

**DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
1800 GRAND AVENUE
MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2013**

PUBLIC FORUM — 5:45 P.M. -5:46 P.M.

The Board of Directors held a public forum on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in the multi-purpose room at 1800 Grand Avenue; Dick Murphy presiding.

Present: Boesen, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy, Sweeney
Absent: Caldwell-Johnson, Jongewaard

Speakers: None

REGULAR MEETING — 6:00 P.M.

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in the multi-purpose room at 1800 Grand Avenue; Dick Murphy presiding.

Present: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy, Sweeney
Connected by phone: Jongewaard

APPROVAL OF AGENDA — 6:01 P.M.

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

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Jongewaard, Murphy, Sweeney
Nay: None
Motion passed 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — 6:02 P.M.

Ms. Elsbernd moved approval of the minutes for February 19, 2013, seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Jongewaard, Murphy, Sweeney
Nay: None
Motion passed 7-0.

DISTRICT RECOGNITIONS — NONE

CONSENT ITEMS — 6:03 P.M.

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Minutes

Mr. Sweeney moved that the board approve the consent items including payment of bills previously authorized and certified by the secretary in the amount of \$6,044,430.77 and unpaid bills in the amount of \$3,753,046.35, seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Jongewaard, Murphy, Sweeney
Nay: None
Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER — 6:04 P.M.

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**Information only, no action.*

CHAIR'S REPORT — NONE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT —NONE

ADJOURN — 10:00 P.M.

Item No. 7
Page 1 of 2**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>OPN Architects</u>				
Hiatt Middle School Architect App. 18 (SWP)	96%	\$379,385.00	\$358,080.75	\$4,529.25
McCombs Middle School Architect App. 24 (SWP)	100%	\$364,100.00	\$360,625.00	\$3,475.00
Samuelson Elementary Architect App. 12 (PPEL)	100%	\$12,200.00	\$12,047.50	\$152.50
<u>Design Group</u>				
Edmunds Elementary Architect App 25 (SWP)	84%	\$566,500.00	\$467,381.06	\$10,621.00
Hoyt Middle School Architect App 8 (SWP)	68%	\$375,000.00	\$240,000.00	\$15,000.00
<u>Wells + associates</u>				
Findley Elementary Architect App. 8 (SWP)	73%	\$247,760.00	\$172,542.20	\$7,813.58
Jefferson Elementary Architect App. 8 (SWP)	73%	\$251,400.00	\$175,171.64	\$7,918.56

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Alvine Engineering

Hoover Boiler Room	100%	\$24,400.00	\$22,680.00	\$1,720.00
Architect App. 6 (SWP)				

TOTAL	\$51,229.89
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Presenters: None**Background:** None**Contact:** Bill Good

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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. 1 Sealed Bid No. B6641	4%	\$5,200,000.00	\$0.00	\$201,400.00
<u>Dean Snyder</u> Hiatt Middle School (SWP) - Renovation GC App. 12 Sealed Bid No. B6486	99%	\$6,689,341.00	\$6,643,073.70	\$449.00
<u>DDVI</u> Central Campus Phase 3 Renovation GC App. 8 (SWP) Sealed Bid No. B6499	86%	\$4,046,845.00	\$3,379,399.19	\$98,614.02
<u>Stahl Construction</u> Edmunds GC App. 8 (SWP) Sealed Bid No. B6504	64%	\$10,460,361.00	\$5,864,730.67	\$773,035.51
<u>Lang Construction</u> Findley Elementary Addition (SWP) GC App. 1 Sealed Bid No. B6613	3%	\$4,623,300.00	\$0.00	\$176,456.33

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Edge Commercial

Meredith Middle School Renovation (SWP) Retainage Sealed Bid No. B6498	100%	\$5,566,002.00	\$5,287,701.90	\$278,300.10
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Brody Middle School Addition (SWP) Retainage Sealed Bid No. B6481	100%	\$1,459,108.00	\$1,386,152.60	\$72,955.40
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Pleasant Hill School Addition (SWP) GC App. 1 Sealed Bid No. B6640	2%	\$3,870,400.00	\$0.00	\$87,970.00
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TOTAL				\$1,689,180.36
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Presenters: None**Background:** None**Contact:** Bill Good

Item No. 9 REVISED

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Subject: CONTRACTS FOR APPROVAL

For: ACTION

Contact: Bill Good

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

Attachments: None

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the contracts as shown below be approved.

Contract No. 13-005

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible telecommunication services

Contractor: CenturyLink

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and CenturyLink has been selected to provide the local phone service for the district.

DMPS is requesting \$65,448 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by CenturyLink in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by CenturyLink and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with CenturyLink.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$7,272/Month

Term: Three years

New or Renewal: Renewal

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-006

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible telecommunication services

Contractor: Iowa Communications Network (ICN)

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and ICN has been selected to provide the eligible long distance phone service for the district.

DMPS is requesting \$9,030.00 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by ICN in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by ICN and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with ICN.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$800/Month

Term: One year

New or Renewal: Renewal

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-007

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible telecommunication services

Contractor: Sprint

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and Sprint has been selected to provide the eligible cell phone service for district employees.

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DMPS is requesting \$99,380 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by Sprint in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by Sprint and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with Sprint.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$8,281.73/Month

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-008**Project:** E-Rate contract for eligible telecommunication services**Contractor:** AT&T

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and AT&T has been selected to provide the eligible data service for mobile plans other than cell phones.

DMPS is requesting \$64,787 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by AT&T in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by AT&T and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with AT&T.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$5,398.92/Month

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

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Contract No. 13-009

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible internet services

Contractor: Iowa Network Systems

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and Iowa Network Services has been selected to provide the eligible internet services.

DMPS is requesting \$139,200 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by Iowa Network Services for 2013-2014. The actual services will be provided by Iowa Network Services and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with Iowa Network Services

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$11,600/Month – 2 connections

Term: Three years

New or Renewal: New

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-010

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible internal connections services

Contractor: Baker Electric

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and Baker Electric has been selected to provide the eligible labor for wiring projects.

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DMPS is requesting \$471,275 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by Baker Electric in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by Baker Electric and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with Baker Electric.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: \$471,275

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-011**Project:** E-Rate contract for eligible internal connections services**Contractor:** Graybar Electric

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and Graybar Electric has been selected to provide the eligible network equipment.

DMPS is requesting \$479,662 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by Graybar Electric in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by Graybar Electric and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with Graybar Electric.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: \$479,662

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-012

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible internal connections services

Contractor: CDW

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and CDW has been selected to provide the eligible wireless equipment.

DMPS is requesting \$466,898 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by CDW in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by CDW and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with CDW.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: \$466,898

Term: One year

New or Renewal: Renewal

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-013

Project: E-Rate contract for eligible internal connections – basic maintenance services – internal connections

Contractor: Continuant

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and Continuant has been selected to provide the eligible basic maintenance services for phone system.

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DMPS is requesting \$64,341 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by Continuant in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by Continuant and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with Continuant.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: \$5,361.75/month

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-014**Project:** E-Rate contract for eligible telecommunication services**Contractor:** ShoutPoint

Background: The Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) program requires the district to establish contracts with providers of eligible E-Rate service. These vendors must be chosen through a competitive bid process that complies with both local and E-Rate bidding requirements.

These requirements have been met, and ShoutPoint has been selected to provide the eligible automated calling system.

DMPS is requesting \$38,295 from the E-Rate program to support the E-Rate eligible work done by ShoutPoint in FY13-14. The actual services will be provided by ShoutPoint and be based on district needs and resource allocation. This E-Rate contract does not bind the district to do a set amount of work with ShoutPoint.

Financial

Revenues: 0

Expenses: up to \$38,295 annually

Term: One year**New or Renewal:** Renewal**Contact:** Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Contract No. 13-015

Project: Playgrounds FY 13-14

Contractor: Playworld Playground Systems (Fry & Associates)

Background: On June 19, 2012, the board approved the use of the HGAC (Houston-Galveston Area Councils) cooperative purchasing agreement with Playworld, (Fry & Associates). Facility Management is now seeking board approval to purchase playground equipment for six elementary schools as detailed below.

As a registered participant of the program, DMPS may access the agreement reached by the HGAC and bidders offering a broad line of competitively solicited contracts which provide quality products and services. HGAC uses a bidding process that meets the DMPS requirements. Legal counsel has advised the Purchasing Department that board approval should be sought in order to treat the HGAC in a similar fashion as Iowa Department of Administrative Services contracts. Approval will allow DMPS Purchasing to use this buying group's contract in a similar manner.

Financial

Expenses: \$240,000.00

Funding Source: Public Education and Recreation Levy (PERL)

Jefferson	\$45,000.00
Pleasant Hill	\$45,000.00
Edmunds	\$45,000.00
Findley	\$45,000.00
Park Avenue	\$45,000.00
Phillips	\$15,000.00

Term: One year

New or Renewal: New

Contact: Bill Good

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

Item No. 10**Page 1 of 2****Subject: AWARD OF CONTRACTS ON BID****For: ACTION****Contact: Various****Attachments: None**

Issue: Bids have been advertised, issued and received for various equipment items, supplies, and services as outlined below.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the contracts as shown below be approved.

Background: The suggested bid awards and detailed information for each of the bids are as shown below. Where cost comparisons are shown, they are merely a representative sample of the item on the bid, and are not intended to be all inclusive.

A. B6695 1 Ton 4 X 4 P/U Truck w/Plow, Service Body, & Lift

Stivers Ford	Waukee IA	1 item	\$37,275.00
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The suggested awards are low bids meeting specifications. Bids were examined by the Purchasing and Facility Management Departments. A complete tabulation of the bid is available online at: [B5595 Truck/Plow/Lift](#)

11 bids were sent out, 5 bids were received, and 6 did not respond.

Funding Source: Physical Plant & Equipment Levy (PPEL)

Contact: Dave Silver

(david.silver@dmschools.org; 242-7700)

B. B6696 Smart Board Ultra Short Throw Projectors (Findley)

CCC Presentations	Omaha, NE	18 Projectors	\$1813.00
		TOTAL	\$32,634.00

8 bids were sent out, 4 bids were received, 4 did not respond. A complete tabulation of the bid is available online at: [Smart Board Ultra Short Throw Projectors](#)

Funding Source: School Technology Account

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

C. Q6711 Installation – Ceiling Mounted Projectors

Berg Audio Carlisle, IA \$25,312.00

Bids were examined by the Purchasing & Technology Departments. The selected vendor, although not the lowest cost provider, represents the best value to the district because of the synergy created for this service in conjunction with the installation of the sound systems.

116 bids were sent out, 4 bids were received, 112 did not respond.

A complete tabulation of the bid is available: [Q6711 Installation Ceiling Mounted Projectors](#)

Funding Source: Individual Site Technology Accounts

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

D. B6710 Installation – Light Speed Sound

Berg Audio Carlisle, IA \$31,000.00

Bids were examined by the Purchasing & Technology Departments. 116 bids were sent out, 3 bids were received, 113 did not respond. A complete tabulation of the bid is available: [B6710 Installation Sound Systems](#)

Funding Source: Individual Site Technology Accounts

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

E. B6668 Audio Visual – Level #2 Casio projectors FY 13-14

Midwest Computer W. Chicago, IL \$134,850.00

The suggested award is for the low bid meeting specifications. Bids were examined by the Purchasing & Technology Departments. 111 bids were sent out, 15 bids were received, 1 no bid, 95 did not respond. A complete tabulation of the bid is available: [B6668-Audio-Visual-Projectors](#)

Funding Source: Various Districtwide Accounts

Contact: Dan Warren

(dan.warren@dmschools.org; 242-8192)

Item No. 11**Page 1 of 1****Subject: AWARD OF QUOTE NO. Q6670 –ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AT PARK AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: Award of contract for the asbestos abatement project for Park Avenue Elementary School.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends a contract for the Base Bid be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder New Horizons Enterprises LLC in the amount of \$60,786.00.

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

Background: This project removes asbestos containing materials at Park Avenue in conjunction with the scheduled renovation project.

The district received bids on March 5, 2013. The results are as follows:

	Base Bid
New Horizons Enterprises LLC – Lincoln, NE	\$60,786
ESA Inc. – N. Sioux City, SD	\$94,560
Robinson Bros – Waunakee, WI	\$76,740
Seneca Companies – Des Moines, IA	\$89,750
Mid-Iowa Environmental – Des Moines, IA	\$104,000

Funding Source: Statewide Penny (Students First Program)

Item No. 12**Page 1 of 1****Subject: AWARD OF BID NO. B6693 – ADDITION AND RENOVATION OF EAST WING OF PARK AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: Award of contract for the addition and renovation project for Park Avenue Elementary School.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends a contract for the Base Bid be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder Pro Commercial LLC in the amount of \$1,944,747.00.

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

Background: This project consists of a classroom addition and renovation of the existing east wing of the school to eliminate open classrooms. The work will enhance energy efficiency and improve safety/security measures. It will provide electrical upgrades including new lighting, upgraded technology, and improvements to the mechanical systems. The office will be relocated to enhance security.

The district received bids on March 5, 2013. The results are as follows:

	Base Bid
Pro Commercial LLC - Huxley, IA	\$1,944,747
Rochon Corp. - Urbandale, IA	\$1,961,900
Oakview Const - Red Oak, IA	\$1,970,000
Edge Commercial - Grimes, IA	\$2,100,000
Lang Construction – West Des Moines, IA	\$2,122,500
A&P/Samuels - Minneapolis, MN	\$2,189,000

Funding Source: Statewide Penny (Students First Program)

Item No. 13**Page 1 of 1****Subject: AWARD OF BID NO. B6688 – ELEVATOR ADDITION – KURTZ BUILDING****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: Award of contract for the elevator addition project for the Kurtz Building.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends a contract for the Base Bid be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder Edge Commercial LLC in the amount of \$242,900.00.**Presenters:** None. Bill Good will be present to answer any questions.**Background:** The work at Kurtz consists of an elevator addition connecting the first and second floors. An ADA-compliant restroom will be built on the existing second floor of the classroom wing.

The district received bids on February 25, 2013. The results are as follows:

Bidder	Base Bid
Edge Commercial - Grimes, IA	\$242,900
Winn Construction - Omaha, NE	\$282,547
TBB LC - Des Moines, IA	\$288,900
Bryan Crow - Waukee, IA	\$310,000
Bergstrom Construction - Des Moines, IA	\$341,000
Prostruct – West Des Moines, IA	\$342,321
Rochon Corp. - Urbandale, IA	\$366,000

Funding Source: Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL)

Item No. 14**Page 1 of 1****Subject: FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF BID NO. B6488 – ADDITION AND
RENOVATION OF STUDEBAKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**
(harold.good@dmschools.org: 242-8321)**Attachments: None**

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board give final acceptance to the project listed below and approve final payment to the contractor listed, subject to the conditions and in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 26 and 573 of the Code of Iowa.

SCHOOL:	Studebaker Elementary School
PROJECT:	Addition and Renovations
CONTRACTOR:	Lang Construction Group Inc.
CONTRACTED AMOUNT:	\$4,103,566.00
CONTRACT BALANCE:	\$205,178.43

Item No. 15

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**Subject: CHANGE IN CONTRACT AMOUNT LINDSTROM ENVIRONMENTAL INC.
CENTRAL CAMPUS PHASE II ASBESTOS ABATEMENT, SEALED BID
NO. B6192**

For: ACTION

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

Attachments: None

Issue: A change in a construction agreement where the cost increase is greater than 15% of the original agreement requires approval of the board of directors.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends that the board approve the current change in the Lindstrom Environmental Inc. agreement on the Phase II Central Campus Asbestos Abatement project.

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

Background: The district received bids on September 14, 2010, for the project. The award was made to Lindstrom Environmental Inc. as low bidder in the amount of \$200,000.00. The award of bid was approved by the board of directors on September 21, 2010. During the course of work under concurrent separate bid packages, additional asbestos-containing materials were discovered. This change request in the amount of \$41,904.55 will exceed the 15% threshold that requires board approval.

Contact: Bill Good

Item No. 16**Page 1 of 1****Subject: WALKIE-TALKIE RADIOS FOR EACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: ACTION****Contact: Mike Lord**

(michael.lord@dmschools.org; 242-7725)

Attachments: None

Issue: Through the State of Iowa Master Contract MA# 005 3807-10 with Motorola, Des Moines Public Schools has the opportunity to purchase digital walkie-talkie radios. A bid was obtained from Electronic Engineering for the purchase of 76 digital radios, two for each of the 38 elementary buildings. This bid includes a discount for every six radios purchased.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the purchase of the radios from Electronic Engineering for \$43,800.

Presenters: None. Mike Lord will be available to answer any questions.

Background: The elementary buildings have analog radios that are not as reliable, and the district is moving toward digital radios. Replacing analog with digital will move us forward in this area.

Funding: FY13 General Fund

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**Subject: PURCHASE OF FOUNTAS & PINNELL LEVEL 1 ASSESSMENT KITS —
ELEMENTARY LITERACY**

For: ACTION

Contact: Carlyn Cox/Thomas Ahart

Attachments: None

(carlyn.cox@dmschools.org; 242-7906/Thomas.ahart@dmschools.org; 242-7536)

Issue: Purchase of assessment materials for elementary literacy.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board approve the purchase of these materials.

Background: In order to fully implement our district Balanced Assessment Framework, our K-2 classroom teachers are in need of a common diagnostic tool to inform classroom instruction. This assessment tool will be used in conjunction with our Comprehensive Literacy Instructional Materials in order to differentiate based on student needs.

Expenses: \$65,213.50

Funding Source: FY2012-2013 Curriculum Materials Budget Account

Publishers have guaranteed receipt of these materials by June 1, 2013.

Item No. 18

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Subject: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

For: ACTION

Contact: Thomas Harper

(thomas.harper@dmschools.org; 242-7763)

Presentation: None

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

Background:**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Name	School, Position	Effective Date	Reason
Roerig, Erin	King, In-Class Math	08/19/2013	Personal

RESIGNATION

Name	School, Position	Effective Date	Reason
Perrigo, David S.	Edmunds, Principal	03/07/2013	Personal
Sachs, Louis	Brubaker, Music	06/07/2013	Personal
Townsell, Joey	East, Physical Education	03/06/2013	Personal

REGULAR RETIREMENT

Name	School, Position	Effective Date
Wallace, Alyce	Leave of Absence	03/05/2013

EARLY RETIREMENT

Name	School/Dept	Position	Effective Date
Boecker, Sharon L.	Lincoln	Multi-cat	06/05/2013
Borstad, Ronald R.	East	English	06/05/2013
Caldwell, Deborah G.	Assessment	Assess Spec	06/24/2013
Dunlap, Nancy J.	Findley	5	06/05/2013
Ganoe, Frances K.	Ruby Van Meter	MD	06/05/2013
Garza, Edward	Howe/Wright	Counselor	06/05/2013
Griffith, Melanie R.	Hubbell	Multi-cat	06/05/2013
Holbach, Shirley A.	Stdnt Svcs Wt	Support Tchr	06/05/2013
Johnson, Marcia E.	Capitol View	Principal- ES	06/28/2013
McLarnan, Madonna	Carver	In Cls Rdg/In Cls Math	06/05/2013
Simon, Rebecca L.	Music/Brody	Band/Strings	06/05/2013
Smith, Beverly R.	Brubaker	1	06/05/2013
Vetter, Dawn R.	Stowe	Principal-ES	06/28/2013
Watkins, Priscilla A.	Windsor	Vocal Music	06/05/2013
Wilson, Joanne K.	Home Instruct	Home Instruct	06/05/2013

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Subject: LIST OF BILLS FOR APPROVAL

For: ACTION

Contact: Thomas Harper
(thomas.harper@dmschools.org; 242-7745)

Attachment: None

Issue: A list of bills will be furnished to the board of directors at the board meeting for approval. The secretary will be glad to furnish information as requested on any of these items. Prior to the meeting, one member of the board will have checked this list with the invoices.

Item No. 20**Page 1 of 2****Subject: GUN VIOLENCE REPORT FROM DM POLICE DEPARTMENT****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Thomas Ahart****Attachment: None**(thomas.ahart@dmschools.org/242-7766)

Issue: To update the community on the state of the city in regards to gun violence, in the wake of the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy, DMPD Police Chief Judy Bradshaw prepared a report to share with the Des Moines City Council.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board consider Chief Bradshaw's report and her ideas for further gun safety measures as they relate to DMPS.

Presenters: Des Moines Police Chief Judy Bradshaw

Background: Mr. Ahart shared DMPS safety measures with Chief Bradshaw in preparation of her report to the City Council. Some of her ideas for improving the state of the city in regards to gun violence involve DMPS. Mr. Ahart asked Chief Bradshaw to provide a report to the board in an effort to keep the board informed of the current state of Des Moines in regard to gun violence, how the DMPD and DMPS collaborate on an ongoing basis, and Chief Bradshaw's ideas for improving the city and the district's preparedness.

Minutes

Following the recent Newtown shooting, Chief Bradshaw was requested by the mayor and city council to perform an all-inclusive, comprehensive evaluation of how safe and prepared we are in the metro area. Review of firearms laws was done at the national, state and local levels. Shootings with more than four victims from 1999 – 2012 were studied and profiled—about 90% of the shooters had some type of mental health issue. Existing security measures in Des Moines were identified. The Des Moines Public Schools has a federal match grant of \$299,000, focusing on hardening the entrances and physical security around the schools, installing security cameras, intruder lock sets, security card access at all buildings, reducing modular units, etc.—taking all the right preparedness measures.

Des Moines schools were built an average of 60 years ago and designed for public access. The district has emergency plans in place that they are very comfortable with and are always available to review plans and work with staff.

The School Resource Officers (SRO) program was reviewed. There are nine SROs in the district. The city pays 40% and the district 60% of the costs.

The county has a Mobile Crisis Team in place with one Des Moines police officer assigned to work with families in crisis. A social worker assists the police officer on calls related to an individual with mental health needs, to stabilize the individual and work with the family. Mental health services available in the community were listed. School staff are knowledgeable in how to determine which services are needed and accessing them.

Polk County Emergency Management office is well run and partners with the Police Department to provide resources and assets as needed during disasters and emergencies. They provide training pertaining to responding to violence in schools called ALICE—Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Escape. Staff from the Police Department and schools will be attending training in April.

Iowa is ranked low in the number of psychiatrists and psychologist and number of hospital beds available to those suffering from mental illness. One in four adults experiences a mental health disorder every year.

She hopes to have a tip line implemented sometime after spring break. Tips can be made with a call or text and set up through Polk County Crime Stoppers.

She recommends increasing the SROs by four with one additional officer at East High School, one at Central Campus, and two officers rove and are assigned to the middle and elementary schools. Funding options for these positions are being explored. Officers are encouraged to complete reports, etc. in school parking lots in order to be visible. A metrowide, gun turn-in program is in the works for the first part of May.

She also recommends continued support for the Mobile Crisis Team.

Mr. Jongewaard commented on the mental health needs in the schools, working with Child Guidance and other mental health providers, expanding services, dealing with root causes, and working with the police on a balanced approach.

Mr. Howard stated the SROs are a nice resource and have a good interaction with the students.

Chief Bradshaw stated the SROs are trained on three levels: first to be educators, second as informal counselors, and third as law enforcement officers.

Item No. 21 REVISED**Page 1 of 2****Subject: DMPS BUSINESS/EDUCATION PARTNERS****For: DISCUSSION/ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Phil Roeder****Attachment: None**

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

Issue: The establishment of the DMPS Business/Education Partners on behalf of Des Moines Public Schools.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board discuss the formation of the DMPS Business/Education Partners and vote to endorse its efforts in support of Des Moines Public Schools.

Presenters: Connie Boesen, on behalf of the Linkage Committee

Background: The role of the board's Linkage Committee is to better connect the school board and district to all stakeholders in the community. The DMPS Business/Education Partners is a new pathway for the school district to link to the business community.

The mission of the DMPS Business/Education Partners is to help make the Des Moines public school system the district of choice for young families. Specifically, we wish to help the district improve the quality and reputation of all of our schools so that they become an engine of growth for the community. In order to accomplish this we will work to assist the Des Moines school board in the recruitment and retention of top quality personnel, establish clear, fair and consistent accountability measures for each school, and promote the opportunities afforded to all families by the Des Moines Public Schools.

At this time, the following individuals have agreed to assist with this initiative: Doug Gross, Jeff Link, Jonathan Wilson, Jay Byers, Mike Draper, Zac Voss, Joe Logsdon, Linda Bisignano, Gerry Nuegent, Jan Berg, Beth Nigut, Miriam De Dios, Angelica & German Benitez, Sally Cooper Smith, Art Wittmack, Merle Pederson, Melissa Berkheimer, Ying Sa, and Brian Gentry.

Minutes

Ms. Boesen reviewed the purpose of the group and the connection to the Linkage Committee. Jeff Link, one of the co-chairs, also provided comments how the group will work with the district on promoting the district. Additional names to be considered can be given to one of the committee co-chairs.

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Ms. Boesen moved establishing the Des Moines Public Schools Business/Education Partners to work on behalf of the Des Moines Public Schools under the Linkage Committee. Seconded by Ms. Elsbernd.

Mr. Jongewaard asked about connecting this group with the Capital Crossroads neighborhood effort which has a strong school component and school-marketing component. Also, what board involvement is anticipated as this group is under the Linkage Committee.

Ms. Boesen stated the Partners committee would learn more about the district, take that information out to the community and come back with suggestions and comments. This is specific to the Des Moines Public Schools rather than the metro area. It links with businesses and how they can come back into the schools.

Mr. Jongewaard recommends becoming familiar with Capital Crossroads and connecting the two groups. Mr. Link responded that they have been in touch with the group and they do intend to coordinate with them.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Jongewaard, Murphy, Sweeney
Nay: None
Motion passed 7-0.

Item No. 22 REVISED**Page 1 of 7****Subject: SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT****For: ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Board****Attachment: 13-019***(rmurphyia@earthlink.net.org; 278-6048)

Issue: Appointment of a superintendent effective *March 12, 2013*.**Presenters:** None

Background: The board of directors began the search for a permanent superintendent last fall and hired the search firm of Ray and Associates to assist in the process. A group of six candidates was selected from the applications received which was narrowed down to the following three finalists following the first round of interviews:

Thomas Ahart, Interim Superintendent, Des Moines Public Schools
Carey Wright, Chief Academic Officer, District of Columbia Public Schools
James Browder, Superintendent, Anchorage School District

Public receptions were held individually with the three candidates over three evenings last week. The public submitted questions and completed feedback forms. Final interviews were held by the board with each of the three finalists which were broadcast live on the school district's cable television station.

The board will take action to appoint Thomas Ahart as the superintendent of the Des Moines Public Schools beginning *March 12, 2013*.

*Contract - to be distributed at the meeting if finalized.

Minutes

Mr. Murphy reviewed the superintendent search process—hiring a search firm and inviting the community to several focus groups to assist in laying out parameters used to develop a profile of the individual and establishing ten criteria. Meetings were held relative to advertising the position and setting a salary and benefits package. Forty-nine applications were initially screened by consultants of the search firm with 14 presented to the board. A screening process was followed to narrow the group to six. Following those interviews, the group of six was narrowed down to three finalists. Those three were presented to the public, answered questions from the public and went through a second, televised interview with the board. Feedback back forms were received from the public which were reviewed by the board members during closed session discussion. The board chair was authorized to have an agreement negotiated with a candidate. Following successful negotiation, an announcement was made during a

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press conference on Friday who the candidate is. Approval of a contract with Tom Ahart to serve as superintendent is now being proposed.

Mr. Drew Bracken of the Ahlers Law Firm served as legal counsel to the board during the process and was present. He stated the process used resembles the process used by most districts in the state. He added that the district's addition of public forums with public Q&A is similar to the process used by the Board of Regents to select a university president. Once a board reaches a consensus, it is not unusual to engage in one-on-one discussion with that candidate regarding the terms of hire. Mr. Bracken was contacted by Mr. Murphy to engage in discussion of a contract with Mr. Ahart and present a contract for the board's consideration. The proposed contract is subject to the Code of Iowa that governs all superintendents and school administrators. It is a renewing (continuing) contract and is subject to termination by the board through certain procedures or by mutual agreement. The initial two-year term contract would automatically renew each year for an additional two-year term unless the board votes to stop the automatic renewal. The contract allows the superintendent to accrue vacation beyond the limit established for other administrators. It also allows for membership in School Administrators of Iowa and the American Association of School Administrators professional educational organizations.

Speakers: Jill Johnson, Drake University
Thatcher Williams, 2121 East 12th Street, Des Moines
Brian Jack, 2608 Eagle Point Ct., Des Moines
Les Cason, Jr., P.O. Box 1722, Des Moines
Kathie Danielson, 3626 48th Place, Des Moines
Jim Patch, 2803 Stanton, Des Moines
Ben Graeber, 1402 Forestdale Dr., Des Moines
Kathy Massier, 600 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines
Penny Bisignano, 2901 Grand Ave., Des Moines
Steve Barnes, 614 Virginia Ave., Des Moines
Brian Millard, 3920 Lynner Drive, Des Moines
Mary Lynne Jones, 1168 11th Street, Des Moines

Ms. Boesen moved to approve the contract with Tom Ahart as superintendent of the Des Moines Public Schools effective March 12, 2013. Second by Ms. Elsbernd.

Mr. Jongewaard: The Des Moines Public Schools promised to conduct a nationwide search to identify and recruit elite candidates to serve as our next superintendent. While we went through the motions of conducting such a search, I do not believe the majority of the board ever intended to consider any candidate other than Mr. Ahart. No other candidate, no matter how qualified or experienced, had any chance of getting this job. Indeed, if the LeBron James of superintendents applied for this position, I believe the majority of our board would have reached the same decision. In doing so, the board

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once again missed an opportunity to think progressively and outside of the box to address the continually evolving challenges we face in this district.

We set a goal of conducting a nationwide search to identify elite candidates. I simply do not believe the most qualified and willing candidate throughout the entire country just happened to be the person already serving a temporary vacancy left open under somewhat controversial circumstances.

I respectively will vote against approving Mr. Ahart's contract. I'm voting against the process used; against the decision not to interview any minority candidates; against narrowing the field of candidates; against picking a candidate before the pool of applications is assembled; and against the candidate, but not the person. Thank you.

Mr. Sweeney: I think the idea that we have to come together as a district is an interesting look at things, and I believe we think about that every single time I come up here and sit down. I think the time for us to come together as a board was at the time when we were searching for a superintendent. We had the opportunity to have all seven board members to have input into a candidate and also pick a consensus candidate. I don't think that happened with this board. We had the opportunity to do that, and we did not come to a consensus that all seven of us represent somebody in the district. I don't believe we all had our voices heard. The process, I think, is flawed. We realized that at certain points in the time and we did not correct it. We stayed with the process that was presented to us by someone that we hired. We didn't own the process. There's a certain point where you can do what someone else is telling you, but then there's a point in that process where you have to own the process. I don't think we did, and I will take fault for that myself, also, as I'm one of seven board members.

Part of the activity to come together as a board to look at a candidate is compromise. I think we all needed to compromise and come together on what we believe was best for a candidate. I don't believe that process was honored with us inside that closed session or inside any of the sessions. When we had discussions, I don't think they were totally truthful and honest with what we were looking for or how we were going to do the process. As I said, I think the process controlled us more than we controlled the process. With that, I don't think my vote isn't really going to change things on what we're going to do. Looking forward, I can look at Mr. Ahart and say that I'm more than willing to reach out and work with him as I've done in the past. We can work together, but at this point in time for my vote, I will not be voting in honor of the contract for Mr. Ahart. I also do not agree with the process of how the contract was negotiated. We had talked about it earlier and it came down to one or two people negotiating the activity and, basically, I haven't even read the contract yet. I think it came in an email today while I was at work and I know it's sitting there somewhere. I'm being asked to vote on something that I haven't even [seen]. Basically, my vote isn't going to really make a difference in that respect either. Thank you.

Mr. Howard: First of all, I categorically deny what Mr. Jongewaard said. We took great pains, we were not lazy, nor were we short-sighted in what we did. We conducted a nationwide search. The search brought to us the candidate firm which was very reputable—it's reputable throughout the United States—and brought to us what was considered the A team at the time. The process was agreed to by the seven people here at this table. The problem was certain things happened that none of us was aware of. You have to understand, it's a blind review. We do not know who the people are. We don't know...by law, we can't ask their sex, we can't ask their color, we can't ask. So, basically, you have to sit there and try to read through what you're looking at. What we did was sit there and seven people did the best they could under the handicaps, if you want to call it [that], of the process involved. It's the law, folks. The law says this is what we have to work under. Nobody there had any preconceived notions on who was going to be the superintendent. We wanted the best person for Des Moines. I take offense to that because I'm here to try and get the best that we can get. To have somebody tell me I went in there with a bias, I guess my response to that is I was no more biased than six other individuals that went in there. I think I'm going to let it stop at that and let my colleagues proceed.

Ms. Boesen: I, too, want to echo Mr. Howard. I was in on the process that we had six years ago. The process was we basically followed the same process. Everyone on this board had ample opportunity to input in the process. If you don't like the process, you should have spoken up probably more. I think when some people talk about how the process wasn't followed, I would have them look at what process they were following. I spent hours on this search. All of us spent hours on this search. And to think we did that just as a lark and we were just going to put Tom Ahart in, I think, is very...I guess I can't believe people would say that. I went into this search with a national search to look for the best candidate for the Des Moines Public Schools, as I did six years ago. We were all able to read the resumes. We all were able to go through and we scored in a probably more fair scoring way that everybody had opportunity for points. What came through were the three finalists that we had. We had ample opportunity to look at them. What made my decision was that we had...First of all, you have to look at what's going on in your district right now, today. We had another graduation rate, one of the highest in the state, 3.5% increase over the year before. We also have narrowing of the achievement gap. We have more kids of color graduating from high school than they had in the last three years. We have somebody that had an HR background, and we know that we've all said that we need to improve our HR area. That is something that he took on. He has a strong curriculum background that some of the speakers have talked about. He also was in a school that turned around. I think that's invaluable in today's world.

A lot of the administrators out there have not been in a building for maybe ten or fifteen years. It's a different ball game today when you're actually in the trenches, seeing what

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the teachers need, seeing what you need to support the students in a turn-around school. I think Tom Ahart exhibited great things, and we all know what's going on.

Another thing, when you talk to some of the administrators, I think one thing I learned was smart goals. We have smart goals for every grade school, and there are four areas they are catering to, which is to increase the number of students that are proficient, reduce office referrals, see the culture and climate of the building, and students and staff attendance. That's reviewed every six weeks. Just some of the numbers I've been given, so far above target there are 1,800 less office referrals in this district just this year above the goal, 700 students have moved to proficient, 760 days reduced in absences. Again, all above the goals that were set. To me, those are pretty positive indicators. When you're looking for a leader, you want to see what has been done and what is going on in the district. He's also helped write a bill that could be huge for Des Moines and the ELL funding, and championing that, and testified. Cindy and I were there Monday and he had great respect from every senator. They even said afterward what a great job he had done.

A couple of us attended the north-side music night Thursday night, and when you talk about community, we have somebody in the community. And, yes, throughout all the process, it came up that what we're trying to build in the district is community. If you were at the north-side night where you had every grade school, the middle schools and the high school all singing together to a packed audience at North High, and everybody taking pride in the area they're coming from and the schools they go to, to last night at Findley where they had Forest Whitaker come in and the pride and what's going on with the arts grant, etc. We do have some phenomenal things going on in this district.

I believe that my vote is going for the person that I felt would be the best for the kids of Des Moines and would keep us propelling forward and not stop for a moment. That's why I'm going to be supporting him.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson: No comment.

Ms. Elsbernd: I, too, take some offense to the words of Mr. Jongewaard as far the integrity—my own integrity—as far as the superintendent search went. There is a code of conduct that we follow as board members. I do feel like I follow that. I went into the search open minded with the thought that we were doing a national search as Mr. Howard mentioned. During that process, when we looked through the 14 candidates that were brought to us, it was a blind process. It was not until later, actually, after we had interviewed one candidate, that it was mentioned that we learned that there were no people of color in that first six that we interviewed. If we need to, I'm sure Mr. Bracken could speak to the legal issues that Mr. Howard brought forward regarding that.

Additionally, I waited to see those three candidates that we narrowed it down to. I watched, I listened, I read community comments, I listened to community comments, read emails that we received throughout, and letters that we received throughout. I waited and listened to those candidates; listened for them to bring something forth that I hadn't heard before—some sort of wow factor that might lead me to think that that might be the better choice for Des Moines schools. I did not find it. Everything I listened to that they said—we're doing. We're doing better in many cases. I heard candidates say that they would bring access to more rigorous coursework by expanding AP in our high schools. We're in our third year of doing that, and we're doing it well. I heard candidates talk about the laser-like focus they saw on students as individuals in our schools and the data-driven directives with those students. We're doing it. I heard candidates say we need to bring our talented staff and our talented teachers into the mix in our professional development so that we recognize them as experts. It gives them recognition. We use them as experts to teach our other teachers. We're doing it. As a matter of fact, I remember that in the first months that I was a board member, I believe Mr. Ahart was the one who presented that PD model to us. So, it was with all of that and with reflection on that, that I, after hearing all of those candidates speak, interview and after our discussion, that I chose that I will support Mr. Ahart as superintendent of Des Moines schools.

Mr. Murphy: Hopefully, a gentleman named Bill Monroe is watching this. He called our search process bizarre and wondered how will we know who was for or who was against the contract if there isn't a vote on it. The way you find out is pay attention. That's what we're doing right now—voting on it, in public, and I think you're learning where people stand on it. I also want to commend all the employees in the Des Moines Public Schools. What this search has brought to me, personally as a board member, is an interaction either directly or indirectly with leaders from all over the country about what's going on in their schools. I read their resumes; they talked about what's going on in their schools in their resumes. During the interviews, they talked about what was going on in their school systems. During the school visits, they talked about it. I learned that what's going on in the Des Moines Public Schools is really something worth bragging about. Not just in that feeder just where our candidates visited which was the north-side feeder pattern of Findley, Harding and North, which by the way I think people in this room know better, but a lot of people in Des Moines don't know there are good things going on in those schools. And there are good things going on in all of our schools. I learned, in comparing the candidates with what's going on in Des Moines schools and what's going on their schools, I don't really remember any of them presenting forward-thinking ideas about what to do about the future. All of them have an achievement gap: what are they going to do about it? Well, they're going to go out and meet with people, collaborate, bring people together. We've already begun working on it. Mr. Ahart with Drake University and DMACC have developed a 3D program (I think that's Des Moines, Drake University and DMACC—3 Ds) to identify minority students

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early on that might be potential teachers and bring those three institutions together to encourage those students to continue and become full-fledged teachers which will bring a lot more minority students into our schools. During the whole process, I heard so many innovative ideas coming through in Des Moines that we're actually ahead of the competitors that came in from some pretty predominant schools around the country. In that, I want to thank the employees who, by the way, Ms. Elsbernd and I have been making some school visits and talking to employees. Last night at the event with Findley Elementary School, it's interesting, where things are happening, teachers are working really, really hard where things are happening. They'll tell me: I've never worked so hard but never been so happy. Now that isn't the case all over the district. We've got work to do. But in the schools where things are happening, I really appreciate the really, really hard work that our teachers and principals and support staff—everybody that's involved in it—are doing when we've got things going on. We need to get them going on in all of our buildings, and I think we're looking at the right person to be able to do that.

I do want to address a personal issue, and I've been reluctant to bring this up. The idea that (and I have a pretty good record in working in minority communities), but the idea that you have to have a minority in order to have success with minorities I don't buy it. I think more importantly you need a person who cares. A person who's demonstrated that they care about all of our kids. Not somebody who necessarily just looks like them. I think it's even more important that you speak like them. We did have a candidate who did speak the language of our number one minority population. She didn't make it on other criteria, but I think that's a much more important criteria than just looking like one, you can actually speak and communicate with them. I think caring is much more important as well. If caring weren't an issue in relating with people of different colors, then I would have never raised my kids—cause I don't look like any of my kids. But they know I care about them—on certain days. On other days, they may not. To say that I would have been more successful if I did look like them, I take offense to that. When I find a person who I believe cares, because I care, then I'm going to support that person, and that's why I'm supporting Tom Ahart for superintendent.

The chair called for the vote:

Aye: Boesen, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy

Nay: Caldwell-Johnson, Jongewaard, Sweeney

Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Murphy stated he knows the members of the school board and from this point on, I think we're all going to be working together. One of the first things I'm going to ask Mr. Ahart to do is have a retreat. I don't question whether the people that I disagreed with on this vote, I don't question that they don't have the concern of our children and our schools at heart in their vote and that they will work together as well, and we'll move forward to make Des Moines schools the best school district in the country.

Item No. 23**Page 1 of 2****Subject: FOODCORPS PROGRAM****For: INFORMATION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Sandy Huisman****Attachments: None**

(sandy.huisman@dmschools.org; 242-7712)

Issue: Provide information regarding the National FoodCorps program and the partnership with the Des Moines Public Schools.

Presenters: Sandy Huisman, Director of Food & Nutrition Management; Hannah Lewis, National Center for Appropriate Technology; Mauricio Rosas-Alvarez and Daniel Schultz, FoodCorps members; Flannery Cerbin, FoodCorps Fellow.

Background: FoodCorps Service Members in the Des Moines school district align with the CORE curriculum and STEM, host teacher accreditation course, and have worked with schools on six focus gardens.

The FoodCorps Partnership with the Des Moines school district has resulted in district's Food and Nutrition Program for Farm to School Month and the Summer Feeding Program. FoodCorps members work with the Food and Nutrition Department and *Pick a Better Snack* to provide classroom nutrition education. They also work with school - garden partners; i.e., Drake, Hope for the Hungry Coalition, Kitchen Collage, Master Gardeners, Metro Kids, CFUM and Izaak Walton League.

Minutes

Hannah Lewis stated the National Center for Appropriate Technology works in sustainable agriculture and food systems, is the host site for the FoodCorps Program and also serves as the Midwest regional lead agency for the National Farm to School Network. FoodCorps started about a year and a half ago and have 80 AmeriCorps members working in 12 states, including Iowa. They work in communities and school districts to build school gardens, teach nutrition education and help schools connect to local farmers. A folder with additional information about the program, including a seed packet created by Hubbell Elementary School students from their garden, was distributed to the board members.

Flannery Cerbin commented on schools serving as role models for healthy eating, using the gardens for math and other curriculum instruction.

Mauricio Rosas-Alvarez is a chef and works with students on picking better snacks, incorporating cross-curriculum problems. The Central Campus students recently obtained a grow cart to grow herbs and lettuces to be featured in the café.

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Daniel Schultz stated there will be 22 gardens in the district this spring which are integrated into the classes through poetry, graphing produce, etc. Partnerships for the gardens have been made through DMPS Food & Nutrition Department, Iowa Dept. of Public Health, Metro Kids Care, summer programs at Monroe and Cowles, Iowa State University, Wellmark's Healthiest State Initiative, American Heart Association, Boys and Girls Club at Carver, Wells Fargo Green Team, 21st century grants, and 4H.

Additional activities with students were mentioned with slides showing activities. The national website is foodcorps.org; the local website that highlights activities is <http://desmoinesfoodcorps.tumblr.com>. Moulton is planning an event on May 1.

Speaker: Shane Schulte, 5011 Harwood Drive, Des Moines

Item No. 24**Page 1 of 2****Subject: EMPLOYEES' BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EBAC)****For: DISCUSSION****Contact: Thomas Harper**
(thomas.harper@dmschools.org; 242-7745)**Attachment: 13-016**

Issue: The Employees' Budget Advisory Committee (EBAC) wishes to present its FY 2014 budget recommendations to the Board.

Superintendent's Recommendation: None.

Presenters: Thomas Harper

Background: The superintendent formed a Budget Advisory Committee to study and make budgetary recommendations to the board. The EBAC was created in FY 2012 to involve employees in budget discussions and the development of budget recommendations for FY 2013. This is the second year for the EBAC.

The Committee members are:

Bernhardt, Cynthia	Kent, Carrie	Smith, Matthew
Blanchard, Virginia	Krantman, Susan, Chair	Smith, Virginia
Davis, Kent	O'Tool, Dean	Taylor, Maureen
Gronewold, Patricia	Rasmussen, Andrew	Vander Zyl, Craig
Heitman Sr, Robert	Schott, Ashley	

The mission of the Committee is:

To provide the Superintendent with suggested long-term and short-term budget parameters, priorities and constraints, and to assist the Superintendent in communicating this information to the Board and the DMPS community.

The goals for the group were to:

- Provide a communication link between the district and the community on budget issues.
- Examine and identify priorities relative to the FY 2014 budget:
 - Revenue enhancements.
 - Expenditure reductions.
 - Educational programming.
- Provide suggestions on future budgetary issues.

The EBAC met four times during January 2013 through March 2013 to discuss budgetary issues. The Committee has now drafted and would like to present a report on the results of their study on the budgetary parameters, priorities and constraints that have been determined by the group to be important to consider when the administration and the board develop and finalize its budget plans for FY 2014.

Minutes

Chair Susan Krantman stated the top two items on their budget list are to develop a comprehensive wellness program and to analyze and enhance the infrastructure in the purchasing, Central Stores and technology areas. Health care costs are one of the largest expenses for the district. By having a comprehensive wellness program, ways to cut costs will be found. Hiring a fulltime wellness coordinator, who would establish a committee such as theirs, would allow for development of stronger programs to cut health care costs over several years. A study of a similar urban district in Chicago by the American Journal of Health Promotion found that for every dollar that's invested, a \$3.50 savings was realized with an average savings of 26%. Based on district health care costs of \$52 million, a savings of \$13 million could be realized.

The second item for infrastructure in the areas indicated would serve teachers and staff, processes would be more cost effective and time effective, and greener.

Board members thanked the committee for their input and the time they gave to study the budget, share their priorities, and provide recommendations.

Item No. 25
Page 1 of 4**Subject: FY 2013-2014 PRELIMINARY BUDGET****For: DISCUSSION AND ACTION****Presentation: PowerPoint**

Contact: Thomas Harper
 (thomas.harper@dmschools.org; 242-7745)

Attachments: 13-014
13-015
13-017
13-018*
13-020**

Issue: Preliminary FY 2014 Budget (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends that the board begin discussion on the preliminary FY 2014 budget and approve the date of the official public hearing on the maximum FY 2014 budget for Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

Presenter: Thomas Harper

Background: The adoption of the annual budget authorizes resources and establishes a financial direction for the district in line with the district's Ends Policies; Management Limitations 2.5 relative to Financial Planning/Budgeting and budget assumptions for the coming year, FY 2014.

Board Budget Parameters speak to the broad areas the board wishes to have the administration work within as they develop budget recommendations. The board set the following parameters to guide the FY 2014 budget development process:

- Maintain financial health; provide a balanced budget.
- Review status of all levies; make strategic adjustments as needed.
- Seek input from the Citizens' Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) on budget issues.
- Seek input from the Employees' Budget Advisory Committee (EBAC) on budget issues.
- Meet and stay within Board Management Limitations.
- Support District Student Expectations (Graduate Ends) priorities.
- Limit staff reductions and, to the degree possible, positively impact average class size by adding teachers.
- Maintain, Restore, Innovate
 - To the degree possible:
 - Maintain current educational programs.
 - Strategically restore educational programming lost to prior budget cuts.
 - Develop new, innovative educational programs/program improvements.
- Focus on strategies to close the achievement gap; increase ELL programming.
- Continue to focus on drop-out prevention strategies.

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The budget presented in Attachment 13-014 works within the Board Parameters, meets all requirements of the Board's Management Limitations, while at the same time continuing to implement and provide effective programming and initiatives aimed at improving student performance, growth and achievement.

Attachment 13-015 presents the budget development timeline from November 2013 through April 15, 2013.

Attachment 13-017 is additional information on the district's solvency ratio, and attachment 13-018*, a PowerPoint presentation, will be presented at the meeting. A comparison of general fund information for 2010-2018 was distributed at the meeting and labeled as attachment 13-020**.

Minutes

Mr. Harper stated the allowable growth is not expected to be known until after the district is required to certify the budget; therefore, he prepared scenarios using 0%, 2% and 4%. The district does not have a surplus. When amounts are stated where revenues exceed expenditures, it means that we have money at all three options to make investments on an on-going basis. It is not envisioned that the tax rate will change much from the current year. If the district has to certify the budget prior to the legislature making a decision, the budget will be certified to allow for the highest possible tax rate for the general fund. If we don't and it comes in lower than submitted, the district would not be able to adjust the rate to make up the difference. A slight reduction in the tax rate for 2013-14 reflects the impact of property tax valuation increasing.

Recommendations for FY 14 include maintaining all current, on-going programs and services; hiring 95 full-time equivalent teachers and allocate them based on the staffing formula (not all would be teachers with their own classroom); and spending \$2 million dollars over four years on one-time expenditures primarily on technology and other projects to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Projects will be specifically delineated by year, particularly for inclusion in the FY 14 budget. Also proposed is the transfer of \$5 million out of the general fund from unrestricted funds to committed funds for common-core upgrades such as textbooks and instructional materials. Not all of the funds may be expended during FY 14, but it will be set aside for that purpose. The initial item is the K-8 math curriculum which may be around \$2 million and is needed to incorporate common core requirements. Science curriculum will also be fairly comprehensive and expensive. Action for elementary literacy materials was done last summer/fall. The science common core has not been rolled out yet. Setting aside the funds will ensure the district is prepared when it becomes necessary. There is a degree of common materials to be used across the district. How those are used could look different from building to building. Professional development and support materials are included in the amount, as is transition from printed textbooks.

An investment of \$1.5 million is proposed for a wellness program. Details are being worked out. A screening process last fall resulted in approximately 700 participants. The goal is 80-90% participation to obtain good baseline data before moving forward. Research indicates the way to increase participation is through an incentive program. The bargaining groups have been involved in trying to determine how to increase participation. Research produced by the GFOA states for every dollar spent, \$3.24 is the amount of return over time. The funds include a wellness coordinator. Continual funding would probably be something less. A health insurance audit will be performed to look at dependents and others who should not be under the district's coverage, which could provide the first-year funding. Benchmarks and matrix will be available to measure the impact of the program. Partners in the program will be found through a bid process. Incentives would be covered in the \$1.5 million. (Mr. Jongewaard disconnected at this time.)

Mr. Harper recommends the solvency ratio be set at a target of 15%.

Issuance of \$70 million in bonds in January/February is planned.

The time line of action was reviewed.

Speaker: Andrew Rasmussen, DMEA, 206 Center St., Des Moines

Mr. Harper commented the state sets a maximum solvency ratio that should not be exceeded, although there are some districts in Iowa higher than 25%. Mr. Murphy stated options the district could consider to address an excessive solvency ratio include buying products, hiring more staff, or lowering taxes. Mr. Harper clarified the only tax rate the board has any leverage over is the cash reserve levy, which is normally used for one-time expenditures. (Mr. Jongewaard reconnected.) The rate was increased about 3 years ago and it could be lowered. Common wisdom is to maintain an even rate and not continually change it up and down. There will be opportunities to take advantage of a flexible fund balance.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson suggested determining what a (Jongewaard disconnected.) reasonable fund balance would be rather than leaving the solvency ratio at a particular level for a sustained period of time.

The growth in the solvency ratio, or unrestricted fund balance, resulted from one-time influx of AARA funds, an increase in student enrollment and good planning. Mr. Harper distributed information showing projections in solvency ratios through FY 2018.

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Mr. Ahart stated one area that would need general fund monies to bridge a gap is expansion of early childhood until enrollment is back up, space is ready, and federal funding is known.

The timeline was reviewed, including the public forums with an approval date of April 9. The board will use April 2 to hold a work session following the public forums and receipt of additional budget detail. Board members are encouraged to submit questions in advance. Board members will hold Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m. as a tentative date for a work session.

Ms. Boesen moved approval of April 9 as the date for the public hearing on the fiscal year 2014 budget. Seconded by Mr. Howard.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy, Sweeney

Nay: None

Absent: Jongewaard

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 26**Page 1 of 2****Subject: STATEWIDE PENNY SALES TAX BONDS****For: ACTION****Presentation: PowerPoint****Contact: Thomas Harper & Bill Good****Attachment: None**

(thomas.harper@dmschools.org; 242-774 and harold.good@dmschoolsorg; 242-8321)

Issue: Issuance of additional Revenue Bonds

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the board authorize the sale of the additional School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Bonds, in accordance with the consideration of sealed bids opened and reviewed by the superintendent of schools, secretary of the board and the financial advisor and the resolution directing the sale.

Presenters: Thomas Harper and Bill Good.

Background: The district would like to sell approximately \$70,000,000 in Tax Revenue Bonds in January 2014.

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 16 years.
8. Continue to provide operational efficiencies which will have a direct impact on the general fund in the form of reduced energy costs.

Minutes

The superintendent's Facilities Advisory Committee will regroup once demographic data is received. They previously compiled a list of projects that was shared with the board. The proposal would be phase 3 of bonding; the summer work is part of phase 2.

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Mr. Harper shared comments about moving forward on projects through issuance of revenue bonds and breaking them into smaller issuance amounts for more local institutions to qualify. Mr. Good reviewed projects that would be included with additional funding which would provide for improved learning environments and energy savings to be realized from improvements. Public hearings and specific projects would be presented to the board for final approval on an individual basis.

Ms. Boesen moved approval of the statewide penny sales tax bonds following the recommendation of the superintendent. Seconded by Ms. Elsbernd.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy, Sweeney

Nay: None

Absent: Jongewaard

Motion passed 6-0.

Item No. 27**Page 1 of 1****Subject: AWARD OF DESIGN FOR CASADY SITE****For: ACTION****Presentation: None****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: Design of a new school at the Casady site. (Students First Program)

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends that the board approve the contract with Wells + associates for the design of a new school at the Casady site.

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

Background: The work planned is for a new facility that would include a Middle School Alternative Education Center and an Early Childhood Education Center. As part of this project the existing Casady facility will be demolished.

This facility will provide for relocation and expansion of early childhood opportunities in our school district and will also provide for neighborhood revitalization in our urban core.

Wells + associates have submitted a design cost proposal in the amount of \$378,780. The costs are within the design budget established for the design of these improvements.

Funding: Statewide Penny (Students First Program)

Minutes

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson moved approval of the superintendent's recommendation.
Seconded by Ms. Boesen.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy Sweeney

Nay: None

Absent: Jongewaard

Motion passed 6-0.