

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2007 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 7:09 pm on Monday, March 12, 2007, in St. Louis Park Senior High Room 350C. Present were Board Members Nancy Gores, Rolf Peterson, Bruce Richardson, Jerry Timian, Larry Shapiro, Julie Sweitzer and Jim Yarosh, Superintendent Debra Bowers, Assistant Superintendent Dan Walker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Barbara DeMaster, Director of Community Education Linda Saveraid, Director of Student Services Tami Reynolds and Secretary to the Board Suzanne Hillstrom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

STUDY SESSION TOPICS

SEE (Schools for Energy Efficiency) Report

Energywise Consultant Anne Anderson updated the Board on the district efforts to be more efficient in energy use. Goals of the program include a 10% decrease in energy use across the District and Energy Star Ratings for all facilities. From the onset of the program in September 2005 through November 2006, the district experienced over \$133,000 in cost avoidance, which represents an 11% savings. In addition, the district received the Energy Star Rating award. During an Energy Week in January, students and staff in classroom buildings conducted energy saving activities and focused on learning more energy saving techniques. Anderson reported that each quarter during the program, the district has experienced increased success.

Children First Annual Report

Children First coordinator Karen Atkinson and students Dana Bloomquist and Natasha Hultmann presented a progress report on the Asset Champions Network format currently being implemented. Dana hosted the game "Who wants to be an asset builder?" as board member Peterson answered questions about St. Louis Park students and the 40 assets identified as important to successful and productive young people. Children First spreads the message about developmental assets and this format is embedding the message throughout the community, inspiring individuals and organizations to build assets in young people. The Children First Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, May 20 at the St. Louis Park Recreation Center.

School Report – Senior High School

Senior High Principal Bob Laney and Assistant Principal Clarence Pollock updated the Board on the senior high's accountability report with regard to writing and reading assessments, as well as the IB, AP and ACT results for the Class of 2006. The 2005-06 writing goal was that 94% of the 10th graders taking the MCA writing test, who have attended Park since the beginning of 9th grade, will achieve a score of 3 or better. Results: 1) 328 students took the assessment; 2) 28 scored 2 or lower; 3) 9 of the 28 had attended Park in 9th grade; 4) 97% of those who attended Park since the beginning of 9th grade passed the MCA test. The senior high did not have a reading goal during this year, but staff has focused on supplying additional support to struggling students for the past 5 years. St. Louis Park Senior High has been recognized nationally as one of News Week Magazine 1000 schools (in top 500) and the 9th grade program was highlighted in the MN Department of education's Blueprints publications, Summer 2006 issue. In addition, the 9th grade transition program is now being replicated in Kentucky and Wisconsin as well as several districts here in Minnesota. Laney introduced plans to coordinate the high school alternative program with District 287 services.

Policy Review / Development

Consultant Mitch Trockman continued the review and update of the District Policy Manual. Policies and recommendations presented for a first reading include:

<u>POLICY</u>		<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
IIAAA	Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources	Revise; renumber 524
618	Assessment of Standard Achievement	NEW
620	Credit for Learning	NEW
AF	Commitment to Accomplishment	Eliminate; included in 616 Systems Accountability

AMSD Update

Board chair Jim Yarosh presented the 2007 AMSD Legislative Platform. Priorities include funding, the P.S. Minnesota Initiative, enhancing student achievement, reducing mandates, technology and facility funding and property tax relief. For more information, check the AMSD website www.AMSD.org.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Peterson to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Rolf Peterson, Clerk

Jim Yarosh, Chair

