

DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BOARDROOM — 1800 GRAND AVENUE
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2009

PUBLIC FORUM – 5:45 p.m.

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, 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.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Boesen explained the time allotment for the budget discussion on the agenda should be more than fifteen minutes. The Board will allow adequate time for this discussion. She also noted on Item No. 12 on the subject line, the year should state 2010-2011.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Strong moved approval of the minutes for October 20, 2009. Second by Murphy.

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

DISTRICT RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Sebring recognized Timm Pilcher, instructor; Edward Rodriguez, co-editor-in-chief; and Bea Rendon, last year's co-editor-in-chief of the *Hoover Challenger* for receiving the Gallup Award. She also introduced Central Campus Film and Broadcasting students Bryan Dingman, Alex Long and Lauren Morrissey, who are part of an internship program and are presently working in the control booth during the live broadcasts of

Pending Board Approval

School Board meetings. These students, along with other members of the Advanced Film and Broadcasting class were also recognized for their participation in the State Farm Insurance safe-driving public service announcement campaign — FOCUS POCUS: Don't Drive Distracted.

Dr. Sebring also recognized and thanked Erica Orrell and Lori Becker from State Farm for their almost \$12,000 in donations to the Film and Broadcasting Department to help purchase equipment for the students.

CONSENT ITEMS — 6:05 p.m.

7. Contracts for Approval	1
8. Award of Contracts on Bid	3
9. Ryobi 3304 Four-Color Printing Press, Graphics Communication Program at Central Campus	5
10. Personnel Recommendations	7
11. List of Bills for Approval	9

Ms. Buckton moved approval of the consent items including payment of bills, which she reviewed, and were previously authorized and certified by the secretary as paid in the amount of \$3,438,619.43 and unpaid bills in the amount of \$1,085,986.91. Second by Caldwell-Johnson.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – 6:09 p.m.

12. Continuous Learning Calendar	11
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OTHER – 6:10 p.m.

13. State Mandated Across-the-Board Cut	13
14. Schools in Need of Assistance	19

ADJOURN – 8:05 p.m.

Item No. 7**Page 1 of 2****Subject: CONTRACT FOR APPROVAL****For: ACTION****Contact: Various****Attachments: None**

Contract No. 09-057

Project: Family and Community Specialist at George Washington Carver Elementary

Contractor: Polk County Empowerment Board

Background: Polk County Empowerment has submitted an amendment to the agreement with the Des Moines Public Schools SUCCESS/Way to Grow Program for the Family and Community Specialist, located in the Eric Witherspoon Early Learning Center at Carver Elementary School. The contract is amended and supplemented as follows: The agreed upon investment amount will be reduced by 10% for fiscal year 2009-2010 as outlined in the original contract amount of \$55,250 for FY 09-10 to the amended contract amount of \$49,725 for FY 09-10 (.79 FTE). This specialist coordinates services to and opportunities for parents within the school. This includes parent support groups and educational opportunities such as Circles of Support and the Parent Advisory Council. During the 2008-2009 school year, the Family and Community Specialist served 401 children and 193 parents. Outcomes included 69% of parents with an increase in their competence and confidence in parenting abilities, 100% of parents satisfied with meetings, and 76% of parents who enhanced the health, growth and development of their children.

Financial:

Revenues: \$49,725

Funding Source: Polk County Empowerment

Expenses: Salary \$ 35,078

Benefits \$ 14,647

TOTAL \$49,725

Term: July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010**New or Renewal:** Amendment of Renewal**Contact:** Bryce Amos or Jennifer Farley

(bryce.amos@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7660; jennifer.farley@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8600)

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Contract No. 09-058

Project: To review and approve contracts for 2009 — 2010 school year for transportation of non-public school students who reside within the Des Moines Independent Community School District.

Contractor: Accredited Non-Public Schools

Background: Iowa Code Section 285.1(14), states: “Resident pupils attending a non-public school located either within or without the school district of the pupil’s residence shall be entitled to transportation on the same basis as provided for resident public school pupils under this section.”

Therefore, contracts with the accredited non-public schools are necessary to authorize and distribute the flow through funding received from the State of Iowa. The Des Moines Independent Community School District is responsible for coordinating reimbursements to the non-public schools for their transportation expenses and the parents who transport their children to and from non-public schools.

Financial:

Revenues: None

Expenses: None

Term: 1 year

New or Renewal: New

Contact: Sheila Mason and Todd Liston

(sheila.mason@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7980; todd.liston@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7832)

Item No. 8
Page 1 of 1**Subject: AWARD OF CONTRACT ON BID****For: ACTION****Contact: Various****Attachments: None**

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

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

Background: The suggested bid awards and detailed information for each of the bids are as shown below.

Where cost comparisons are shown, they are merely a representative sample of the item on the bid, and are not intended to be all inclusive.

A. Bid 5041-05 for Paint Products

ICI Paints	West Des Moines, IA	Estimated Award	\$24,000.00
Sherwin Williams	Des Moines, Iowa	Estimated Award	\$16,000.00
		<u>Total Award</u>	<u>\$40,000.00</u>

The vendors have agreed to extend the contract at the current prices and terms. Contract provides the District with primer, interior latex and ceiling paints. This is the final extension

This is the final extension.

2005-2006 Estimated Award	\$ 73,125.00
2006-2007 Actual	\$ 62,741.49
2007-2008 Actual	\$ 42,786.54
2008-2009 Est. Actual	\$ 39,000.00

Contact: Dave Silver

(david.silver@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7700)

Item No. 9**Page 1 of 2****Subject: RYOBI 3304, 4-COLOR PRINTING PRESS, GRAPHICS COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM AT CENTRAL CAMPUS****For: ACTION****Contacts: Connie Sievers** (connie.sievers@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7654)**Jeff Bock** (jeffrey.bock@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-8224)**Tim Rice** (timothy.rice@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-3043)

Issue: Purchase of a Ryobi 3304 HA -13x18 — 4-Color Printing Press for the Graphics Communications Program at Central Campus.**Superintendent's Recommendation:** The superintendent recommends that the Board approve purchase of a Ryobi 3304 HA 13x18, 4-color Printing Press for the Graphic Communications Program at Central Campus.**Background:** Jeff Bock and Tim Rice, Graphic Communication instructors at Central Campus have worked with their advisory committee and members of the Industry — Graphic Communications Education Task Force (a group of local printers that have joined together to help support the Graphic Communications Program at Central Campus) to choose new equipment for the graphic communications lab. The task force has determined that a 4-color printing press would be a tremendous asset to prepare students for careers in Graphics Communications.

In addition to being flat, the 21st Century world comes in full, glorious, living color. The Ryobi 3304 will expand the educational and production capabilities for our students in a number of significant ways. It will provide:

- Students with a hands-on understanding of how process color work is produced.
- Students with the knowledge and skills to understand and operate equipment similar to what industry is using.
- Students at Central Campus will learn on the only 4-color press in Iowa at the secondary school level setting the stage for college level instruction.
- Options for live projects that will earn money to support program expenses.

Vendor: Centsible Printing Machinery International, Inc.

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Funding Sources:

\$50,000	Federal Carl Perkins, Career and Technical Grant Money (62.5%)
\$20,000	Industry - Graphic Communications Education Task Force (25%)
\$10,000	Shared Programming Funding (12.5%)
\$80,000	Total Cost

The press is like new and has been carefully maintained.

A similarly equipped new press would list for well over \$200,000. This press was repossessed by a bank in San Francisco. The original asking price was \$110,000 (approximately half of the price of a new press), but the bank agreed to sell it for \$80,000 which includes shipping.

Item No. 10**Page 1 of 1****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:**ELECTIONS - GENERAL EDUCATION**

Name	Class	Step	Effective Date	Amount
Embree, Kirk A.	2	12	11/09/09	\$33,984

BA from University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA and BS from University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL; Address/Des Moines, IA; Assignment, Central Campus/Marine Biology.

Frazier, Jami L.	5	13	10/29/09	\$28,744
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BA and MAT from Morningside College, Sioux City, IA, Ed.S. from University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD; Address/Ankeny, IA; Assignment, East/Spanish (.7).

Mason, Marjory E.	3	13	11/05/09	\$38,020
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BS from Iowa State University and M.Ed. from Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ; Address/Clive, IA; Assignment, Wright/3rd grade.

Smoldt, LeeAnn	2	9	11/16/09	\$28,074
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ADN from DMACC, Ankeny, IA and BS from Iowa State University, Ames, IA; Address/Ankeny, IA; Assignment, Brubaker/Nurse.

RESIGNATION

Name	School, Position	Effective Date	Reason
Tigner, Brenton	Brody, Behavior Disabilities	01/15/10	Personal
Wilson, Patricia	Roosevelt, Multicategorical	10/30/09	Personal

COACHING DIFFERENTIAL

School	Name	Position	Effective Date	Amount
Lincoln	Spiess, Joe	Assistant Boys Soccer	03/06/2010	\$2,599.
Lincoln	Trogdon, Sandra	Head Boys Bowling	10/31/2009	\$1,427.50
McCombs	Frost, David	MS Boys Track	03/06/2010	\$1,428.
Merrill	Grier, Elizabeth	MS Girls Basketball	12/26/2009	\$1,428.
North	Daugherty, Ryan	Head Girls Soccer	03/20/2010	\$4,568.
North	Gilson, Kirby	Assistant Boys Basketball	11/14/2009	\$3,284.
North	Hart, Jessica	Assistant Softball	05/01/2010	\$2,599.
Roosevelt	Smith, Lindsey	Assistant Girls Basketball	10/31/2009	\$3,284.

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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. 12**Page 1 of 2****Subject: CONTINUOUS LEARNING CALENDARS AT CAPITAL VIEW
ELEMENTARY, DOWNTOWN SCHOOL, MOULTON ELEMENTARY AND
RIVER WOODS ELEMENTARY FOR 2010-2011****For: ACTION/PUBLIC HEARING****Contact: Tina Jensen**
(tina.jensen@dmps.k12.ia.us; 242-7871)**Attachments: 09-057**

Issue: Request permission from the Board and the Iowa Department of Education to obtain a waiver for continuous learning calendars at Capitol View Elementary, Downtown School, Moulton Elementary and River Woods Elementary.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board approve the waiver for the continuous learning calendars for 2010-2011.

Presenters: None

Background: The State Department of Education requests that calendar waivers for individual schools are received in their office on or before November 1 of the preceding school year.

The Downtown School, Moulton, River Woods and Capitol View are seeking a waiver to continue their implementation, of a continuous learning calendar for the 2010-2011 school year.

Staff, parents and community discuss these calendars and the benefits yearly.

Minutes

Ms. Boesen introduced the public hearing. There being no speakers she closed the public hearing and asked the superintendent to introduce the matter.

Dr. Sebring recommended the Board approve the waiver for the continuous learning calendar for the above-named schools for the 2010-2011 school year.

Mrs. Woods noted the attachment indicates requested approval for the calendar is due to the Department of Education by November 1.

Dr. Sebring stated the district has some flexibility on the due date depending on the date of the Board meeting.

Woods moved to approve the continuous learning calendar. Second by Buckton.

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

Nay: None

Motion carried.

Item No. 13**Page 1 of 4****Subject: STATE MANDATED ACROSS THE BOARD (ATB) CUT****For: DISCUSSION****Contact: Patti Schroeder**

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

Attachment: None

Issue: On October 8, 2009, the Governor mandated an across the board cut in state funding of 10% 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 (as stated below) they would like administration to follow in making budgetary changes to balance the district's budget for the current year (FY 2010) given the state mandated ATB cut.
- Determine if the proposed strategies presented by administration to manage the state mandated across the board cut align to budget parameters.

Presenter: Patti Schroeder will present a list of strategies administration proposes to use to bring the budget into balance, given the ATB cut.

Background: The Governor has mandated that funds for all state funded programming, including all school districts in Iowa, be cut by 10% 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). Declines in state categorical grants, state funding received by the district indirectly via another agency, and interest income represent the remainder of the budget reductions.

Parameters for determining budget reductions include:

- Minimal affect on students
- Minimal affect on existing staffing during the current year (FY 2010)
- Sustainable, if possible, in the next year (FY 2011)
- Implemented quickly, given short timeline
- Realistic savings estimates
- Mindful use of one-time funding sources for on-going expenditures
- Maximum use of funds other than General Fund
- Flexibility in all district imposed restrictions

Minutes

Dr. Sebring stated the Business and Finance Department has been working to review all the various sources and put together a plan that will address the 10 percent budget cut during the existing school year.

Patti Schroeder presented an informational PowerPoint and indicated the 10 percent cut is more difficult midway through a school year than it would be planning the budget at the beginning of the fiscal year. She reviewed the parameters and the additional parameters the Board discussed at the last Board meeting on October 20. She asked the Board to allow non-compliance in some of the parameters set by the Board. Ms. Schroeder commented on the practices that are already being implemented for the non-grant-funded programs and the proposed timeline for future budget plans. She listed discussion questions the Board needs to consider.

Ms. Strong introduced discussion about short-term non-compliance with two management limitations.

Ms. Buckton commented on the wording in the policy governance Management Limitation 2.5. ML 2.5 states "the superintendent shall not present a budget that falls below a 3 percent solvency ratio for the general fund." Ms. Buckton noted that the superintendent is not presenting a budget at this time. A budget was already presented that met the management limitation. Also, the statement "the superintendent shall not plan the expenditure of more funds than are projected to be received in any given year" doesn't actually apply either, since the budget was already planned and the budget cut now requires a revision of the original plan that was in compliance. Her concern is the use of the word non-compliance insinuates something that does not put the superintendent in a fair position. Ms. Buckton suggested changing the policy governance wording such as "except under extraordinary circumstances when the district has to react to something that is outside of the district's control, such as an across-the-board cut." She also suggested including wording such as "the district would be in compliance at the point at which you presented the Board with a plan to restore the original objectives of a 3 percent solvency ratio, a 10 percent unspent spending ratio and planning for the return of expenditures that are not greater than received revenues in the current year." Ms. Buckton stated the Board needs to think about the policy, review it and come back and revise the policy after that process.

Mr. Murphy shared his concern with the recommendation to "be non-compliant" because it could be a few years before the district is in compliance. He agreed with Ms. Buckton's suggestion on revisions of the policy governance language.

Ms. Boesen stated the Board would work on revisions of the policies so the Board will have flexibility on all district-imposed restrictions.

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Ms. Caldwell-Johnson requested an explanation about the phrase “maximum use of funds other than General Fund.” Ms. Schroeder explained she considered how much could be taken from a fund this year, with the cut perhaps being sustained next year.

Dr. Sebring said this cut causes the district to review the range of options available for each funding source.

Ms. Buckton shared her concern about the use of money for training on the Iowa Core Curriculum. She suggested spending that money and taking an additional \$200,000 from the district’s unreserved general fund balance and continue to invest in improved instruction.

Ms. Schroeder explained every purchase request would be considered case-by-case and the Iowa Core Curriculum fund has a large carryover and does not anticipate a cut in that funding.

Mr. Murphy asked why there is such a large carryover in the Iowa Core Curriculum.

Dr. Sebring explained when the mandate was ordered, the district waited on Heartland and other agencies that were going to be a part of the staff training to initiate the training. The money was allocated but it did not need to be spent right away. It took some time to get the training program started around the state. She explained the district has embedded curriculum staff that other districts do not have. Des Moines was already working on the Iowa Core Curriculum before it was mandated.

Dr. Sebring and Ms. Schroeder stated more detailed information on the Iowa Core Curriculum funding will be provided to the Board before the next meeting.

Mrs. Woods asked about probable staff reductions and what the position savings of \$1.2 million represents.

Dr. Sebring verified there is not a list anywhere of staff reductions and the hope of the district is if there are staff reductions at all, they will be minimal. Part of the \$1.2 million figure represents positions being vacated, etc., which will be left vacant. She also stated the district was able to use some stimulus money to avoid layoffs last year and then created a substitute teacher pool. So rather than laying off teachers, 30 to 40 positions were put into that funding source and as jobs came open, the district took teachers out of the substitute teacher pool and filled positions.

Mrs. Woods asked about “freezing purchases” and is concerned about the amount of money the district spends at Office Depot and asked if this expenditure will be cut. Mrs. Woods had received several concerns around the purchasing of supplies out in

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buildings and not going through Central Stores. Products are being paid for but not received.

Dr. Sebring stated she would get more information back to the Board.

Ms. Boesen commented this is something that needs to be analyzed to figure out the best way to save the district money.

Dr. Sebring commented following this Board meeting, depending on the recommendations of the Board, there will be meetings scheduled in each region regarding the budget cuts. Dr. Sebring and Ms. Schroeder will make a similar presentation and answer any questions.

Ms. Boesen commended the finance committee for their work and minimizing staff layoffs.

Mr. Murphy stated the more difficult discussions will be in December when the district begins planning for the 2011 budget and communication with public and employees will be very important. He asked if the Board is being asked to allow the cash reserve fund budget adjustment for fiscal 2011.

Ms. Schroeder explained there is a cash reserve tax levy and this district has used it. When the reserves are depleted, the only way to build them back up is to cut expenditures or increase taxes.

Ms. Boesen asked if everyone agrees with the timeline presented and the Board agreed.

Item No. 14**Page 1 of 4****Subject: SCHOOLS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE****For: DISCUSSION****Contact: Jo Ellen Latham**
(joellen.latham@dmps.k12.ia.us ; 242-7568)**Attachments: 09-058**

Issue: According to the State Report Card for No Child Left Behind “public school districts and schools must report the academic progress of all students in grades 3 to 8 and 11, and students by subgroups and their test participation rates in the subject areas of reading and mathematics.” Public elementary and middle school average daily attendance rates (ADA) and public high school graduation rates are the additional indicators for public school districts.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The superintendent recommends the Board discuss the results and trends of academic progress and identify implications for potential future actions.

Presenter: Jo Ellen Latham

Background: If a school does not meet the annual Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) state participation goals or state Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) in reading or mathematics assessment in either the “all students” group or any one of the subgroups for two consecutive years, it is designated as a school in need of assistance.

Minutes

Speaker: Alan Young, DMEA president.

Ms. Boesen presented some background on SINA. If a school does not meet the annual, adequate yearly progress in state participation goals or state annual measurable objectives in reading or math assessment for two consecutive years, it is designated as a School in Need of Assistance. The Board asked for an annual progress report.

JoEllen Latham and Dr. Sebring presented the requested data to the Board.

Dr. Sebring commented that the district would like to bring this information to the Board periodically throughout the year.

Ms. Boesen commented the public can often be confused about what School in Need of Assistance entails and are not aware of the strict regulations and how difficult it is for schools to meet the regulations.

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Dr. Sebring stated from 2008-2009 the number of schools in need of assistance increased across the state from 21 to 102. There are several reasons for this and those were stated in the data that was presented.

JoEllen Latham is the K-12 Literacy Coordinator and also coordinates Title I efforts. She talked about the School in Need of Assistance status and how it relates to the Title schools.

Ms. Buckton asked what percent of students are in the 31 Title I schools in the district.

Ms. Latham responded a little less than 50 percent of students are in Title I schools (around 14,180 students).

Dr. Sebring added there is one high school, (North High became a Title school this year so they are not reflected in this data), four middle schools (Hiatt, Harding, Hoyt, and Weeks). Weeks became a Title school this year. The remainder are elementary schools.

Ms. Buckton asked how the literacy and math curriculum materials and training aligns with the Iowa Core Curriculum and the District Ends.

Ms. Latham reiterated Dr. Sebring's earlier statement that the district is fortunate to have curriculum folks who are embedded and working with schools. The materials are the materials to carryout the goals created. The Iowa Core Curriculum is about the interaction between the student and teacher in the presence of that content.

Ms. Strong asked what the extended learning programs are, and what schools were offering extended learning.

Ms. Latham explained that all of the Title schools are offering extended learning. Extended learning is any time beyond the normal school day.

Dr. Sebring stated time allotments and amount of time by grade level that is spent in math and literacy instruction should be presented to the Board.

Ms. Link commented the information that was presented tonight was a specific request from the Board.

Dr. Sebring explained the data presented applies to third-grade students and older but there have been a lot of changes made in preschool and K-2 programs, assessment being one of the changes. The goal continues to be grade-level proficiency by the end of third grade.

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Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked what time of year the schools are identified to be placed on the SINA list.

Dr. Sebring responded the assessments are administered in April and the results are back in June. The state allows a window of opportunity for appeals and then by fall the state makes the announcement publicly.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson requested a copy of the PowerPoint. She also commented it would be helpful to keep a tally of the status of each school to make sure they are headed in the right direction. This information would be helpful in analyzing whether programs in the district are successful. She also requested more information on the ELL program and how the district is supporting those students. She also asked how some of this data would change if it were not based on a full academic year.

Ms. Latham commented there is not a large difference in this data compared to a full academic year.

Ms. Caldwell-Johnson asked about the testing of students and whether they are tested even if they have not been in this country a full academic year.

Ms. Latham explained everyone is tested — data is collected on all students but for reporting purposes on No Child Left Behind, only those in the district for a full academic year are included on the state report. For district purposes, all student scores are studied.

Dr. Sebring added the federal requirement is 95 percent of all students be tested.

Mr. Murphy clarified that SINA stands for School in Need of Assistance and commented that the media will refer to SINA schools as failing schools. These schools are not failing. The schools are in need of assistance. Any school that serves a 65 percent to 90 percent free and reduced-lunch population is a School in Need of Assistance. The growing number of SINA schools is not an indication that our district is failing. The population of the school is changing and that is being reflected in data. Looking at the charts presented, there is growth in the schools. Seventeen percent of the students tested are ELL students. That percentage has an impact on whether the district improves or doesn't improve. The most important factor in terms of achievement in students is the socioeconomic status of the mother. The socioeconomic status of the ELL population who are in our district now is not high. He feels what the district is doing as far as curriculum is working but there are many other issues to deal with besides the curriculum.

Dr. Sebring stated the district just finished the state review as a District in Need of Assistance and have been working on the District in Need of Assistance Improvement

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Plan. The steps the district plans to take in terms of the District inNeed of Assistance status will be brought to the Board in the future. Dr. Sebring stated the district is in the process of submitting an AmeriCorps grant that will pay for fifty paid volunteers to work in the non-title schools as tutors and also to work with the new ELL elementary students coming into the district.