

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 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 7:05 pm on Tuesday, June 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, Interim Director of Business Affairs Gloria Wilder, 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.

SPOTLIGHT

The Board congratulated and recognized the following students for athletic accomplishments this spring:

Synchronized Swimming: Linda Gust, Head Coach gave an overview of the Synchronize Swim season and introduced state competitors: Katrina Albrecht, Amy Beck, Alayne Beneke, Caroline Bergh, Anne Bergquist, Florence Blessing, Rebecca Davis, Kaia Fink, Alise Hofstad-Parkhill, Tara Jones, Angela Laidlaw, Audra Lewis, Ashley Magnuson, Ashley McDonell, Whitney McLaughlin, Nicole Mural, Helen Noble, Ali Palm, Lauren Platt, Stephanie Platt, Jill Rykken, Leah Segal, Lauren Shoff, Kaitlyn Steffenhage, Megan Tulin-Ellis, Ariel Vaughn, Kelly Wenzel, Samantha Witta and Erin Youmans

Track and Field: Head Coach Brad Brubaker reviewed the accomplishments of the Track and Field team. The following students competed at the state level. LaiShema Hampton, Rosa Gauthier-Culnane and Austin Delaney.

POINT OF LIGHT

GED Recipient: The Board recognized Chester Wozniak for receiving his GED this spring. Wozniak, at age 85, is the oldest person receiving a GED in Minnesota this year.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

STUDY SESSION TOPICS

District 287 Update

Ken Daniels and Betty Shaw, representatives to the Intermediate District 287 Board gave an overview of current programs offered through 287. Daniels provided information about the on-line education program, which is in the third year of operation. Curriculum offered on-line parallels regular curriculum offered in public high schools and adheres to state guidelines and assessment requirements. He also talked about Alternative Programs that are held throughout the 13 member district areas. Shaw described services delivered by District 287 including special education, regular education, vocational programs, mentorship programs, languages that are not traditionally offered in member districts as well as start-up programs that are originated by District 287 and taken over by member district after established. To learn more about Intermediate District 287, go online at www.district287.org

Kindergarten Plus / PYP Report

Director of Community Education Linda Saveraid presented an annual report on Primary Years education programs. The First Steps Preschool is an International Baccalaureate preschool that is one of the first offered throughout the nation at a public school setting. During the first year, there were 16 children enrolled. The class was held at Aquila Primary Center and was taught by Alyssa Frost. The program is evaluated by the State of Minnesota under the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress. Saveraid also gave an overview of the Kindergarten Plus program. This is a full-day kindergarten program with one section at Aquila (20 students) and one section at Peter Hobart (21 students). Next year there will be one section at Aquila and two sections at Peter Hobart based on demand. In addition, there are a number of kindergarten students who attend kindergarten for a half day and Kids Place childcare for a half day for less than 5 days per week. School Readiness programs are offered on 3 levels; 4 year olds going to K next year, 4 year olds not going to K, and 3-4 year olds. Children in the School Readiness programs are developing and special needs children who have had no other pre-k experience. Nearly all are on scholarship, many are ELL students. This past year 64 students received services through the school readiness program.

Information Services Update

Director of Information Services presented a year-end report highlighting the projects and accomplishments in the area of technology systems in the district. Marble's report included an overview of the Technology levy budget for FY 2006-07 and 2007-08. Areas of service implemented this year include Online Help Desk; increased access with pilot projects at Cedar Manor and Susan Lindgren; Junior High wireless access, MCA tests pilot and power backup systems. Proposed changes for 2007-08 include phone system upgrade, expansion of wireless networks, and continue increased access pilots.

2007-08 Budget Update

Acting Director of Business Services Gloria Wilder outlined the general fund legislative changes as a result of legislative action at the close of the current session. Changes include a FY08 increase of 2% (from \$4,974 to \$5,074) per AMCPU and FY09 increase of 1% (to \$5,124) per AMCPU. Other legislative changes are in the area of special education, kindergarten increase, gifted and talented increase, safe school levy increase, ECFE funding restored to \$120 per eligible student, capital funds one time appropriation for technology/operating capital and school lunch aid increase from 10.5 to 12 cents per lunch. The general fund budget FY07-08 includes revenue of \$44,009,639; expenditures of \$43,823,023; with a budget surplus of \$186,616. The Board will approve the 2007-08 budget at the June 25, 2007 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Policy Approval

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

| <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 |
| EEA | Student Transportation Services | Revise to MSBA Model Policy 707 Transportation of Public School Students |

Bid Approval – 2007 Pavement Rehabilitation Project

A motion was made by Sweitzer, seconded by Gores to award the bid for pavement improvements at St. Louis Park Senior High School to DMJ Corporation with a low total bid, including Alternates No. 1 and No. 1 in the amount of \$152,400. Motion passed 6-0 (Yarosh abstain).

Bid Approval – 2007 Athletic Track Rehabilitation Project

A motion was made by Gores, seconded by Shapiro to award the bid for the athletic track rehabilitation project at the Senior High School to Buck Blacktop, Inc. with the lowest lump sum base bid of \$105,500. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Peterson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Rolf Peterson, Clerk

Jim Yarosh, Chair