

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, March 26, 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 7:01 pm on Monday, March 26, 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, Asst Supt Dan Walker, Director of Business Services Jeff Priess, Director of Community Education Linda Saveraid, Director of Student Services Tami Reynolds, and Secretary to the Board Suzanne Hillstrom.

SPOTLIGHT

Junior LaiShema Hampton was recognized as a recipient of Minnesota State High School League 2007 ExCEL Award.

The following students were recognized for participation in state level competition:

Nordic Ski team: Meghan Cornwall, Lindsey Johnson, Tim Cheesebro, Andrew Tilman and Tyler Hendrickson, coach Doug Johnson.

Boys' Swim Team: Nick Veazie, Erik McCaque, Jared Jensen and Joe Lahti, coach Amanda Forsberg.

Math Team: Sean Vig, Matt Portnoe, Ben Segal, Brian Ford, Justin Carlson, Sam Burke, Jessica Laucher, Louis Peterson and Andrew Ford, coaches Kristin Johnson and Gloria Kruppstadt.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Gores to approve the agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2007 regular meeting, Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Shapiro to approve the corrected minutes of the March 12, 2007 special meeting, including Richardson in attendance. Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 regular meeting, Motion passed 7-0.

OPEN FORUM

The following parents/community members spoke in support of retaining German as a language option for students: Alex Chong, Petra Schwartze, and Susan Benus.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bowers thanked the community for their support of the St. Louis Park Empty Bowls program, which was held recently as a fundraiser for the local food shelf. The St. Louis Park Noon Rotary is purchasing dictionaries for each third grader in the district. On April 18th, there will be a concentrated effort to communicate to legislators via email or letters the need for increased funding for schools.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Senior High Mentorship Program

Senior High staff members Stacy Collins and Shlynn Hayes updated the Board on the senior high Student Advocacy Programs, which are held to increase student achievement among African American students. Programs at the high school include H.A.P. (High Achievement Program), Boys to Men Circle (weekly support and advocacy group grades 9-12), and YODA (Young Women of Divine achievements (weekly support group grades 9-12). Next step plans are to expand the high achievement program at the junior high, to increase participation in high school tutoring and academic programming, and to increase numbers and role of parent advisory group. Assistant Principal Clarence Pollock addressed plans for the 2007-08 New Alternative Learning Program for senior high students. Pollock explained that the reason for revamping the alternative program is that the expenditures are well over the revenue designated for the program. The proposed program will be held in coordination with services from District 287 and will include core academic classes in the morning and choices for the afternoon, which would include technical classes or work for credit classes.

Policy Review/Development

The Board continued the review and updating of the District Policy Manual. Policies presented for a final 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

Policies presented for a first reading include:

<u>Policy</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
901 Community Education	NEW
BHD Board Member Compensation and Expenses	Revise; renumber 215
CA District Goals	Reaffirm; renumber 108
CB Superintendent of School	Replace with MSBA Model Policy 302
CHD Administration in Policy Absence	Eliminate; included in 302

Saveraid reported that the Community Education policy has been accepted by the Community Education Advisory Council.

Budget Update

Director of Business Affairs Jeff Priess updated the Board on the development of the 2007-08 budget. Information presented included staffing adjustments, revenue and expenditure assumptions and projections of year-end fund balance.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Sweitzer, seconded by Shapiro, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Consent Agenda – Business included a resolution authorizing entry into joint powers agreement, in the form of a declaration of Trust establishing the “MN Trust”, and authorizing participation therein. Consent Agenda – Personnel included the announced retirements of Cedar Manor Principal Bernice Amberg and Assistant Superintendent Dan Walker, both effective June 30, 2007. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Policy Approval

A motion was made by Sweitzer, seconded by Gores, to approve the following changes to the District Policy Manual. Motion passed 7-0.

<u>Policy</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
IIAAA Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources	Revise; renumber 524
618 Assessment of Standard Achievement	NEW
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Probational Non-renewals

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Timian, to approve non-renewal of the following of probationary contracts: Cheryl Edwards, Nathan Pollock, Marie Maslowski, Roxann Kelly, Jennifer Magdaal, Justin Barbeau, Stephanie Henstein, Jennifer Beenan, Joy Schweitzer, Kathleen Kirlin, Lindsay Ruliffson, Mark Bawek, Michael Melling, William Stenross, Jennifer Lucke, Nancy Saufley, MaryBeth Groff, Paula Knutson, Alayna Bloom, Arika Mareck, David Chvojicek, Kelly Barrick, Michael O’Clary, Tiffany Ley, Timothy McManus, Jamie Monson, Christine Trombley, Cindy Jacobs, Nicole Daly, Isabel Samaha, Stephanie Denhartog, Anna Hutchinson, Julie Lund, Alicean Caskey, Ellen Staib, and Amands Creed-Schnack. Motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Unrequested Leave Placement

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Timian, to approve non-renewal of contracts of the following tenured teachers: Debra Bauer, David Breitenbucher, Kathleen Goeddeke, AmyJo Hyde, amy Martinson, Scyler Shearer, Allison Vlack, and Diane Zielke. Motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Gores thanked parents for the high level and appropriate conversations they have had with the board with regard to the world language offering decision.

Gores also announced that the 7th grade girls’ traveling basketball team won the state championship.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Timian to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Rolf Peterson, Clerk

Jim Yarosh, Chair

