

**DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**1800 GRAND BOARDROOM**  
**MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 24, 2012**

**SPECIAL MEETING — 5:00 p.m.**

The Board of Directors met in a special open session on Tuesday, January 24, 2012; Teree Caldwell-Johnson presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to interview candidates for the Board position vacated by the resignation of Patty Link.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson explained the format for the interview process.

Present: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Elsbernd, Howard, Murphy, Sweeney  
Absent: None

**BOARD ACTION ITEM — 5:05 p.m.**

The following finalists were interviewed, separately and in the order listed: Joe Jongewaard, Shane Schulte and Patricia Woodward-Young.

Each candidate was asked the series of questions listed below and given the opportunity to make closing comments. Ms. Caldwell-Johnson informed the candidates that a decision would be made by January 27, 2012, and they would be notified promptly.

- Tell us a little about yourself and why you would like to serve on the Des Moines School Board.
- Did you consider running for this position last September? Why did you choose not to? If appointed would you consider running again in 2013 for four more years?
- What do you think of public schools today and please comment on Governor Branstad's plan to improve Iowa's schools.
- Please talk a little about how you see the role of the board in relation to the Superintendent, in relation to the staff, and in relation to each other.
- Board members are expected to be on committees, represent the district, and just be present in the district. Do you have the time and commitment to fulfill this expectation?
- If you had to cut 5 million dollars from next year's budget, what would your priorities be?

- What are some of the pressing issues in the Des Moines Public Schools today?

The Board will convene at noon on Friday, January 27, 2012, to appoint a new Board member.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.