

**DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**BOARDROOM — 1800 GRAND AVENUE**  
**MINUTES**  
**JULY 13, 2010**

**PUBLIC FORUM – 5:45 p.m.**

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, in the boardroom at 1800 Grand Ave., Connie Boesen presiding.

Present: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods  
Absent: None

**REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, in the boardroom at 1800 Grand Ave., Connie Boesen presiding.

Present: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods  
Absent: None

Ms. Boesen stated the Board would like to modify the agenda and change Item No. 16, Monitoring Report — Student Achievement to a discussion item only. No action will be taken on this report at this meeting.

Ms. Link moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Caldwell-Johnson.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods  
Nay: None  
Motion carried.

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF June 15, and June 29, 2010*

Ms. Strong moved approval of the minutes of June 15, and June 29, 2010. Second by Link.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods  
Nay: None  
Motion carried.

**CONSENT ITEMS – 6:03 p.m.**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 7. Architect Payments .....    | 1 |
| 8. Construction Payments ..... | 3 |

9. Contracts for Approval ----- 7  
 10. Award of Contracts on Bid ----- 11  
 11. Adoption of Elementary Art Materials -----13  
 12. Personnel Recommendations -----15  
 13. List of Bills ----- 17

Minutes

Mrs. Woods moved approval of the consent items including payment of bills previously authorized and certified by the secretary and reviewed by her as paid in the amount of \$8,154,007.86 and unpaid bills in the amount of \$3,695,396.78. Second by Buckton.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods  
Nay: None  
Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 6:05 p.m.**

14. Addition and Renovations — North High School -----19  
 15. Addition and Renovations — Meredith-Hoover -----20

**OTHER – 6:06 p.m.**

16. Monitoring Report — Student Achievement -----23  
 17. Attendance Policy Revisions ----- 27  
 18. Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) Renewal ----- 31  
 19. Resolution to Hold Public Hearing — Easement to MidAmerican Energy for  
 Underground Electric Line by Wright Elementary----- 33  
 20. Resolution to Hold Public Hearing — Sale of Douglas Elementary ----- 35

**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION — 7:42 p.m.**

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Ms. Boesen expressed optimism that the district’s application for a \$1.1 million grant for continued funding of universal pre-school will be approved, especially in light of mounting evidence that it enhances school readiness among kindergartners.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

July 13, 2010

Dr. Sebring announced that the application for School Improvement Grants for Tier One of the district's Persistently Low Achieving Schools [PLAS] has been approved by the Department of Education [DE]. Those schools are Edmunds Elementary, Weeks & Hoyt MS and North HS. The grant is for \$13 million over three years. There was no provision for Tier Two schools so the district will be exploring other funding streams at that level.

**ADJOURN 7:45 p.m.**

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**Item No. 7**
**Page 1 of 2****Subject: ARCHITECT PAYMENTS****For: ACTION****Contact: BILL GOOD**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us; 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> |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b><u>Alvine Engineering</u></b>                       |                     |                      |                          |                        |
| Mitchell Learning Center<br>Architect App. 5 (SWP)     | 84%                 | \$114,000.00         | \$86,754.00              | \$9,234.00             |
| <b><u>Baldwin White Architects</u></b>                 |                     |                      |                          |                        |
| Jackson Elementary School<br>Architect App. 25 (LOSST) | 94%                 | \$371,430.00         | \$343,175.09             | \$4,640.15             |
| <b><u>BCDM</u></b>                                     |                     |                      |                          |                        |
| Hoover Meredith Complex<br>Architect App. 4 (SWP)      | 63%                 | \$262,000.00         | \$96,940.00              | \$68,853.60            |
| <b><u>Gould Evans Goodman</u></b>                      |                     |                      |                          |                        |
| Roosevelt High School<br>Architect App 29 (LOSST)      | 90%                 | \$2,128,149.00       | \$1,908,332.90           | \$6,960.25             |
| <b><u>OPN Architects</u></b>                           |                     |                      |                          |                        |
| Howe Elementary School<br>Arch. App. 7 (SWP)           | 64%                 | \$132,124.00         | \$82,218.36              | \$2,040.71             |
| North High School<br>Arch. App. 6 (SWP)                | 69%                 | \$930,425.00         | \$511,180.05             | \$130,386.45           |

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**Item No. 7**
**Page 2 of 2****RDG Planning & Design**

|   |     |              |             |            |
|---|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Madison Elementary School<br>Architect App. 6 (SWP) | 78% | \$112,800.00 | \$83,472.00 | \$4,512.00 |
|---|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|

|                                      |     |                |                |            |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Central Campus<br>Architect App. 034 | 94% | \$1,446,111.00 | \$1,346,398.20 | \$9,971.28 |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|------------|

|   |    |              |        |             |
|---|----|--------------|--------|-------------|
| Career Tech – Phase 2<br>Architect App. 1 (SWP) | 5% | \$600,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$27,000.00 |
|---|----|--------------|--------|-------------|

|   |     |              |             |            |
|---|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Park Avenue Elem School<br>Architect App. 6 (SWP) | 78% | \$123,300.00 | \$91,242.00 | \$4,932.00 |
|---|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|

**Shive Hattery**

|  |     |              |             |            |
|--|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Wright Elementary School<br>Architect App. 5 (SWP) | 81% | \$115,000.00 | \$85,962.50 | \$7,762.50 |
|--|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|

**Taylor Ohde Kitchell**

|   |     |                 |                 |              |
|---|-----|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Program Management<br>Appl. No. 115 (LOSST) | 90% | \$19,351,769.00 | \$17,271,198.82 | \$154,741.73 |
|---|-----|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|

|              |  |  |  |                     |
|--------------|--|--|--|---------------------|
| <b>Total</b> |  |  |  | <b>\$431,034.67</b> |
|--------------|--|--|--|---------------------|

**Presenters:** None**Background:** None

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**Item No. 8**
**Page 1 of 3****Subject: CONSTRUCTION PAYMENTS****For: ACTION****Contact: BILL GOOD**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us; 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> |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b><u>Edge Commercial</u></b>   |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| Jackson Elementary<br>(LOSST)<br>GC App. 14<br>Sealed Bid No. 5210-09               | 94%                 | \$4,101,933.00       | \$3,822,110.66           | \$14,151.44                |
| <b><u>ESA Inc.</u></b>  |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| Career Tech Asbestos<br>(LOSST)<br>RETAINAGE RELEASE<br>Sealed Bid No. 5206-08      | 100%                | \$441,623.50         | \$419,542.32             | \$22,081.18                |
| <b><u>Larson &amp; Larson</u></b>   |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| Roosevelt High School<br>(LOSST)<br>GC App. 14<br>Sealed Bid No. 5226-09            | 68%                 | \$17,751,562.00      | \$11,726,050.75          | \$358,347.33               |
| <b><u>Neumann Brothers,</u></b>   |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor and Stairs<br>(LOSST)<br>GC App. 15<br>Sealed Bid No. 5214-09 | 90%                 | \$8,396,760.00       | \$7,338,619.26           | \$209,375.70               |
| <b><u>Absolute Concrete</u></b>   |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| Studebaker Elementary<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 01<br>Sealed Bid No. B6124                | 23%                 | \$198,038.00         | \$0.00                   | \$44,640.69                |
| <b><u>Bergstrom Constr.</u></b>   |                     |                      |                          |                            |
| Park Avenue Elem.<br>(SWP)<br>GC App 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6066                     | 24%                 | \$2,274,647.00       | \$204,265.20             | \$348,678.50               |

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**Brockway Mechanical**

|   |     |                |              |              |
|---|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Howe Elem. School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6065 | 41% | \$1,452,937.61 | \$206,738.05 | \$389,055.40 |
|---|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|

**Brocon Services**

|  |      |                |        |              |
|--|------|----------------|--------|--------------|
| Wright Elem. School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 01<br>Sealed Bid No. B6085 | 13 % | \$1,512,958.07 | \$0.00 | \$191,640.64 |
|--|------|----------------|--------|--------------|

**Cunningham Inc.**

|   |     |                |              |              |
|---|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Madison Elem. School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 04<br>Sealed Bid No. B6063 | 38% | \$2,123,922.00 | \$450,008.92 | \$370,628.86 |
|---|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|

**Munro Construction**

|  |     |                |              |              |
|--|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mitchell Learning<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6086 | 46% | \$1,296,757.00 | \$290,019.80 | \$310,648.10 |
|--|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|

**REEP, Inc**

|  |     |              |              |             |
|--|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Wright Elem. School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6024 | 66% | \$187,445.00 | \$112,852.40 | \$11,792.15 |
|--|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|

|  |     |              |              |             |
|--|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Howe Elem. School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6034 | 75% | \$226,265.00 | \$156,415.60 | \$13,838.90 |
|--|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|

|   |    |              |        |             |
|---|----|--------------|--------|-------------|
| North Windows<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 1<br>Sealed Bid No. B6087 | 2% | \$901,210.00 | \$0.00 | \$16,836.20 |
|---|----|--------------|--------|-------------|

**Baker Electric Inc.**

|   |     |             |             |          |
|---|-----|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Jackson Elementary<br>(LOSST)<br>Fire Alarm App.9<br>Sealed Bid No. 5212-09 | 95% | \$48,918.00 | \$45,787.15 | \$684.95 |
|---|-----|-------------|-------------|----------|

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|   |     |              |              |                |
|---|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b><u>Swanson Glass</u></b>                                       | 56% | \$266,860.00 | \$0.00       | \$149,625.00   |
| Park Avenue School<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 01<br>Sealed Bid No. B6026 |     |              |              |                |
| <b><u>Two Rivers Glass</u></b>                                    | 75% | \$165,110.01 | \$61,104.92  | \$62,605.00    |
| Mitchell Learning<br>(SWP)<br>GC App. 03<br>Sealed Bid No. B6070  |     |              |              |                |
|   |     |              | <b>TOTAL</b> | \$2,514,630.04 |

**Presenters:** None

**Background:** None





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**Item No. 9****Page 1 of 4****Subject: CONTRACTS FOR APPROVAL****For: ACTION****Contact: Various****Attachments: None**

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**Contract No. 10-035****Project:** Capturing Kids' Hearts Campus by Design**Contractor:** The Flippen Group

**Background:** Capturing Kids' Hearts Campus by Design is a transformational process. Through cohesive, systemic training, consulting and coaching, the research-based processes improve the five key indicators of school performance: fewer discipline referrals, improved attendance, higher student achievement, lower drop-out rates, and higher teacher satisfaction. Capturing Kids' Hearts Campus by Design helps schools make three critical and fundamental improvements: develop high-performing cultures, align organizational and individual behaviors to outcomes, and create connectedness.

**Financial:**

Revenues: \$47,000

Expenses: \$39,800+

**Funding Source:** School Improvement Grant**Term:** One year**New or Renewal:** New**Contacts:** Tina Jensen, Jack Cavanagh

(tina.jensen@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7871; john.cavagh@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-1174)

**Contract No. 10-036**

**Project:** Cooperative 28E agreement between the district and the following Iowa organizations: Christ the King; Holy Family; Holy Trinity; St. Anthony; St. Augustine; St. Joseph; St. Theresa; Westminster Preschool; Grace Methodist; Science Center; Bidwell Riverside; Capitol Park; Child Development Center; Grandview Child Development Center; Hispanic Educational Resources; Oakridge Child Care Centers, for purposes of providing an early learning environment for four year-

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old children whose families choose to access such programs at the above mentioned sites.

**Contractor:** n/a

**Background:** The district and the above mentioned organizations desire to provide a high quality learning environment for four year-old children in accordance with the requirements of the Statewide Preschool Program as set forth in Chapter 256C of the Iowa Code and in accordance with the rules of the Iowa Department of Education and the approved application of the district. The cooperative agreement between the district and each of the preschools listed above does not require that a separate legal entity or joint board be established.

**Financial:** The district will pay Christ the King; Holy Family; Holy Trinity; St. Anthony; St. Augustine; St. Joseph; St. Theresa; Westminster Preschool; Grace Methodist; and the Science Center Preschools 70 percent of the state cost per student for the number of enrolled students submitted to the district on October 1, 2009. The district will provide Bidwell Riverside; Capitol Park; Child Development Center; Grandview Child Development Center; Hispanic Educational Resources; Oakridge Child Care Centers a certified teacher. The district receives sufficient sums from the State of Iowa to pay such amounts.

**Term:** The term is from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

**New or Renewal:** Renewal

**Contacts:** Susie Tallman, Susie Guest

(susan.tallman@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7725/susan.guest@dmps.k12.ia.us; 323-8612)

### **Contract No. 10-037**

**Project:** 28E agreement between Des Moines Independent Community School District (DMPS) and the Norwalk Community School District for students of the Norwalk Community School District to enroll in vocational courses or specialized programs offered through the DMPS.

**Contractor:** n/a

**Background:** The purpose of this agreement is consistent with Iowa Code Chapter 28E and Iowa Code Chapter 258 and all other applicable provisions under Iowa law that allow a school district that does not have a vocational or other specialized high school courses or programs to permit a resident student to attend school in another district which has such courses or programs. The DMPS has available the

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personnel, classroom, labs, equipment, and facilities necessary to provide specialized programs for students residing in and attending the DMPS district and the Norwalk Community School District to jointly utilize these resources.

**Financial:** The Norwalk Community School District agrees to reimburse the DMPS for the tuition cost pursuant to 282.24 of the Iowa Code.

**Term:** The term shall run until such time as either the parties decide to mutually terminate the agreement or any changes in the law require the contract be terminated.

**New or Renewal:** Renewal

**Contact:** Beth Nigut  
(elizabeth.nigut@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7837)

### **Contract No. 10-038**

**Project:** Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) agreement between City of Des Moines and Des Moines Independent School District.

**Contractor:** n/a

**Background:** The City of Des Moines is a CDBG recipient and had previously contracted with the district to provide funds for home remodeling classes. Because the city has changed the department that is managing the program, a new contract was needed. The district applied to the city for the CDBG funds in connection with the Central Campus home remodeling project at 1349 Washington, Des Moines Iowa. The city agrees to provide to the district the funding for the purchase of materials. No funds for salaries for district employees will be provided. Upon completion of the project, the district agrees to sell the property to a qualified purchaser and to provide a subsidy to the purchaser in the form of a forgivable lien in favor of the city in the amount of \$25,000.

**Financial:** The city agrees to provide to the district \$62,000 in CDBG funding for the acquisition/rehabilitation/resale project located at 1329 Washington. When the district sells the property to a qualified purchaser, the district will provide a subsidy to the purchaser in the form of a \$25,000 forgivable lien in favor of the city.

**Term:** The district agrees that all work on the project at 1349 Washington shall be completed by June 30, 2012.

**New or Renewal:** Renewal

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**Contact:** Beth Nigut  
(elizabeth.nigut@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7837)

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

(sandy.huisman@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7712)

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**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.

**Bid No. B6163 Preventative Maintenance for the Central Nutrition Center**

Goodwin Tucker Group                      Des Moines, IA                      \$38,940

Bids were examined by the purchasing and food & nutrition departments.

A complete tabulation of the bid is available.

Three bids were mailed; three bids were received.

Funds are provided in food & nutrition.

**Bid B6165 Dishwasher at McCombs Middle School**

Bolton and Hay                      Des Moines, IA                      \$39,377

Bids were examined by the purchasing and food & nutrition departments.

A complete tabulation of the bid is available.

11 bids were mailed, two quotes were received.

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Funds are provided by 2010 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant.

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**Item No. 11****Page 1 of 1****Subject: ADOPTION OF ELEMENTARY ART MATERIALS****For: ACTION****Contact: Mirium Alshouse****Attachments: 10-030**(mirium.alshouse@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7645)

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**Issue:** The purchase of instructional materials for Art; K-5.

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

**Presenters:** None. Mirium Alshouse, Art Curriculum Coordinator, will be available for questions.

**Background:** During the 2009-10 school year a 10 member Instructional Materials Adoption Committee was formed consisting of the Art Curriculum Coordinator, three members of the Art Advisory Council, three members of the Art Assessment Team, and additional elementary art teachers to represent all regions of the district and a diversity of teaching experiences.

An adoption scoring rubric was developed to address alignment of the instructional materials to the Board Ends, Iowa Core, and current DMPS art curriculum standards and assessment expectations. Instructional material samples were sent to committee members from a variety of publishers for examination, field testing, and independent scoring. The committee then met as a whole to discuss and compare the sampled resources and review the digital and online components. The committee overwhelmingly preferred the materials by Davis and Crystal Publications as the highest quality materials with alignment to identified curriculum needs and collaboratively "cross-walked" the proposed instructional materials from Davis to fill identified gaps between the adoption criteria and the Davis series with materials from Crystal and McGraw Hill. The proposed materials adoption was presented to the School Improvement Committee and materials were displayed for two weeks for community inspection.

Recommendations of the committee for adoption of instructional materials for all elementary buildings are delineated in the attached spreadsheet. Items listed in the left hand column are grade-specific materials and items in the right hand column are shared across grade levels.

The estimated cost for the instructional materials is \$188,530.91 to be paid from the textbook adoption account.





**Item No. 12**

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**Subject: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**For: ACTION**

**Contact: Twyla Woods**

**Attachments: None**

(twyla.woods@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7972)

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

**Background:**

**ELECTIONS - GENERAL EDUCATION**

| Name         | Class | Step | Effective Date | Amount   |
|--------------|-------|------|----------------|----------|
| Clark, Kerri | 1     | 1    | 07/08/2010     | \$38,757 |

BA Upper Iowa University, Fayette IA Address: Waukee IA Assignment: Riverwoods/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

|                  |   |   |            |          |
|------------------|---|---|------------|----------|
| Fee, Christopher | 3 | 6 | 07/08/2010 | \$46,537 |
|------------------|---|---|------------|----------|

BA Iowa State University, Ames, IA MA Viterbo University, Address: Des Moines, IA Assignment: Capitol View/Dean

|             |   |   |            |          |
|-------------|---|---|------------|----------|
| Grace, Jane | 2 | 8 | 08/23/2010 | \$21,098 |
|-------------|---|---|------------|----------|

BA Grand View University, Des Moines, IA Address: Altoona, IA Assignment: Brubaker/In Class Math (.5)

|                |   |   |            |          |
|----------------|---|---|------------|----------|
| Harding, Megan | 1 | 1 | 07/08/2010 | \$38,757 |
|----------------|---|---|------------|----------|

BA Luther College, Decorah, IA Address: West Des Moines, IA Assignment: Riverwoods/1<sup>st</sup> Grade

|               |   |   |          |          |
|---------------|---|---|----------|----------|
| Jensen, Paige | 1 | 1 | 08/19/10 | \$38,757 |
|---------------|---|---|----------|----------|

BA from Grand View University, Des Moines, IA; Address/West Des Moines, IA; Assignment, Merrill/Math (.5) / Reading (.5).

|                 |   |   |            |          |
|-----------------|---|---|------------|----------|
| Kigin, Margaret | 1 | 1 | 07/08/2010 | \$38,757 |
|-----------------|---|---|------------|----------|

BS Drake University, Des Moines, IA Address: Des Moines, IA Assignment: Capitol View/Pre K

|                |   |    |            |          |
|----------------|---|----|------------|----------|
| Vaughan, Brian | 5 | 10 | 08/19/2010 | \$55,102 |
|----------------|---|----|------------|----------|

BA University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA , MA Drake, Des Moines, IA Address: Johnston, IA Assignment: Carver/Dean

**ELECTIONS - SPECIAL EDUCATION**

| Name            | Class | Step | Effective Date | Amount   |
|-----------------|-------|------|----------------|----------|
| Congdon, Monica | IV    | 8    | 08/19/10       | \$50,820 |

BSW from Iowa State University, Ames, IA and MSW from University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA; Address/Des Moines, IA; Assignment, Student and Family Services/Social Worker.

**RESIGNATION**

| Name                | School, Position                | Effective Date | Reason                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Coberly, Melinda    | Goodrell, Language Arts/Reading | 06/08/10       | Position out of district |
| Updegraff, Sarah G. | Hiatt, Vice Principal           | 07/06/10       | Position out of district |

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**ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT**

| Name             | Position  | Amount   | Effective Date |
|------------------|---|----------|----------------|
| Johns, Steven D. | Activities Director / Vice Principal, North High School | \$89,265 | 7/1/2010       |

Masters Degree in Education Administration, Iowa State University; 1985. Bachelors Degree in Industrial Education, Iowa State University; 1978. Experience: Region 7 Partnership Director, Heartland AEA 11, Ames, Iowa, 2007-present; Grades 7-12 Principal, Williamsburg Schools, 1988-2007; High School Principal, Colo-Nesco School District, 1987-1988; Grades 7-12 Principal / Athletic Director, Colo School District, 1985-1987; Grades 7-9 Industrial Arts Teacher / Varsity Cross-Country Coach / Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach/ Varsity Boys Track Coach, 1978-1985; Address: Ames, Iowa.

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**Item No. 13**

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**Subject: LIST OF BILLS FOR APPROVAL**

**For: ACTION**

**Contact: Patricia Schroeder**

(patricia.schroeder@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8527)

**Attachments: None**

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**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.



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**Item No. 14**

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**Subject: ADDITION AND RENOVATIONS —  
NORTH HIGH SCHOOL**

**For: PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION**

**Contact: BILL GOOD**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us : 242-8321)

**Attachments: None**

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**Issue:** Approval of the plans and specifications for the general contract package for the addition and renovations of North High School. Publication for the Public Hearing was included in the Des Moines Register on July 1, 2010.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the Board approve the plans and specifications prepared by OPN Architects for the general contract package for the addition to and renovations of North High School.

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

**Background:** This is a project under the statewide penny funding. Previously awarded bid packages for North include the exterior window replacement and asbestos abatement work.

A copy of the plans and specifications is available for review at the district's operations center.

**Funding:** Statewide penny (Students First Program)

Minutes

Ms. Boesen opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, she closed the public hearing and asked Dr. Sebring to introduce the matter.

Ms. Strong moved to approve the plans and specifications. Second by Link.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Motion carried.



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**Item No. 15**

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**Subject: ADDITION AND RENOVATIONS — MEREDITH/HOOVER**

**For: PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION**

**Contact: BILL GOOD**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us : 242-8321)

**Attachments: None**

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**Issue:** Approval of the plans and specifications for the general contract package for Hoover/Meredith addition and renovations. Publication for the public hearing was included in the Des Moines Register on July 1, 2010.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the Board approve the plans and specifications prepared by BCDM Architects for the general contract package for the Hoover/Meredith addition and renovations.

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

**Background:** This is a project made possible by the statewide penny funding.

A copy of the plans and specifications is available for review at the district's operations center.

**Funding:** Statewide penny (Students First Program)

Minutes

Ms. Boesen opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, she closed the public hearing and asked Dr. Sebring to introduce the matter.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson moved approval of the plans and specifications. Second by Buckton.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Motion carried.





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Item No. 16 — **AMENDED** Page 1 of 4

**Subject:** MONITORING REPORT — STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: GRADUATE ENDS 2

**For:** DISCUSSION/ACTION

**Contact:** Nancy Sebring

(superintendent@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7766)

**Attachments:** 10-031

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**Issue:** Board Governance Policy 3.4 - Monitoring Superintendent Performance - includes a schedule for a report about the District Board Ends – Student Achievement: Learning, Growth and Development. The schedule requires an annual report to the Board. *The June 15 report addressed Subsequent Ends Priority No. 1: Graduates demonstrate strategies for lifelong learning; Priority No. 3: Graduates possess technical and information literacy; Priority No. 4: Graduates have world awareness; and Priority No. 5: Graduates possess the knowledge and skills to be self-directed and autonomous. This report addresses Ends priority No. 2, Student Achievement.*

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the Board receive, discuss, and take action on the annual Monitoring Report: Student Achievement.

**Presenters:** Nancy Sebring, Crista Carlile, David Johns, JoEllen Latham

**Background:** The Board adopted Policy Governance on November 21, 2007, which included a schedule of monitoring reports. *The Ends report on Student Achievement Priority No. 2 is included as Attachment 10-031.* This annual report describes progress made since the initial report June 2, 2009.

Board Management Delegation 3.3, delegation to the superintendent

Accordingly:

The Board will develop and maintain Ends policies instructing the Superintendent to achieve certain results, for certain recipients at a specified worth or priority. These policies will be developed systematically from the broadest, most general level to more defined levels. All issues that are not Ends issues as defined here are means issues.

Minutes

Dr. Sebring pointed out some of the highlights from the report including significant increases in the number of AP exams taken by minority students and phonemic awareness levels of kindergartners, indications that Cognitively Guided Instruction [CGI] is having a positive impact on elementary math instruction, increased proficiency in 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and science, a dramatic reduction in class failures resulting from a curricular

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change in 9<sup>th</sup> grade history classes and a substantial rise in the number of concurrent college credits earned by DMPS high school students. In terms of causes for concern she cited the district's internal data collection and assessment mechanisms as in need of upgrade and also said one of the district's ongoing challenges is to bring effective programs like CGI to a district-wide scale. She feels that there is much still to do in bringing different measuring sticks [grades, standardized tests, in-district assessments, etc.] into greater alignment as barometers of proficiency.

Ms. Strong asked when the Board might expect to see the district's data collection/assessment capabilities reach the levels Dr. Sebring is aiming toward and when the various assessment tools might become better aligned and more reliable.

Dr. Sebring said the district is considering two data systems that are compatible with Infinite Campus and that monitoring reports on academic progress will include disaggregated data very soon. But she said analysis of the dis-alignment of grades, standardized tests and in-district assessments is a more complicated matter and will involve input from a variety of sources. A key part of the process will be a discussion with classroom teachers about the elements and principles of grading.

Mr. Murphy said the Board needs to have a discussion about what sorts of data it needs and wants to see.

Ms. Strong said she would want to see data that supports recommendations and interpretations coming from the superintendent.

Mr. Murphy agreed and also wondered how critical the issue of assessment dis-alignment is. He said there used to be research suggesting that people had more faith in teacher grades than standardized tests as measurements of student progress.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson noted that it is always helpful to know the potential budgetary impact of, for instance, taking an effective pilot program like CGI to district-wide scale.

Dr. Sebring responded that the district is in the midst of determining more systemic ways of incorporating priorities like Graduate Ends into budgets and that she will be bringing a proposal to the Board that reflects that approach.

Ms. Link noted some 7<sup>th</sup> grade data in the report that she found alarming.

Ms. Latham pointed out that some of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade literacy results were not directly comparable to the previous year's since the testing passage changed from fiction to non-fiction, but she said those figures were valuable diagnostically since they pointed out a clear need for curriculum to address students' navigation of informational materials. She added that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade assessments reflected the lack of a middle

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school literacy core curriculum which has since been fully implemented and she expects will be reflected in next year's assessment data.

Ms. Link asked what strategies are being planned to improve middle school writing scores.

Ms. Latham said these data represent baseline figures since the writing assessment was new and will be used to justify a district-wide emphasis, K-12, on writing in the 2010-11 school year, in all class content areas.

Ms. Buckton said it would be helpful going forward to have these reports include an executive summary of both highlights and areas of concern. She feels there needs to be a clearer delineation of what content in such reports is interpretation as opposed to data.

Ms. Boesen said that the Board needs to clearly define what it expects from the various monitoring reports that are received every year from the district administration.

Ms. Carlile explained some of the methodology employed by the curriculum team in evaluating the 7<sup>th</sup> grade data.

Ms. Buckton gave some examples of terminology that she feels is not well-defined and said that there needs to be greater understanding between the Board and the administration as to what the academic assessment tools measure and how they do it.

Ms. Strong commented that the report uses language and terminology that does not reflect the Ends statements adopted by the Board which makes it difficult to evaluate and determine whether or not it complies with Board policy.

Ms. Boesen agreed with Ms. Strong that if the administration feels that language in the Ends statements needs to be changed, then that is a separate discussion that must include the Board.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson said that she would like to see more in the way of recommended action and curricular implications as part of the culmination of the annual academic achievement reporting process.

Mr. Murphy suggested the Board should receive the third in the series of academic achievement reports at its next meeting and then consider them cumulatively at a subsequent meeting with the aim of narrowing their collective scope in such a way as to facilitate the Board's determination of whether or not progress is being made towards the adopted Graduate Ends. He thinks some of the assessment tools may be more useful and meaningful to district staff than they can be to Board members faced with a compressed schedule for receipt, consideration and approval of a variety of reports, curricula and policies.

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Ms. Link noted the importance of fully understanding and accurately interpreting this series of reports before the Board enters the next budgeting cycle and sets curricular priorities for it.

Mr. Murphy pointed out that the context in which data is gathered and interpreted changes over time, citing the example of the change requiring essentially all high school juniors in the district to take the ACT exam. He said such changes make accurate interpretation of data both more difficult and important.

Dr. Sebring agreed and also noted with regard to the ACT example that in that case it becomes critical to compare data with other districts where the test is administered to all high school juniors in order to have a basis for meaningful comparison.

Ms. Buckton said that the implications of policy changes like compulsory ACT testing for juniors can be far-reaching and will be impacting this Board and its successors for years to come. For one thing, she said, kids with college potential are tangibly identified who might not previously have thought of themselves in those terms.

Dr. Sebring mentioned that the presentation of post-secondary education as an option for essentially all kids is a relatively recent phenomenon in our culture. It makes development of an appropriately "rigorous" curriculum for comprehensive public high schools more problematic and deepens the question of what standards shall be used. She said schools are in the midst of a sweeping reconfiguration to reflect the notion that higher education should be open to anybody who aspires to it.

Mr. Murphy cited the inclusion of some data in the report that was gathered from optional assessments and said that sort of instrument is an example of what he means by a tool that may have more value to district staff in dealing with individual students than it does to the Board in determining district-wide policy.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson wondered about the impact of mandates imposed by the No Child Left Behind [NCLB] on the comparability of district assessments since strategies like School Improvement Leaders in Persistently Low Achieving Schools [PLAS] are intervention strategies and hopefully temporary.

Dr. Sebring said that the crossroads of DMPS Graduate Ends and NCLB is another complicating factor in the analysis of district academic performance and that the district is working on ways to measure the effect of federally mandated interventions.

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**Item No. 17****Page 1 of 3****Subject: ATTENDANCE POLICY REVISIONS****For: DISCUSSION/ACTION****Contact: Connie Cook/Bryce Amos/Beth Nigut Attachments: 10-032**

(connie.cook@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7725; bryce.amos@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7660;  
elizabeth.nigut@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7837)

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**Issue:** Consideration of the revised attendance policy**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the Board approve the revised attendance policy.**Presenters:** Connie Cook, Bryce Amos, and Beth Nigut will be present to answer questions. The Committee members, Terrence Martin, Rich Blonigan, Cindy Flesch, and Mike Lord, will also be present.**Background:** Student attendance is a key to the educational process and district employees continually assess ways in which to improve it. To this end, Dr. Sebring requested a committee be formed to determine whether the existing attendance policy was in need of change. The committee included representation from elementary, middle and high schools, and each of the district's three regions. After reviewing the current attendance policy, the committee determined that the policy did not need a complete overhaul, as was done with the discipline code last year, but that minor revisions and comprehensive district-wide training would be appropriate.

The changes to the attendance policy are highlighted as follows:

1. In the current policy we allow *two* unexcused absences per year. However, building administrators have had the ability to determine that a variety of absences could be considered excused. For example, the current policy allows the following to be excused: "other reasons which can be justified from an educational standpoint and which are approved in advance by the building administrator." This language has created subjectivity and inconsistency across the district. The proposed draft policy removes the subjectivity and creates a clear cut list of what is excused and what is unexcused. Having five unexcused absences per semester before consequences are imposed complies with the standards set forth by the Iowa Department of Education.
2. The proposed policy addresses the issue of excessive late arrivals and excessive early departures; current policy does not.
3. Under the proposed policy, high school students may be dropped from a class after seven unexcused absences and if appropriate interventions have been tried.

4. The proposed policy provides for more interventions.
5. Subsequent to the June 15 board meeting, the policy was revised to make it clear that work can be made up for both unexcused and excused absences, and that “buildings shall establish and implement a notification and support plan regarding unexcused absences beginning with the student’s second unexcused absence.”

The district will provide training to all building administrators. In addition, each building will be required to take reasonable steps to inform students and parents about the changes to the attendance policy.

Minutes

Speaker: Jim Patch; 2803 Stanton

Mr. Murphy wondered if the proposed policy would allow for an 18 year-old student still living with parents or a legal guardian to excuse themselves from school.

Dr. Sebring said no.

Mr. Murphy asked for some clarification as to procedures for the make-up of absences.

Ms. Cook, Mr. Amos & Dr. Sebring made clear that make-up provisions are only one option as an intervention strategy and if/when they are exercised the student[s] would be engaged in academic work relevant to the class[es] in question as opposed to busywork such as cleanup of school grounds.

Mr. Amos explained that implementation of the proposed policy will include training within each school based on a matrix the district has developed for intervention strategies that will be employed beginning as soon as a student’s second unexcused absence; well in advance of the proposed new limit.

Ms. Boesen said the new policy will be closely monitored to see if it achieves the goal of increasing student attendance. Ms. Buckton commented that the new policy will reduce administrative discretion in the classification of absences and thereby better serve the Board policy regarding equitable treatment of students and families.

Ms. Jeanette Woods asked how the new policy would apply to the Future Pathways program which does not operate with the same school-day schedules as the other district schools.

Mr. Amos and Ms. Cook replied that Future Pathways will continue to adhere to a more customized set of guidelines tailored to its unique situation.

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Ms. Link moved approval of the proposed new attendance policy. Second by Buckton.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Motion carried





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**Item No. 18****Page 1 of 1****Subject: PHYSICAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT LEVY (PPEL) RENEWAL****For: DISCUSSION****Contact: BILL GOOD**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us : 242-8321)

**Attachments: None**

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**Issue:** The voter-approved Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) generates approximately \$4.4 million per year and will expire on June 30, 2011.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the Board consider establishing a date for the community to vote on a potential extension of this important maintenance levy.

**Presenters:** Bill Good

**Background:** The current levy was approved in September, 2000.

PPEL funds building maintenance including roofing, masonry, asphalt, concrete, asbestos and lead abatement, HVAC, fencing, flooring replacement and other repair to buildings. It finances basic needs including school buses, custodial equipment, musical instruments, and computers. PPEL also covers energy conservation measures which reduce utility costs that are paid with general fund revenues.

Minutes

Ms. Jeanette Woods spoke to the importance to student safety of maintaining an optimal bus replacement rotation from her perspective as a former school bus driver during a time when the rotation was not as frequent as it is now thanks to the current PPEL.

Ms. Buckton speculated about the potential for an increased PPEL to relieve some of the pressure on general fund revenue allocations. She also said it might be worthwhile to arrange for a presentation to the Board about other alternative funding sources such as a business income surtax.

Ms. Strong wondered about the relative logistics of setting a potential voting date in September versus December.

Ms. Boesen said that since there seems to be a Board consensus of moving ahead on the PPEL extension as expeditiously as possible it would be a good idea to direct the general counsel to prepare the appropriate resolution for presentation and perhaps schedule a special Board meeting to ensure compliance with the law governing public notice for special elections.

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Ms. Caldwell-Johnson thought it might make sense to anticipate higher costs for everything funded by PPEL over the course of the next ten-year levy and asked Mr. Good to explain the reasoning behind seeking only an extension of the current rate of 63 cents per \$1,000 of valuation as opposed to some sort of incremental increase.

Mr. Good explained that the superintendent's Facility Advisory Committee made the judgment that, given the current economic climate, what is most critical is getting voter approval for an extension at the current level before that levy expires in 2011 and then seeking voter approval of an increased levy at a later date as circumstances dictate.

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**Item No. 19****Page 1 of 2****Subject: RESOLUTION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING — EASEMENT TO MIDAMERICAN ENERGY FOR UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE BY WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8321)

**Attachments: None**

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**Issue:** MidAmerican is requesting the granting of an underground electric line easement at 5001 SW 14<sup>th</sup> Street, legally described as follows:

A 10-foot wide underground electric line easement as generally depicted on Exhibit "A", attached hereto and made a part hereof; said electric line easement being situated on the following described property: Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 78 North, Range 24, West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. Polk County, Iowa.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the Board approve the resolution to hold a public hearing for the purpose of granting an underground electric line easement to MidAmerican Energy for \$1.00.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District (the "District") desires to grant an underground electric easement to MidAmerican Energy for \$1.00. The area subject to the easement is 5001 SW 14<sup>th</sup> Street and is legally described as follows:

A 10-foot wide underground electric line easement as generally depicted on Exhibit "A", attached hereto and made a part hereof; said electric line easement being situated on the following described property: Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 78 North, Range 24, West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. Polk County, Iowa.

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to publish a Notice of the proposed sale and of the hearing and to receive and consider objections and petitions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District:

Section 1. That this Board shall set a public hearing on the proposed sale for August 3, 2010 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the Des Moines Independent Community School District Board Room, 1800 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309.

Section 2. That the Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare, publish, and distribute the Notice of Hearing

#### **Minutes**

Ms. Jeanette Woods moved to approve the resolution to hold a public hearing on the granting of an easement to MidAmerican Energy for an underground electric line by Wright Elementary School. Second by Link.

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Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Motion carried

**Item No. 20**

**Page 1 of 1**

**Subject: RESOLUTION TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING—  
SALE OF DOUGLAS ELEMENTARY**

**For: ACTION**

**Contact: Bill Good**

(harold.good@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8321)

**Attachments: None**

**Issue:** Sale of property at 3800 E. Douglas Avenue, known as Douglas Elementary, Des Moines, Iowa 50317

**Background:** The district owns the property at Douglas Elementary. Beginning in January 2010, the district has been actively marketing this property. Previous bids were declined and we now have another offer.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends the Board approve the resolution to hold a public hearing for the purpose of selling the Douglas Elementary property located at 3800 E. Douglas Avenue.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District (the "District") has received a proposal to sell certain of its property to the Eastwood Church in the amount of \$100,000. The area subject to the sale is Douglas Elementary, Des Moines, Iowa 50317 and is legally described as follows:

LOT 1, AQUARIUS PART OF DES MOINES, POLK COUNTY, IOWA

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to publish a Notice of the proposed sale and of the hearing and to receive and consider objections and petitions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District:

Section 1. That this Board shall set a public hearing on the proposed sale for August 3, 2010 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the Des Moines Independent Community School District Board Room, 1800 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309.

Section 2. That the Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare, publish, and distribute the Notice of Hearing.

**Minutes**

Ms. Strong moved approval of the resolution to hold a public hearing for the purpose of selling the Douglas Elementary property located at 3800 E. Douglas Ave. Second by Murphy.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Motion carried