely manner.
3. Fail to implement prudent competitive quoting procedures for all facility improvement projects in an amount that meets or exceeds the competitive quote threshold as established by Iowa law.
4. Fail to implement prudent competitive bidding procedures for all facility improvement projects in the amount of \$125,000 or more.
5. Fail to implement prudent competitive procedures, including but not limited to RFPs, for purchasing products and securing contractual and professional services.
6. Obligate the district to contracts or expenditures greater than \$25,000.
7. Acquire, lease or dispose of real property.
8. Invest funds in securities contrary to state law.
9. Allow tax payments or other governmental ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.

Item No. 23**Page 2 of 2**

Minutes

Mr. Harper commented compliance is reported in all areas. The financials will show the general fund shows the difference between revenue and expenditures as approximately -\$24 million. This is a reason for the solvency ratio. The current-year revenues do not cover the current-year expenditures until the first major tax payment is received in November.

A motion to approve the monitoring report was made by Mr. Howard with a second by Mr. Barron.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeny

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 24**Page 1 of 2****Subject: SCHOOL FINANCE 101****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Thomas Harper**
(thomas.harper@dmschools.org/242-7745)**Attachment: 13-068**

Issue: School finance and review.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the board continue discussion on the FY 2015 budget parameters, priorities and the guiding principles with the additional information presented.**Presenters:** Larry Sigal (ISFAS) Iowa School Finance Information Services**Background:** As the board begins its discussions relative to FY15 goals, parameters and priorities it is a good time to review some of the basic tenets of school financing. This presentation will provide school finance background and updates that may be useful to community, staff and other parties that are interested in understanding and offering input into the board's FY15 budget discussions over the next several months.

Larry Sigal brings over 20 years state and local government analytical experience. Larry has a BA degree in Financial Management from the University of Iowa (1988) and a MA degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Iowa (1990). Larry's work background includes 10 years (1990 to 2000) at the nonpartisan Iowa Legislative Fiscal Bureau staffing Administration Appropriations Subcommittee, Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, and the Ways and Means Committees for both Chambers. Mr. Sigal then spent 9 years as the School Finance Director for the Iowa Association of School Boards developing school finance content including legislative support, spreadsheet and tool development to allow school districts to understand and manage their finances. Larry's extensive experience in helping school leaders in districts of all sizes at the local level, his state level policy and tax expertise, and his commitment to state of the art technology tools to lighten the workload for all, uniquely positions him to support policy development, strategic planning and advocacy at the statehouse.

Minutes

Larry Sigal's comments included that the district's budget is funded on a student-driven formula based on enrollment; it is budget limited, not tax-rate limited; and funds can only be spent on allowable purposes. The Code of Iowa specifically designates how funds can be spent

Item No. 24**Page 2 of 2**

Spending authority was created to provide equity across the state and sets the amount each district can spend for each student. Unused spending authority for prior years becomes unspent budget authority. The legislature changed the term allowable growth to state percent of growth, which calculates growth of the spending authority. The spending authority is ultimately funded by a combination of state aid and property taxes.

Solvency ratio is computed by taking the amount of money the district is owed, deducting all the expenses, the remainder is the fund balance. When expressed in a percentage format, it becomes the solvency ratio.

The unspent budget authority is calculated by taking all the spending authority the district has and deducting all the expenses.

It is illegal for a district to exceed its spending authority, which can cause a district to be closed if deemed not financially viable.

There are basically three sources of funding: two are from property taxes and one is state foundation aid. The first property tax is \$5.40 per \$1,000 of property valuation, the state backfills up to 87.5% of the cost per pupil, with the remaining 12.5% as an additional property tax levy.

Ways to increase the general fund from a spending authority standpoint are the Instructional Support Levy with a limit of an additional 10% which the district maximizes and the Dropout Prevention Levy which is also maximized.

Eighty percent of the general fund dollars is expended on people. The remaining 20% goes to items such as curriculum, professional development, fuel, utilities, etc.

The cash reserve levy provides the money to run the district when waiting for state aid or property taxes. It does not generate spending authority.

ISFIS is available as a resource to the board.

Item No. 25**Page 1 of 1****Subject: STATEWIDE PENNY SALES TAX BONDS, SERIES 2013****For: ACTION****Presentation:****Contact: Thomas Harper****Attachment: 13-069**(thomas.harper@dmschools.org/242-7745)

Issue: Revenue Bonds Series 2013; Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Official Statement

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board take action, authorizing and approving the official statement of the School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2013.

Presenters: Thomas Harper

Background: The board approved the Resolution Fixing the Date of Sale and the Electronic Bidding Procedures on November 5, 2013. Now presented in attachment 13-069 is the Official Statement for review and approval. The sale of \$9,145,000 in Tax Revenue Bonds Series 2013 close is on or about December 30, 2013.

The Bonds will provide the district funds to:

1. Minimize inflationary increases on a portion of the construction program.
2. Maximize the use of construction dollars in the first 10 years of the construction program.
3. Add flexibility to the construction schedule.
4. Allow the district to develop the most optimal construction plan.
5. Lock up a portion of the revenue stream for debt service (and/or projects).
6. Allow the district to move up projects earlier for the benefit of the students.
7. Lock in projects at an estimated borrowing cost of approximately 4% which may be lower than the projected average inflationary factor over the next 17 years.
8. Continue to provide operational efficiencies which will have a direct impact on the general fund in the form of reduced energy costs.
9. Continue the plan created by the Superintendents Facilities Advisory Committee.

It should be noted that in addition to these bonds, the district will be requesting authorization for the sale of an additional \$61m in Sales Tax Revenue Bonds in the spring of 2014.

Minutes

A motion to authorize and approve the official Resolution for the bonds was made by Ms. Boesen and seconded by Mr. Barron.

Aye: Barron, Boesen, Cheatom, Elsbernd, Howard, Sweeny

Nay: None

Motion passed 6-0

Item No. 26**Page 1 of 1****Subject: MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Tim Schott/Corey Harris****Attachment: 13-071**

(timothy.schott@dmschools.org/242-7885)

Issue: Update on middle school programming.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the board be informed of current status and future direction of middle school programming.**Presenters:** Tim Schott and Corey Harris**Background:** This presentation will provide an overview of DMPS middle school programs including organization, demographics, current data, challenges and next steps.**Minutes**

The middle schools report is being added around the schedule of Monitoring Reports to better keep the board informed of district activities. The report shows there are almost 7,000 middle school students with increases in the number receiving free or reduced-price lunch and ELL services and an increase in the minority population. A decrease has been shown in the number of special education identified students. There are 10 full-size, comprehensive schools serving almost 96% of the students with an average enrollment of 665 students. Smaller programs serve the other 4-5% of the students.

A *Middle School Matters* video, created by district high school students under the direction of Tim Coleman, was shown.

The schools are required to develop a set of goals around their School Improvement Plans. Mr. Harris has also set goals at the administrative level, one of which is to be in the classroom and provide feedback by joining every principal, vice principal, and school improvement leader in completing at least 15 walk throughs each week, a total of 15,000 for the year.

Additional goals include improving test scores, increasing attendance, and decreasing office referrals and out-of-school suspensions. Examples of steps to meet goals are standardizing curriculum, adding staff to allow for common planning time and professional collaboration, adding behavior cultures, implementing standards-referenced grading and moving toward First Attempt In Learning, and providing leadership support and recognizing best practices for principals, as well as many other initiatives.