

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2006 7:00 pm
St. Louis Park Senior High Room 350C

Prior to the regular meeting, the Board hosted a reception for the 2006 Retirees.

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, April 24, 2006, in St. Louis Park Senior High Room 350C. Present were board members Nancy Gores, Rolf Peterson, Bruce Richardson, Larry Shapiro, Julie Sweitzer, Jerry Timian, and Jim Yarosh, Assistant Superintendent Dan Walker, Director of Business Services Jeff Priess, Director of Community Education Linda Saveraid, Director of Special Services Tami Reynolds, and Secretary to the Board Suzanne Hillstrom.

POINT OF LIGHT

The Board recognized the following 2006 retirees:

Carrie Beckman, 22 years of service, currently Student Services Secretary at the Junior High.

Phyllis Bronson, 16 years of service, currently 1st grade teacher at Aquila.

Barb Daly, 25 years of service, currently Accounts Payable clerk at District Office.

Joe Getty, 21 years of service, currently senior high English teacher.

Eva Lane, 22 years of service in St. Louis Park (total 35 years teaching), currently 4th grade teacher at Cedar Manor.

Micki Danovsky, 21 of service, all as secretary in Community Education.

Joanne Evers, 21 years of service in food service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Sweitzer (with an amendment to move the MAAP Stars report to prior to the Superintendent's report) to approve the agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2005 regular Board meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Richardson to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2006 regular Board. Motion passed 7-0.

OPEN FORUM

The following community members addressed the Board regarding the Early Childhood Special Education program: MaryKay Stranik, Darcie Steeves, Jenifer Robins, Karen Cadigan Jody Murrens, Heather Hesteness, Sharon Duncan, and Laura Silberfarb. Parents Mitchell Sledge and Joan Guenzel spoke to needs of expanding the Park Spanish Immersion program; and parents Julie Andrews and Amy Burns spoke in support of Early Childhood Family Education programs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bowers acknowledged the 10-year anniversary of the children's Clinic located at Central Community Center. The clinic began as a joint venture between St. Louis Park Schools, community groups and the Park Nicollet clinic, is open 2 half days per week and provides free services to children and youth under 18. The clinic has recently moved to a convenient location on first floor at Central Community Center. She announced that next week is Volunteer recognition week. Special Education consultant Don Loe made recommendations that he suggests to make our ECSE programs more efficient. His opinion is that the recommended budget reductions will not affect programs effectiveness for students.

STUDY SESSION TOPICS

MAAP Stars Presentation

Eddie Jeffery, Alyssa Wolfe, and Julian Brown, students from the senior high alternative program who competed over spring break at the state MAAP Stars conference presented information about their community service project, which placed first in this year's competition. Their project was a mentoring project in coordination with 8th students from the junior high. Additional students who participated included Ashley Abramovitz and Jessica Colstrom. The group is advised by Sara Speicher.

Superintendent's Budget Recommendations

Superintendent Bowers outlined her recommendations for the 2007 budget. Bower's recommendations included reducing the planned ECSE budget reductions from \$300,000 to \$205,000. Her proposal followed Special Education Consultant Don Loe's recommendations which, in his opinion, will not affect program effectiveness for students. Dan Walker reported on reallocation of space at Central Community Center, which will be a more efficient use of space to coincide with students' needs and activities within the ECSE and community education areas. Tami Reynolds and Louise Raths reported on how the special education department plans to measure student progress in 2006-07. They will gather information via parent and staff surveys to assess overall success and will assess individual students' success through progress results of IEPs as well as other measuring tools.

A public budget hearing will be held on May 22 and the Board will approve the 2007 budget at the June 26 meeting. Board member Timian encouraged community members to elect public officials who will be advocates for funding of public education programs.

Park Spanish Immersion Enrollment Report

Lynda Stanley, Student Data Systems Specialist, reported on the enrollment process and results for the Park Spanish Immersion Kindergarten enrollment for 2006-07. Ninety-two students have been accepted for next year’s kindergarten class and 108 students are on a wait list. Stanley reported that the kindergarten information nights were well attended and parents were given multiple opportunities to learn about kindergarten program options in St. Louis Park.

Policy Review

The Board received a final reading and discussed the following policies, which are under consideration for deletion:

- LA Education Agency Relations Goals
- LB Relations with Other Schools and School Districts
- LD Relations with Cultural Institutions
- LE Relations with Colleges and Universities
- KA School-Community Relations Goals
- KB Public Information Program
- KBA The Public’s Right to Know
- KBF Use of Students in Public Information Programs
- KC Family Involvement Policy
- KG Community Use of School Facilities
- KI Charity Drives in the Schools
- KN Relations with Government Authorities

The Board received a first reading of the following policies for consideration of adoption or replacement of policies in the current district policy manual:

		<u>Replaces</u>	
609	Religion	IGAC	Teaching About Religion
610	Field Trips	IICA	Student Travel (Field Trips and Excursions)
616	School District System Accountability	IMAB	(same name)
619	Staff Development for Standards		new

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Richardson to approve the consent agenda for Personnel and Business as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Policy Action

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Shapiro to approve deletion of the following policies from the District Policy Manual as they are already covered by state statute or are no longer pertinent to School Board Direction: Motion passed 7-0.

- LA Education Agency Relations Goals
- LB Relations with Other Schools and School Districts
- LD Relations with Cultural Institutions
- LE Relations with Colleges and Universities
- KA School-Community Relations Goals
- KB Public Information Program
- KBA The Public’s Right to Know
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Establish Date for Budget Hearing- Budget

A motion was made by Sweitzer, seconded by Shapiro to approve that the Board/School District will hold a public hearing to present 2007 budget information on Monday, May 22, 2006. Motion passed 7-0.

Resolution for MN State High School League Membership

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Gores to approve renewal of membership in the Minnesota State High School League. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by made by Timian, seconded by Gores to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Rolf Peterson, Clerk

Jim Yarosh, Chair