

SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
5740 NE 14<sup>th</sup> STREET  
DES MOINES, IA 50313

BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

6:05 PM

Saydel District Office Board Room

March 23, 2015

- I. Call the Meeting to Order – Meeting called to order by Vice President, Chairperson Pro Tem Paul Breitbarth at 6:27 PM
  - A. Roll Call – Paul Breitbarth, Ray Livingston, Rob Stephenson, Henry Wood, Melissa Sassman, Kyle Prendergast, present. Brian Bowman, absent.
  - B. Approve Agenda – Motion to approve by Melissa Sassman, seconded by Ray Livingston. Motion carried 6/0.
  
- II. Board Development
  - A. *The Essential School Board*, Chapter 5 – Director Prendergast  
*The Essential School Board Book* by Nancy Walser is a book the Board is utilizing for Board Development. It highlights effective practices that are common to high-functioning boards around the country. Kyle Prendergast shared an overview of Chapter 5: “When Things Go Right.” Themes identified in his presentation included the importance of being a learning board, communicating and engaging with the public, and monitoring progress toward goals as well as monitoring the work of the leadership of a district and whether it makes a difference for students (which is also known as alignment).
  - B. *The Essential School Board*, Chapter 6 – Director Sassman  
 Chapter 6 titled “Looking Ahead” from *The Essential School Board Book* by Nancy Walser was reviewed by Melissa Sassman. One of the concepts she summarized focused on the benefits of shared leadership and two-way interaction involving parents, local employers, and tax payers. Other highlights from the chapter centered on recruiting the right future board members and sustaining district efforts to seek to guarantee continuity of a board’s most important initiatives, processes, and practices.
  
- III. District Technology Update  
 Chris Stammerman, District Technology Director, attended the workshop and provided the Board with a technology update in the Saydel Schools. In his 1:1 Update, Chris shared information on the re-cabling and wireless rollout, 1:1 news about computers at Woodside and Saydel High School, LanSchool implementation, and details on the future Support Model for 1:1. He gave each Board member hands-on experience using Chromebooks. Chromebooks will be used in grades 5th-8<sup>th</sup>, beginning with the 2015-16 school year. Chris explained the working environment for Google Chrome and outlined the flexibility of Chromebooks. He also provided an update on other technology in the District, internet issues, PowerSchool, and the possibility/advantages of a State Student Information System. When updating the Board about the District website/social media sites, Chris shared statistics and details on how the sites are maintained and utilized. Other topics covered during the update focused on Schoology, the results of the Clarity Technology Survey, and new technology

planned for the future, including digital signage at the high school, more video streaming, and utilization of The Cloud services.

IV. Staffing Discussion

Superintendent Mr. Douglas Wheeler shared a proposal to change the structuring of several staffing positions within Saydel CSD. He summarized the proposed changes, additions, rationale, and budget impact, and then the Board provided feedback.

V. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Melissa Sassman, seconded by Henry Wood. Motion carried 6/0. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM

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Paul Breitbarth, Vice President, Chairperson Pro Tem

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Beth Vitiritto, Board Secretary

The next scheduled Board meeting is Monday, April 13 and the next scheduled Board Work Session is Monday, April 27. Both will be at 6 PM and they will be held in the Board Room at the Saydel District Office.