

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 29, 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 7:03 pm on Tuesday, May 29, 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 (7:20) and Jim Yarosh, Superintendent Debra Bowers, Asst Supt 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 Richardson seconded by Shapiro to approve the agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Shapiro to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 special meeting, Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Timian, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 regular meeting, Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Timian to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2007 Board Retreat, Motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Gores to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2007 regular meeting, Motion passed 7-0.

OPEN FORUM

Parent Cathy Murphy spoke in support of the work of the Chemical Health Specialists.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bowers addressed the proposed funding that the district may expect to receive over the next two years as a result of legislative action. In a bill not yet signed by Governor Pawlenty, the legislature is recommending 2% funding formula in year 1 and 1% in year 2. The year 2 recommendation is less than the expected 2% increase. Cities 97 has awarded grants to the following programs: Meadowbrook - \$6,000; Teens Alone- \$6,000; and \$15,000 to the St. Louis Park Senior Program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

PSI Kindergarten Enrollment Report

Student Data Systems Specialist Lynda Stanley presented the annual report on the Park Spanish Immersion kindergarten enrollment for 2007-08. Ninety-one students have been admitted to the program as kindergarten students for the 2007-08 school year. Of the 139 St. Louis Park residents that applied, 59 are on the resident wait list; of 48 open enrollment applicants, 37 are on the open enrollment wait list. The 11 students accepted under open enrollment were accepted under the following provisions: sibling preference (6), "Choice is Yours" (2), and students of staff (3).

Policy Review/Development

The following policies and recommendations were presented as part of the continuation of the updating of the District Policy Manual. Policies/recommendations presented for a first reading include:

<u>Policy</u>		<u>Recommendation</u>
102	Equal Educational Opportunity	Revise; includes Equity Team Plan and Procedure
FF	Naming of Facilities	Revise; renumber 810
ABA	Community Involvement in Decision Making	Revise; renumber 905
AC	Equal Opportunity	Eliminate; included in 102

Policies presented for a final reading include:

<u>Policy</u>		<u>Recommendation</u>
EEA	Student Transportation Services	Revise to MSBA Model Policy 707 Transportation of Public School Students
IGDF	Student Fundraising Activities	Revise; renumber 650
KBFA	Distribution of Announcements and Other Information Through the Schools	Revise; renumber 550

Board member Gores requested continued review of Policy 707 Transportation of Public School Students.

Superintendent's Budget Recommendations

Superintendent Bowers outlined the basis for the recommended budget for the 2007-08 school year. Discussion included staffing as well as resolution of the following possible reduction concerns: elementary choir, fine arts, chemical health specialist, Title I coordination, and world language. Some programs will remain intact, however there will be changes in the way services are delivered or programs are coordinated. Bowers also cited Superintendent Grants that programs received during the 2006-07 to help close the achievement gaps.

Vision St. Louis Park Report

Bridget Gothberg and Marcia Honald, representing the City of St. Louis Park presented an update of the progress of the Vision St. Louis Park citizen action teams. This report was a result of the revisiting of the vision goals established in 1995 with regard to plans and strategic recommendations regarding the future of St. Louis Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Richardson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Policy Approval

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

<u>Policy</u>		<u>Recommendation</u>
IGDF	Student Fundraising Activities	Revise; renumber 650
KBFA	Distribution of Announcements and Other Information Through the Schools	Revise; renumber 550
DBD	General Fund Balance	Revise; renumber 708 Establishment and Maintenance of School District Unreserved General Fund Balance

Membership in Minnesota State High School League

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Sweitzer to approve renewed membership in the Minnesota State High School League for the 2007-08 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

Support of Equity Task Force

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Sweitzer to approve the commission of a District Equity Task Force with further parameters to be developed in June prior to the implementation of the task force in August. Motion passed 7-0.

Receive of Vision St. Louis Park Partner's Executive Summary

A motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Timian to acknowledge receipt of the recommendations of the Vision St. Louis Park Vision Workbook, which recognizes the work of the Action Teams and the community over the last 18 months. Motion passed 7-0.

Probational Non-Renewal

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Timian, to approve non-renewal of the following of probationary contract: Cherry Dewey. Motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Superintendent Bowers announced that Senior High Principal Bob Laney has been hired for the position of Assistant Superintendent effective July 1, 2007. This position was created due to the retirement of Dan Walker. Aquila Principal Rob Metz will replace Laney as Interim Senior High Principal for the 2007-08 school year. The district is in the interview process for the replacement of retiring Cedar Manor Principal Bernice Amberg. A public meeting for the community to meet the finalists will be held on Tuesday, June 5 beginning at 6:00 pm at Cedar Manor Intermediate Center. The district has posted an elementary principal position to replace Metz for the 2007-08 school year.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Richardson to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Rolf Peterson, Clerk

Jim Yarosh, Chair