

SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
5740 NE 14th STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50313

BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

6:05 PM

Saydel District Office Board Room

November 23, 2015

- I. **Call the Meeting to Order** – Meeting called to order by President Brian Bowman at 7:00 PM
- A. **Roll Call** – Chad Vitiritto, Roland Kouski Jr., Henry Wood, Doug Kayser, Jenn Van Houten, Brian Bowman, present. Melissa Sassman, absent.
- B. **Approve Agenda** – Motion to approve the agenda by Chad Vitiritto, seconded by Jenn Van Houten. Motion carried 6/0.
- II. **Board Development**
- A. **Financial Indicators**
IASB would like school board members to be familiar with seven General Fund Key Financial Indicators. Ryan Eidahl, Business Manager, overviewed two of those seven factors. He explained Unspent Authorized Budget (UAB) Ratio and Annual Unspent Spending Authority. Ryan also shared a checklist Board members can use when auditing school bills.
- III. **Discussion / Action Items** –
- A. **Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment – Grading and Feedback**
Superintendent Mr. Douglas Wheeler began the presentation with a Know-Want to Know-Learned (K-W-L) strategy, asking the Board to reflect on what they know about Standards-Referenced Grading (SRG) and what they want to learn about SRG. Following the activity, Dr. Simone Alekno, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, explained that SRG is a system of teaching, assessing, and providing feedback. Grading is based on end-of-year expectations or standards, and the feedback is based on a four-point scale. Dr. Alekno outlined the differences between traditional grading and SRG. She showed sample report cards of traditional and SRG-based grading. The Board watched a video by Dr. Douglas Reeves titled “Toxic Grading Practices” and reviewed a complete summary of these practices. Several testimonial videos were shared of sixth grade students talking about the benefits and their experiences with SRG. Then the Board graded a messy room using the traditional system followed by four-point scale grading of 1) Not Proficient 2) Partially Proficient 3) Proficient 4) Exemplary. Following discussion, Mr. Wheeler and Dr. Alekno outlined a working timeline for the implementation of SRG. The Board completed the K-W-L worksheet, reflecting on what they learned about SRG and what they still want to learn during future educational sessions.
- IV. **Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Jenn Van Houten, seconded by Roland Kouski Jr. Motion carried 6/0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Brian Bowman, Board President

Beth Vitiritto, Board Secretary

The next scheduled Regular Board Meeting is Monday, December 14 at 6 PM in the Board Room at the Saydel District Office.