



Iowa City Community School District

Educational Services Center

Stephen F. Murley Superintendent of Schools

509 South Dubuque Street • Iowa City, IA 52240 • (319) 688-1000 • Fax (319) 688-1009 • www.iccsd.k12.ia.us

**MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
509 S. DUBUQUE STREET, IOWA CITY, IA 52240
SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 8:15AM**

Members Present: Gayle Klouda, Toni Cilek, Tuyet Dorau, Stephen Murley
Also Present: Becky Furlong, Pam Ehly

Meeting called to order at 8:15am.

Approve February 28, 2011 Minutes

Minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting were approved.

Compliance Report for Ends Policy

Murley asked the committee to afford him and his administrative team the opportunity to reinterpret the compliance report and revise it to reflect what they believe was the intent of the language written. He believes the overall intent is to analyze trends over time to ensure achievement stays consistent or improves for all students, including those at the top and to make progress toward closing the achievement gap at the bottom. The committee agreed it would be appropriate to do so. The committee will inform the Board at Tuesday's meeting that Murley presented the interpretation of the policy requirements to this committee and they agree it reflects what the Board intended the policies require of administration. The interpretation will be revised and brought back to the September 27, 2011 Board meeting.

Consultant's Suggested Changes to Committee Charter Language

The committee discussed the recommended charter changes suggested by Jim Hyatt. The major change for the finance committee charter was extending the role of the committee to include the audit. The current charter doesn't disallow the committee to take an active role in the audit but Hyatt recommends specifying this role in the committee charter. Other recommended changes to the finance committee charter were more language changes than changes in the committee's role or function. Hyatt recommends similar language changes be made to all board committee charters to better fit the Carver model. Cilek stated it would be hard for new committee members (who could be new to the Board) to have a meaningful discussion about this with no experience to draw on. Dorau stated it could be a productive mechanism for new members to learn how policy governance works. Two of the three committee members were in agreement to recommend to the Board that the recommended changes to the charters be put on hold while the new Board members become familiar with the Board's governance system. There will be no recommendation as the entire committee did not agree.

Future Work of the Governance Committee

Kluda stated she feels the monitoring reports are the most important work for the committee in the immediate future and that the Governance Committee meetings could be used to stay one step ahead of the monitoring reports to be given to the board, working with the administration to help them develop the first round of reports. Murley inquired if there is merit to bringing drafts of reports to the Governance Committee (or appropriate committee) first. Kluda agreed that this is what she was suggesting - that the tennis match could begin in committee instead of at the board table. Dorau inquired that if committees were not supposed to make recommendations to the superintendent what would be the purpose of advance reports. Kluda stated for feedback only regarding the administrations provision of board required reports. They would not be making recommendations regarding district operations. The committee discussed the importance of Board member adherence to Governance Policy.

Dorau stated that the committee should review the data from constituent surveys that will be collected by the administration this fall. The purpose would be to look for governance implications. She also recommended that the board be included in the survey process.

The meeting was adjourned.