

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
October 22, 2020**

A virtual Board Workshop of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:00pm.

School Board Members present via virtual meeting: Andrea Valderrama, Board Chair; Sahar Muranovic, Vice Chair; Donna Barber, Aaron Barrow, Frieda Christopher, Christine Larsen, and Stephanie D. Stephens.

Also present via virtual meeting: Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Candy Wallace, Assistant Superintendent; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; Derek Edens, Director of Assessment & Technology; Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Kelly Devlin, Director of ESL & Equity; Mary Pearson, Director of Student Services, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The Workshop Agenda included the following.

Call to Order / Native American Land Acknowledgement

Agenda Overview & Workshop Goals – Ms. Valderrama stated we are deep into Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL) due to the Coronavirus pandemic and all of our elementary students are using the new FuelEd Curriculum. The Board Workshop is a space to discuss what we are hearing and learn how it's going.

- How can we continue to support and improve?
- Important to listen to the administrators, teachers, and parents on how it's going.
- Review of CDL and how to move forward.

FuelEd Curriculum Presentation – Ms. O'Neill presented on the new FuelEd Curriculum for elementary students. She stated that a normal curriculum adoption takes a year to a year and half because they do research on practices, study standards, look at state adopted materials, and go through a deep dive process. With FuelEd this did not happen due to the shift to CDL.

- Common Terms.
 - Platform: Online School, Google Classroom, and Seesaw.
 - Video conferencing for live synchronous sessions: Newrow and Google Meets.
 - Curriculum: FuelEd from K12.
- Role of the Learning Coach: any individual providing support and instruction to our students.
- Why fuelED? Short term solution for COVID and a one-year adoption.
 - For students and families: hands on learning, accessibility tools, digital library, supplemental resource, and can support CDL and Hybrid model.
 - For Teachers: comprehensive curriculum, teacher managed, one platform, and standards based.
 - For District: data reports.
- Onboarding FuelEd Process.
 - Demo accounts for teachers, students, and the District.
 - Explore the platform.
 - See curriculum and lesson guides.
 - Managing courses and assigning lessons.
 - Professional learning: 10 hours of required training and optional training.
 - Optional office hours: provided for troubleshooting, assistance with navigation, or how to support.
- School Based Supports: designated planning time, school-based training, and instructional coach support.
- Family Support Information: overview video, orientation sessions, and help desk.
- Where Are We Now?
 - Week 1: 10/5 Relaxed Start with English Language Arts & Math
 - Week 2: 10/12 Science
 - Week 3: 10/19 SS/History
 - Week 4: 10/26 Art & Stride

- Materials distribution this week: 23,180 boxes of materials to support offline instruction for students.
- FuelEd and Newrow Supports: daily meetings, inquiry/tech issue tracker form, collaboration with SAS and FuelEd trainer, and direct connection with Newrow developer.
- Ongoing District Supports.
- Issues and Steps for Solutions.

Community Input – Staff members, students, and a parent gave their feedback on FuelEd and CDL.

Lincoln Fisher, district teacher

- District did a great job getting material resources to families.
- Student participation is better now compared to the spring.
- Newrow feedback from families is the video looks choppy.
- In FuelEd the quizzes and assessments have had glitches.
- Language barriers for families.
- He sees his new groups of students learning, making friends, and sharing ideas.

Jessica Frazier, district teacher

- Three weeks in and it's a 100% better.
- The transition from Google Classroom to Newrow was hard.
- Appreciates the weekly platform of what the kids do.
- The work is challenging for students but they are getting it.
- Parent communication is better.
- Technology issues have been hard.

Carla Montoya, district teacher

- The transition to FuelEd was hard and late.
- Started on Google Classroom and had to get creative to do activities virtually.
- Using FuelEd in Newrow: adhering to one platform.
- Kids doing good and getting more assignments done each week.
- Data points to show growth. Doesn't think they can get through all the lessons this year.

Holly Schauer, district principal

- Asked her teachers and Student Achievement Specialists for feedback on FuelEd.
- Online components are fun, interactive, and engaging for students.
- Easy to assign students work, examine the work, and see progress.
- Sees the excitement of students getting hands on materials.
- Technical challenges.
- Options for phonics instruction has become more limited.
- Most of the materials are language heavy.

Wendy Markt, district parent

- Learning curve with FuelEd but getting the hang of it.
- Liked the physical materials. Her kids were very excited to get them.
- Happy they switched back to Google meets for classroom meetings. Important to see classmates.
- Teachers have done a good job teaching the students to do things on their own.
- Important for kids to do their work at their level.
- Can see on her computer if kids have done their work.

Sahan Jama, district student

- The lessons are good.
- Newrow has glitches and is chaotic.
- Breakout rooms are full on chaos.

Saharla Jama, district student

- Newrow is crazy with kids constantly talking in the chat.
- Feels like kids are messing around and not listening to their teacher.
- Breakout rooms are pure anarchy.

Discussion + Next Steps – The remaining time was open for discussion. Board members were able to ask questions and express any concerns.

- There is a general agreement that things have improved.
- Still a lot of challenges that are concerning.
- Google Meets vs Newrow: concerned we are losing dollars.

- The District does not pay individually for Google Meets and Google Classroom. Packaged as one.
- Newrow is packaged in with FuelEd Curriculum priced at \$150 per student license.
- Options give flexibility to teachers who have different comfort levels and needs.
- What is the best preferred platform option for students?
- Parent response around Newrow: kids are crying, being muted and not seen raising their hands. Seems it is a flawed system itself.
- It's important for students to be able to see each other.
- Newrow is chaotic and messy on the screen. Benefit to only seeing 5 classmates because kids are moving around so much and this can be distracting.
- Complaints from teachers that they haven't had time to adjust.
- Community partner organizations to help support students struggling with language barriers.
 - The District is in contact with community partners. They are connecting with families on wrap around support and making sure that their basic needs are met.
- FuelEd is not as culturally competent as would like it to be. Some teachers are supplementing for this.
- Would like to hear from our families about how they are doing in a few weeks.
- Moving forward: will continue the conversation and weekly updates will be provided to the Board.



Andrea Valderrama, Board Chair



Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk