

St. Louis Park Public Schools  
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting  
Monday, January 23, 2006 7:00 pm  
St. Louis Park Senior High Room 350C

The regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 283 of St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, convened at 7:00 pm on Monday, January 23, 2006, in St. Louis Park Senior High Room 350C. Present were Board Nancy Gores, Rolf Peterson, Bruce Richardson, Larry Shapiro, Julie Sweitzer, Jerry Timian, and Jim Yarosh, Superintendent Debra Bowers, Assistant Superintendent Dan Walker, Director of Business Services Jeff Priess, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Barbara DeMaster, Director of Special Services Tami Reynolds, and Secretary to the Board Suzanne Hillstrom.

**SPOTLIGHT – Boys’ State Participant Andrew Palmberg**

Mr. Lee Tallackson of the St. Louis Park American Legion Post introduced Andrew Palmberg, representative to the 2005 Boys’ State. Andrew was elected by his peers to the position of Attorney General as well as an alternate to Boys’ Nation. Boys attend the event for a week in June and focus on government structure.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Sweizer to approve the corrected minutes of the December 12, 2005 regular Board meeting to correct a name typo. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Gores to approve the corrected minutes of the January 9, 2006 regular Board meeting to correct name of PSI teacher presenter to delete “senora”. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Richardson to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2006 special Board. Motion carried 7-0.

**OPEN FORUM - none**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Bowers reported that the Friends of the Arts have contributed \$200 to the senior high choir. In addition, the district has received a \$280,000 grant to implement K-12 aligned curriculum. High school graduation requirement will change for the class of 2009. Changes will include a required grade 11 world history class as well as grade 11 full year English. The final QComp application was submitted last Friday and we will now wait for the Minnesota Department of Education to respond.

**STUDY SESSION TOPICS**

Policy Review

Under the direction of consultant Mitchell Trockman, the Board continued discussion of the revision of the District Policy Manual. The following policies are under consideration for inclusion in the District Policy Manual. Policy 907-Rewards is required by state law and must be adopted before the District could authorize rewards for accurate and reliable information leading to the conviction of a person committing or conspiring to commit a crime. Policy 209.1- Use of E-mail by School Board Members prohibits Board Members from engaging in discussions via electronic mail. These policies will be acted upon tonight.

The Board received the second reading of the following policies with recommendations:

JB	Equal Educational Opportunities	Update; Replace with <b>MSBA 102 Equal Educational Opportunity</b>
JC	School Attendance Areas	Reaffirm; renumber (503.2)
JCFE	Dangerous Weapons	Replace with <b>MSBA 501 School Weapons</b>
JEA	Compulsory Attendance Age	Reviewed by Principals; replace with <b>MSBA 503 Student Attendance</b>
JEB	Entrance Age	Update; verify; renumber (503.1)
JECA	Admission of Resident Students	Update; renumber (503.3)
JECB	Admission of Non-Resident Students	Reviewed by Principals; replace with <b>MSBA 509 Enrollment of Nonresident Students</b>
JECC	Assignment of Students to Schools	Reaffirm; renumber (503.4)
JEF	Released Time for Students	Reaffirm; renumber (503.5)
JEFB	Released Time for Religious Instruction	Dissolve; Included in <b>503</b>

The Board received the first reading of policy 812 – Use and Conservation of Energy. Discussion considered need for policy and it is the administrative recommendation to adopt this policy in the district’s effort to conserve energy and lower energy costs.

The Board received the following policies, which are under consideration for deletion from Section I – Instruction:

IFA	Curriculum Research
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IFC	Pilot Project Evaluation
IGAB	Human Relations Education
IGAD	Occupational Education
IGAF	Physical Education
IGAJ	Driver Education
IGCD	Advanced College Placement
IGDC	Student Social Events
IGCG	Student Activities Funds Management
IHA	Grouping for Instruction
IIBA	Teacher Aides
IIBD	School Libraries
IMA	Student Mathematics and Reading Progress Checks (Assurance of Mastery)

2006-07 Budget Update

Director of Business Services Jeff Priess presented information on the development of the 2006-07 budget. Budget assumptions are based on enrollment projections and staffing needs as well as general education revenue. The district’s goal is to deliver to the School Board a balanced budget having satisfactorily addressed the identified challenges by June, 2006.

Specialists Study Summary

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Barbara DeMaster shared information of how St. Louis Park compares with other districts regarding the usage of specialists in the areas of elementary art, music, physical education, band and orchestra.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the consent agenda for Personnel and Business as presented. Approval of the consent agenda included confirmation of the Children First Coordinator Contract for 2005-06 and 2006-07, which was approved by the Children First Executive Committee on December 12, 2005. Motion passed 7-0.

**ACTION AGENDA**

Policy Action

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Gores to approve Policy 209.1 – Use of E-Mail by School Board Members. Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Sweitzer, seconded by Shapiro to approve Policy 907 - Rewards. Motion passed 7-0.

Sale of Tax Anticipation Certificates

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Shapiro to award the sale of Tax Anticipation Certificates to Parker Hunter at a net interest rate of 3.40%. Motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Tentative Board Meeting Dates

A motion was made by Peterson seconded by Shapiro to approve the following Tentative Board Meeting dates for 2006-07: August 14; September 11, 25; October 9, 23; November 13, 27; December 11; January 8, 22; February 12, 26; March 12, 26; April 9, 23; May 14, 29\* (Tuesday to accommodate for Memorial Day holiday); June 11, 25. Motion passed 7-0 by a roll call vote.

Compensation for School Board Members

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Gores to approve the compensation for School Board members to increase by 3%. Board member compensation increases to \$3,131 for Directors and Treasurer; \$3,502 for Clerk, and \$3,780 for Chair. Sweitzer amended the motion with approval from Timian and Gores that should a special meeting occur on the day of a regularly scheduled Board meeting, the Board member would not receive extra compensation for that special meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS**

Richardson reminded the Board and community that One Act Plays are being presented this weekend. Peterson reported that the Board attended the MSBA event where former Board member Broady was named to the Minnesota All-State School Board. Gores commented on the death of 2004 Teacher of the Year Tom Keating who was recently killed in a car accident. Keating taught at Monticello’s Turning Point Alternative School.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by made by Gores, seconded by Richardson to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

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Rolf Peterson, Clerk

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Jim Yarosh, Chair