

DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BOARDROOM — 1800 GRAND AVENUE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2009

PUBLIC FORUM – 5:45 p.m.

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, in the boardroom at 1800 Grand Ave., Connie Boesen presiding.

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

Speakers: Judy Campbell, 2508 SE 8th Ct.
Beverly Pearson, 6900 SE 120th St.

REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, in the boardroom at 1800 Grand Ave. Connie Boesen presiding.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Strong moved to approve the agenda. Second by Murphy.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson requested Item No. 10, Dropout Prevention/Allowable Growth Levy be removed from the consent items to be discussed and voted on as a separate item.

Ms. Strong changed the motion to reflect the removal of item No. 10 from the consent items.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Caldwell-Johnson moved approval of the minutes of October 6, 2009. Second by Buckton.

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

CONSENT ITEMS – 6:05 p.m.

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Ms. Link moved approval of the consent items (minus Item No. 10) including payment of bills, which she reviewed, and were previously authorized and certified by the secretary as paid in the amount of \$1,817,538.95 and unpaid bills in the amount of \$4,553,170.39. Second by Strong.

Ms. Woods questioned the change in the contract at Jackson Elementary and referred to the recommendation where it states the Board approve any changes over 15 percent and in the background information on this item, it states the district does not anticipate any additional abatement work.

Mr. Good responded the abatement of asbestos can be a very unknown condition so to avoid interrupting the necessary work the district would like to be proactive in that regard. The district has taken a similar approach on other projects.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Caldwell-Johnson, Link, Murphy, Strong
Nay: Woods
Motion carried.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION – 9:13 p.m.

Ms. Buckton commented she had received a couple e-mails in reference to accessing Infinite Campus. She asked if there was any data on the number of parents using Infinite Campus and if the district could implement a process to help advertise and teach parents how to use it.

Mrs. Woods reported on the Health Benefits Advisory Committee for which she is the liaison. The committee is working on some educational meetings. Amy Jennings from Wellmark is assigned to the committee as the health management consultant. There will be three meetings offered to employees to educate staff on ways to cut the costs of health care to the district. Mrs. Woods will have a list of dates and times of these meetings at the next Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – 9:15 p.m.

Dr. Sebring reported there was a request by an Orchard Place Board member to have an audit of services provided to students through the Des Moines Public Schools educational program at Orchard Place. That audit was conducted by a compliance monitoring team from Heartland AEA. The audit was done on site. The public audit confirmed the program is exemplary.

ADJOURN – 9:20 p.m.

Item No. 7
Page 1 of 1**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 Due</u>
<u>Baldwin White Architects</u> Jackson Elementary School Architect App. No. 16	80%	\$371,430.00	\$284,968.42	\$11,574.00
<u>Gould Evans</u> Roosevelt High School Architect App 20	82%	\$2,128,149.00	\$1,629,682.32	\$108,919.82
<u>RDG Planning & Design</u> Central Campus Architect App. No. 26	88%	\$1,446,111.00	\$1,269,644.27	\$6,954.97
<u>Taylor Ohde Kitchell</u> Program Management Application No. 106	84%	\$19,351,769.00	\$16,103,795.79	\$123,668.12
			Total	\$251,116.91

Presenters: None**Background:** None

Item No. 8
Page 1 of 2**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>
<u>Edge Commercial</u> Jackson Elementary (SALES TAX) GC App. 05 Sealed Bid No. 5210-09	47%	\$3,947,802.00	\$1,137,629.77	\$702,744.86
<u>Larson & Larson</u> Roosevelt High School (SALES TAX) GC App. 05 Sealed Bid No. 5226-09	45%	\$17,412,421.00	\$7,055,537.20	\$924,758.10
<u>Neumann Brothers, Inc.</u> Career Tech Exterior (SALES TAX) GC App. 08 Sealed Bid No. 5205-08	92%	\$2,047,883.00	\$1,702,243.59	\$177,722.20
<u>Neumann Brothers, Inc.</u> 3 rd Floor and Stairs (SALES TAX) GC App. 06 Sealed Bid No. 5214-09	53%	\$8,041,619.00	\$3,535,485.92	\$740,908.66
<u>Pro Environmental</u> Jackson Elementary (SALES TAX) GC App. 04 Sealed Bid No. 5211-09	95%	\$169,749.32	\$146,680.00	\$14,581.85

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Rochon Corporation

Roosevelt Fine Arts (FUND RAISING) GC App. 07 Sealed Bid No. 5208-09	54%	\$2,524,768.00	\$965,646.22	\$392,291.08
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TOTAL \$2,953,006.75**Presenters:** None**Background:** None

Item No. 9**Page 1 of 1****Subject: CHANGE IN CONTRACT AMOUNT: PRO ENVIRONMENTAL ABATEMENT, INC. JACKSON ELEMENTARY ABATEMENT CONTRACT****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: A change in a construction agreement where the cost increase is greater than 15 percent of the original agreement requires approval of the Board of Directors.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board approve a current change in the contract of Pro Environmental Abatement, Inc. on the Jackson Elementary abatement project and that the Board authorize the district Chief Operations Officer to approve future changes, which exceed 15 percent of the original contract amount with respect to this project only and to notify the Board of Directors through an informational agenda item in the event future changes are made.

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

Background: The district received bids on March 3, 2009, for the abatement of asbestos for the Jackson Elementary renovation project. The award was made to Pro Environmental Abatement, Inc. as it was the low bidder in the amount of \$154,400.00. The award of bid was approved by the Board of Directors on March 10, 2009. From June through September, during the abatement process, additional areas of asbestos were discovered that previously had been concealed because demolition work had not yet taken place. A change in the amount of \$15,349.32 (9.94 percent) has previously been executed. Additional work in the amount of \$24,337.50 has been identified and this additional work rises to the 15 percent threshold that requires Board approval. It is not anticipated that any additional abatement work will be required at Jackson.

Item No. 10**Page 1 of 3****Subject: DROPOUT PREVENTION/ALLOWABLE GROWTH LEVY****For: ACTION****Contact: Patti Schroeder/Bryce Amos****Attachment: 09-052**

(patti.schroeder@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8527/bryce.amos@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7660)

Issue: The Board must approve the preliminary FY11 levy rate for Dropout Prevention/Allowable Growth by November 1, 2009.

Superintendent's Recommendation : The superintendent recommends the Board maintain the current levy rate for FY 2011. The superintendent may recommend a change in the rate when the FY 2011 budget recommendations are made later in the year, as has been done in the past.

Presenters: None

Background: Annually, the district submits an application approved by the Board of Directors to the Iowa Department of Education seeking approval to use Dropout Prevention/Allowable Growth funding. The levy rate for FY 2011 must be approved by the Board by November 1, 2009, in order to accommodate the state filing deadline.

The state formula, which establishes the maximum amount that can be approved for DMPS by the Board of Directors for Dropout Prevention, is estimated at \$ 9,207,387 for FY 2011. The formula is based on the district enrollment x 5 percent x district cost per pupil (30,944 [preliminary estimate] x .05 x \$5,951 = \$9,207,387). The current levy for FY 2010 generates \$8,982,479, the maximum amount the district is authorized to request:

For FY 2010, the levy was \$1.48083, which is the maximum Dropout Prevention levy authorized by law. Although no increase is recommended at this time in the tax levy rate for FY 2011, increases or decreases in property valuation may result in some additional or reduced revenues for FY 2011. The amount generated by the levy is sufficient to accommodate current programming costs for FY 2010.

While the levy rate for FY 2011 must be approved by November 1, programming decisions for FY 2011 are best made later in the year when other budget/staffing decisions are being made and more will be known about overall district needs and priorities for FY 2011, as well as property valuations. Therefore, it is possible that budget recommendations for FY 2011 will include a change to the Dropout Prevention budget and associated tax rate.

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See also Attachment 09-052 for a listing of programs funded with DOP program funding.

Minutes

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked if there is a balance in dropout prevention money left at the end of any given fiscal year is it carried forward or put into the general fund. She also asked Patti Schroeder to provide the Board with the balance in this levy.

Ms. Schroeder stated dropout prevention money can only be used for dropout prevention purposes. Any balance would be carried forward. She also will comply and provide the Board with the requested information.

Ms. Buckton asked if the Board could be provided with information indicating what the district is anticipating as far as the effectiveness of each of the dropout programs in terms of the number of dropouts each program should prevent if implemented well.

Dr. Sebring stated this information typically would be provided in a work session and the Board has had one work session addressing the dropout issue but another work session can be planned.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson stated she had made a similar request at another Board meeting.

Mrs. Woods pointed out the attachment 09-052 was a breakdown of all the dropout prevention programs.

Bryce Amos commented student services does an assessment of results of these programs and progress of students each year and the Board will be provided with this information.

Ms. Link asked if assessment information from the previous year was available.

Mr. Amos will provide that information to the Board.

Ms. Boesen noted information relating to the assessment of the dropout prevention programs will be discussed at a work session or will be a future agenda item.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson moved to approve the Dropout Prevention/Allowable Growth Levy. Second by Woods.

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

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Nay: None
Motion carried.

Item No. 11

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Subject: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**For: ACTION****Contact: Twyla Woods**
(twyla.woods@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7972)**Attachments: None**

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

Background:**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Name	School, Position	Effective Date	Reason
Sharov, Erinn	Hanawalt, Multicategorical	10/22/09-8/06/10	Family responsibilities

RESIGNATION

Name	School, Position	Effective Date	Reason
Drautz, Carl	East, Spanish	10/30/09	Position out of district
Landis, William	Wright, 3rd grade	10/19/09	Personal

COACHING DIFFERENTIAL

School	Name	Position	Effective Date	Amount
Hoyt	Easley, Daniel	Intramural	09/30/2009	\$725.50

COACHING RESIGNATION

School	Name	Position	Effective Date
East	Proctor, Bill	Assistant Girls Basketball	10/1/2009
East	Drautz, Carl	Assistant Football	10/30/2009
East	Drautz, Carl	Assistant Baseball	10/30/2009
Hoyt	Filkins, Donovan	Intramural	09/30/2009
Roosevelt	Mc Near, James	Assistant Girls Basketball	10/08/2009

Item No. 12

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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

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. 13**Page 1 of 3****Subject: PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE — 1917 DEAN AVENUE****For: ACTION****Contact: Bill Good**

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

Attachments: None

Issue: To purchase the building and property located at 1917 Dean in the amount of \$2,249,000.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board vote to approve the purchase of real estate located at 1917 Dean Avenue using PPEL funding.

Presenters: Bill Good. Mr. Good will be present to answer any questions following a presentation on the issue.

Background: In November of 2002, the Board approved the leasing of the warehouse at 1658 East Euclid.

One of the recommendations from the superintendent's Facilities Advisory Committee was to reduce leasing expenses in favor of district owned property when feasible. By centralizing all four facility-related functions/locations at one site, the district will gain efficiency at less cost. This centralization at one location results in reduced operational costs, more efficient coordination of staff, and better time management in a centrally located facility.

The consolidation of the carpentry shop (1800 Grand); facility management (1658 E. Euclid); grounds maintenance (1800 E. Euclid); and construction management (1915 Prospect Road) will allow the entire department to be housed at one location. The consolidation at one site is the best long-term option for the district.

Minutes

Speaker: Rossi Frith, 1229 15th Street

Ms. Boesen stated an important point of this recommendation by the superintendent's Facilities Advisory Committee is this purchase will reduce leasing expenses.

Bill Good presented this proposal would consolidate facilities operations by purchasing this property rather than continuing to lease facilities. The district would gain efficiencies, coordination, collaboration, and inventory control. Supervision and time

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management all will improve. Mr. Good reiterated purchasing vs. leasing puts the money back in the general funds by reducing utility costs. The property would be purchased on contract and once the contract is paid off, there will be more money available to put back into the schools. The contract payments would be about the same as the district is paying in leasing costs. He stated a concern has been the district should be using an existing school. Zoning is different for industrial operations and visually, this facility will not be conducive with most neighborhoods. There is also an issue of security on district equipment. Mr. Good explained a new facility was considered but the cost of a new facility would not be feasible when an existing facility could be converted for the district's needs. The four locations the district will consolidate are 1800 Grand, fifth floor where the carpentry shop is located; 1658 E. Euclid, the location of the majority of the facility's operation and it is leased by the district; 1800 E. Euclid, the location of grounds maintenance; 1915 Prospect, where construction management is currently located. Mr. Good stated the seller paid for a formal appraisal on this property and appraised it at \$2.3 million, which includes a \$400,000 build-out — making the building compatible with our needs. The district has proposed a purchase price of \$2,249,000. The funding will be from PPEL. Mr. Good reminded the Board that PPEL funds are very restricted on use.

Ms. Link commented the district and the Board need to be very clear about the PPEL funds and that money cannot be used to fund the budget in any way. She feels the timing of this proposal is not good and the perception of the public will be the district is purchasing a building in horrible economic times. She understands it makes sense but reiterated the Board needs to educate the public this money cannot be used to balance the budget.

Ms. Strong commented the monthly payments would remain the same but in the long term the district will have an asset. She is in support of the purchase. She also pointed out the sale of one of the properties would be used to buy this contract down as quickly as possible.

Ms. Buckton asked for a timeline and when the district would start to see energy savings in the general fund.

Mr. Good stated the district would start to see energy savings in fiscal year 2011. The actual move-in date is scheduled for April 2010.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked Mr. Good for specifics on what PPEL dollars can be used for.

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Mr. Good did not have the specific code available at the meeting but spoke generally that the money is used for facility maintenance, purchase, lease options, school buses, other equipment, musical instruments — a wide variety, but basically equipment.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson reiterated the point that PPEL funds cannot impact the general funds in any way.

Mr. Good stated it is important to know PPEL dollars can go toward technology and those funds have been used to purchase computers.

Mr. Murphy wanted it clarified the only building the district can sell is 1800 E. Euclid and that money would go into the purchase of the Dean property. He also asked if the entire \$2.3 million in the PPEL fund needs to be reserved for this project. The answer is no, as long as payments are being made.

Mr. Good responded the PPEL revenues are about \$6.5 million per year so this \$2.3 million is just a portion of that. The district would continue with other projects the district has been doing.

Mr. Murphy commented the Facilities Advisory Committee has recommended the sale of some other properties so the PPEL fund will not be hurt by this purchase.

Mrs. Woods asked the size of the facility and if there will be room for anything else in the future.

Mr. Good replied the square footage we have now is greater than the building we are purchasing and he will not know how much extra space is available until they start moving furniture.

Ms. Boesen commented this is the time the district needs to look at options like this purchase in order for the district to be more efficient.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson moved to approve the purchase of the property on Dean Avenue. Second by Buckton.

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

Nay: Link

Motion carried.

Item No. 14**Page 1 of 5****Subject: CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION APPROVAL****For: ACTION****Contact: Kittie Weston-Knauer**
(kittieknauer@aol.com; 243-0211)**Attachment: 09-055**

Issue: Approval of Charter School Application to be submitted to Iowa Department of Education.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board approve the charter school application

Presenters: There will be no formal presentation. Kittie Weston-Knauer, Dr. Sebring, David Johns, and Crista Carlisle will be present to answer any questions. In addition, the members of the Charter Advisory Committee will be present.

Background: A charter school application has been reviewed and discussed by the community and Board on several prior occasions. Recommendations from the Board as well as from the Charter Advisory Committee have been considered and added to the application where applicable. On October 6, 2009, the Board approved the criteria to be used to evaluate the application, which is identical to the criteria the state Department of Education will use in evaluating the application. Board approval of this application will lead to the submission of the application to the state of Iowa for their consideration in December.

Minutes

Speaker: Alan Young, DMEA President

Kittie Weston-Knauer introduced the members of the Advisory Committee. All members were not in attendance but the following were in attendance:

Dr. Bobbretta Brewton, Primary Health Systems
Gretchen Woods, ASK Family Resource Center
Michael Kates, Fort Des Moines Museum and Education Center
Alex Piedras, Grandview University

Those not in attendance:

Shannon Cofield, United Way
Teri Hernandez, Crysilis Foundation
Adam Lounsberry, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service
Scott Raecker, Institute for Character Development

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Martha Willits, Greater Des Moines Partnership

The liaison to the committee is Dick Murphy.

Ms. Weston-Knauer thanked the committee for their support.

Ms. Boesen expressed her thanks to the charter Advisory Committee.

Dr. Sebring clarified this application will first go to the local Board of Education, then on to the state Board of Education. The state board has until the end of January to review the proposal and ask for additional information.

Ms. Buckton would like a benchmark included in the application that provides a particular focus on the Board Ends.

Mr. Murphy asked if the 10 percent cut in the budget would apply to the students enrolled in the charter school also. The 10 percent does apply. He supports the application and suggests there are some things to work out but would like to see this moving forward for approval. He reminded the Board there were 710 dropouts last year and this is being developed to address that issue.

Ms. Link asked for clarification about why the federal grant money was denied.

Dr. Sebring stated the district is appealing that decision; however the charter committee has been talking with other groups in the community about providing start-up funds for the charter school, primarily the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines.

Mr. Murphy commented this concept of a charter school had begun before the federal money became available.

Dr. Sebring explained the denial of the federal money was not on the merits of the proposal. In Iowa only school districts can propose a charter school. In the eyes of the federal government, the district was both the developer and the authorizer of the charter proposal and so the district was declared ineligible.

Ms. Link asked how the 10 percent cut will affect the charter school.

Dr. Sebring clarified money follows the student to the school (\$410 less per student) and the school operates on the per-pupil money. The start-up costs include hiring staff, developing curriculum, planning schedules, acquiring technology, etc. The charter committee also is looking at any other funds the school would qualify for to enhance the budget.

Ms. Strong commented on the evaluation criteria the Board adopted at the last meeting. The Board has the opportunity to adopt this application but also the opportunity to say there is a need for additional information. The Board also has the right to revoke the charter school in the future if it does not meet the expectations of the Board.

Mrs. Woods asked how the charter school would affect the other Des Moines Public Schools. She was concerned the students being considered for the charter school will be from the most economically depressed areas in the district.

Dr. Sebring commented if the students drop out of school, there would be no money coming into the school. There are 10 middle schools in the district and the first year there will be 100 students so there would be 10 students per middle school, between seventh and eighth grade. Each school has economically-challenged students so hopefully there will be a balance of students from each middle school so the impact will not be that great.

Ms. Woods questioned the cost of mileage that would be paid for the staff and asked about transportation of students. She also asked about the purchase of the van for the charter school.

Ms. Weston-Knauer stated home visits will be very critical for this program and that is where paying mileage comes into play. The students will have the Des Moines Public Schools ID with the DART pass. She also stated the van would be used for staff to have the opportunity to visit other charter schools. This would be funded by the Teacher Quality funds. The van also would be used for students who have internships and are unable to use DART transportation and also transportation for out-of-building student activities.

Teree Caldwell-Johnson wanted clarification on the federal dollars; whether what the charter school had planned for originally would be amended in any way because the federal funding was denied.

Dr. Sebring responded that discussion is preliminary because the district is looking at outside sources of funding for the same amount.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked if the Board should consider taking a step back and put this project on hold for a year because of the budget cuts. That is, the district is looking for outside sources for the charter school start-up funding. If the charter school were not be considered currently, would the district be better served seeking outside funding for other projects within the district?

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Dr. Sebring commented that giving money is about the donor and if the district tries to change where the money goes, the donor may decide not to give the money. The donor chooses to contribute to specific projects.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson commented that the charter school is about dropout prevention and if the district changed the focus to dropout prevention when asking for donations and not necessarily just the charter school, would the donors still choose to make a contribution.

Ms. Strong commented on the MEPB (Multiple Education Pathways Blueprint) and one of the things that came out of that group was a charter school. She stated she feels this charter school holds the best potential for tackling the graduation rate and dropout. She stated the district and Board need to be very clear about what their intentions are to work on this issue and what holds the most potential. This is a project that is worth moving forward on in spite of budget issues. She agrees that the community has looked at the charter school project very clearly and will support the charter school. The Board also has the ability to evaluate the charter school and discontinue altogether if it does not work.

Mr. Murphy supports the charter school and feels it is the best proposal the district has had to address the dropout issue.

Ms. Strong commented this is the time the application needs to be sent to the state Department of Education to get a charter approved. If the district does not have the money, the district will not proceed but once a district is approved for a charter it is approved. There is no reason to delay submitting the application at this time.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson shared her concern about the lottery system for selecting students for the charter school.

Ms. Weston-Knauer explained the students chosen for the program will be representative of the demographics of the district.

Mr. Murphy commented the determination needs to be made regarding whether or not the charter school should represent the demographics of the district or the demographics of the dropout population — they may be the same.

Bryce Amos confirmed those demographics are basically the same.

Ms. Boesen agreed the charter school is a program that should move forward but clarified if the district does not get start-up money, the charter school will be put on hold.

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Ms. Caldwell-Johnson wanted clarification on the start-up money vs. the per student allocation for operating the charter school.

Dr. Sebring clarified the start-up money is for hiring staff, acquiring technology, planning curriculum, etc. The per-student allocation (minus 10 percent) is for the operation of the charter school.

Ms. Weston-Knauer quoted directly from the state's charter school application. "The charter school assures that it will not conduct a program of instruction until such time as:

1. The requisite health and safety and accessibility standards for the school building have been met according to the local health and fire department inspectors.
2. Adequate equipment, materials and guidance and counseling services are available.
3. Conditions are adequate to provide for the economical operation of the school with an adequate learning environment."

The school cannot start until those criteria have been met.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the application of the charter school. Second by Strong.

Aye: Boesen, Buckton, Link, Murphy, Strong, Woods

Nay: None

Pass: Caldwell-Johnson

Motion carried.

Item No. 15**Page 1 of 4****Subject: STATE-MANDATED ACROSS-THE-BOARD BUDGET CUT****For: DISCUSSION****Contact: Patti Schroeder****Attachments: None**(patti.schroeder@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8527)

Issue: On October 8, 2009, Gov. Chet Culver mandated an across-the-board (ATB) cut in state funding of 10 percent for all state funded programs, including all school districts in response to declining state revenue projections.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board discuss the parameters on budget reductions they would like administration to follow in making budgetary changes to balance the district's budget for the current year (FY 2010) given a state-mandated ATB cut.

Presenter: Patti Schroeder

Background: The governor has mandated that state funds for all state funded programming, including all school districts in Iowa, be cut by 10 percent of the amount originally appropriated by the state for FY 2010.

Des Moines Public Schools will need to reduce its budget by a total of \$17.5 million. The reduction to State Foundation Aid makes up the majority of the reduction at \$15.75 million, representing \$410.80 per student (weighted enrollment basis). Other state funding received by the district that is subject to the ATB cut includes state categorical grants and state funding received by the district indirectly via another agency. In addition, given this difficult economic time, interest income is not reaching expectations.

Parameters for determining budget reductions include:

- Minimal affect on classrooms
- Minimal affect on existing staffing during the current year (FY 2010)
- Sustainable, if possible, in the next year (FY 2011)
- Can be implemented quickly
- Conservative savings estimates
- Mindful use of one-time funding sources for on-going expenditures

The Board will want to discuss these parameters and provide administration with guidance relative to these parameters.

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Minutes

Speakers: Rossi Frith, 1229 15th St.
Alan Young, DMEA President

Ms. Boesen clarified this is a discussion item.

Ms. Schroeder presented a PowerPoint relating to the 10 percent cut in the budget. She stated the Board has given the district limitations to follow. One of them is “the district cannot fail to inform the Board when something is going to be different.” The cut will affect the district’s regular education funds, weighted funding for special education, ELL, gifted and talented, home schooling, and preschool. It also will affect the district’s state categorical grants. The total estimated cut for the district is \$17.5 million. Interest income also will be down. She presented some of the parameters for determining budget reductions and presented some plans already in place to cut expenditures. She asked the Board to look at the parameters and notify her if there are things the district needs to look at differently.

Ms. Boesen suggested the Board talk about the parameters, one being the solvency ratio threshold the Board has set.

Ms. Link suggested when the options are brought to the Board in November, there be more than one option.

Ms. Schroeder commented with this large of a cut, there are not a lot of options. The parameters before the Board tonight are options being considered to meet the budget.

Ms. Boesen stated the Board needs to decide if the parameters set are the priorities of the Board.

Ms. Link shared her concern that the parameters have been set and there are not a lot of options for the Board without cutting into cash reserves.

Ms. Boesen stated the Board needs to communicate with the district exactly what their priorities are and then will determine the strategy.

Dr. Sebring pointed out the difference in planning a budget mid-year as opposed to planning a budget at the beginning of a year. There are different processes.

Ms. Buckton suggested adding a parameter of maximizing the use of non-general funds. She commented that it is important to relay the message that the 10 percent cut affects the general fund. The district has money that is not state money.

Mr. Murphy suggested the reductions for this fiscal year should be made as soon as possible. He also commented using reserve money would have to change the solvency ratio and this management limitation has been set by the Board.

Ms. Link feels the Board has not had input on what the parameters should be.

Ms. Boesen explained there is such a short time to consider these parameters and this is the time for the Board to make suggestions.

Mr. Murphy would like to add the limitations set by the Board be flexible.

Ms. Schroeder reminded the Board the parameters for budget reductions are the ones that were approved last year.

Dr. Sebring reminded the Board the guidelines that bring this list to the Board are executive limitations, the policies the Board has in place and the guidance the Board has given the district in previous discussions. This is an open discussion to make suggestions.

Ms. Schroeder explained the Board looked at these parameters last year and decided they were acceptable.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked the difference between “could be implemented quickly given a short timeline” and “could be implemented quickly.” She did not necessarily want it changed but feels the Board needs to balance the options.

Ms. Strong wanted it clarified the Board would like two items added to the parameters. Ms. Buckton’s suggestion was maximizing non-general fund dollars and Mr. Murphy suggested the Board have flexibility with self-imposed restrictions. She supports both of those suggestions.

Ms. Boesen asked the Board for other suggestions.

Ms. Buckton was concerned about “minimal effect on classrooms” vs. “minimal effect on students.” She feels “students” is closer to the mission. She also shared her concern about the conservative savings estimate. The district needs to be realistic about the savings estimate.

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Ms. Boesen confirmed the Board's suggestions as:

1. Minimal effect on students, minimal effect on existing staffing in current year 2010;
2. Sustainable if possible into 2011;
3. Can be implemented quickly given short timeline;
4. Realistic savings estimates;
5. Mindful use of one-time funds for ongoing expenses; and
6. Maximize the use of non-general funds using leverage in other areas and flexibility on all self-imposed restrictions.

Item No. 16**Page 1 of 2****Subject: MONITORING REPORT FOR MANAGEMENT LIMITATION 2.1 —
TREATMENT OF STUDENTS/PUBLIC/VOLUNTEERS****For: ACTION****Contact: Bryce Amos**
(bryce.amos@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7660)**Attachment: 09-054**

Issue: Board Governance Policy 3.4 — Monitoring Superintendent Performance includes a schedule relative to monitoring reports that requires an annual monitoring report on Management Limitation 2.1 — Treatment of Students/Public/Volunteers.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board receive, discuss and take action on the monitoring report for Management Limitation 2.1.

Background: The Management Limitation 2.1 — Treatment of Students/Public/Volunteers Monitoring Report is attached.

Management Limitation 2.1 states: With respect to interactions with students, volunteers, and the public, the superintendent shall not cause or allow conditions or procedures that are unfair, unsafe, unhealthy, untimely, unprofessional or unnecessarily intrusive.

Minutes

Speaker: Alan Young, DMEA President

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked if race, gender, etc., breakouts could be added to this report in the future. She also was concerned about the increase in figures indicating students who have been removed from a school.

Mr. Amos stated this is one of the reasons the discipline policy and code of conduct were reviewed — to provide consistent guidelines across the district.

Mr. Murphy recommended the volunteer part of the monitoring report be dropped.

This will remain a part of the report but there needs to be a statement indicating how volunteer complaints are handled. The district needs to be accountable for fair treatment of the public and there needs to be a process in place for volunteers.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked that the next monitoring report reflect data indicating the effect of the code of conduct.

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Mr. Amos commented the data that will most accurately reflect that will be the number of suspensions. Expulsions and suspensions are already showing a decrease from the previous year.

Ms. Buckton stated her concern about the high number of suspensions at the middle school level.

Dr. Sebring stated the district is working with principals and implementing other practices to curb that problem.

Mrs. Woods asked specifically how Hiatt and Harding were doing compared to last year.

Mr. Amos commented both schools' trends in suspensions were down.

Ms. Strong moved to accept the monitoring report. Second by Link.

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

Nay: None

Motion carried.

Item No. 17**Page 1 of 2****Subject: MONITORING REPORT FOR MANAGEMENT LIMITATION 2.3 —
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE QUARTERS
ENDING JUNE 30, 2009, AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2009****For: ACTION****Contact: Patricia Schroeder**
(patti.schroeder@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7745)**Attachment: 09-053**

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

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends that the Board receive, discuss and take action on the quarterly monitoring report for Management Limitation 2.3 — Financial Condition and Activities for the quarters ending June 30, and September 30, 2009.

Background: The Management Limitation 2.3 — Financial Condition and Activities Monitoring Report is included as attachment 08-053. This report covers the quarterly period from April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009, and from July 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009, unless otherwise stated.

Management Limitation 2.3 states: With respect to actual ongoing conditions of the district financial resources, the superintendent shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy, or a material deviation of actual expenditures from the Board's Ends priorities.

Accordingly, the superintendent shall not:

1. Fail to provide quarterly summaries of the financial condition of the district.
2. Fail to settle district payroll obligations and payables in a timely manner.
3. Fail to implement prudent competitive quoting procedures for all facility improvement projects in an amount that meets or exceeds the competitive quote threshold as established by Iowa law.
4. Fail to implement prudent competitive bidding procedures for all facility improvement projects in the amount of \$100,000 or more.
5. Fail to implement prudent competitive procedures, including but not limited to RFPs, for purchasing products and securing contractual and professional services.
6. Obligate the district to contracts or expenditures greater than \$25,000.
7. Acquire, lease or dispose of real property.
8. Invest funds in securities contrary to state law.
9. Allow tax payments or other governmental ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.

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Minutes

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked for an explanation of the non-compliance at the end of the report.

Ms. Schroeder stated when there are 5,000 employees, there will be times when mistakes are made. In this case, the mistakes were found in the same quarter. The mistakes were remedied or are still being worked on at this time but in the interest of fairness they are included in this report.

Ms. Link moved to accept the monitoring report. Second by Murphy.

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

Nay: None

Motion carried.