

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at the Historic Old Central High School, 215 North First Avenue East, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, on

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad
Harry Welty

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Spencer Fredrickson
Johanna Uden

➤ Chair Harala called the regular school board meeting of May 17, 2016 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve the agenda as presented.

Member Johnston stated he had requested some agenda items for the business report and would like to see them on the next month's agenda.

Upon a vote on the agenda as presented, the same passed – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of April 19, 2016.

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of May 2, 2016.

M-Sandstad, S-Loffler-Kemp, to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2016 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of May 10, 2016.

M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2016 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

May 2016

Amy Starzecki - Members of the Board, this month I'm pleased to share the accomplishments of Denfeld and Duluth East students in our Career and Technical Education programs. The programs are designed to help focus students into career/post-secondary pathways that fit their personality and academic interests. Courses are taught by some of the most highly qualified professionals in the region - over 80% come from industry first and then education. They bring real-world knowledge and connections to help students explore and succeed in the competitive job market. I'll start with Eric Tahtinen and Erik Kangas, students in our Automotive Technology program. They're here with their instructor Phil Rannila. Eric and Erik participated in the 2016 SkillsUSA competition and did very well. Eric Tahtinen received a gold medal in Automotive Service Technology, earning a \$10,000 scholarship to Universal Technical Institute in Illinois plus about \$600 worth of Snap On Tools. Eric will attend the National SkillsUSA conference in Louisville in June and compete for a national title. Erik Kangas brought home two silver medals, one in Tools and Equipment identification, the other in Safety. Eric and Erik are taking part in Automotive and Engines classes, a high school program of distinction, certified by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation and the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. Also with us are Sean Lindblad and Samuel Carpenter, students in our Culinary Arts program. They're here with their instructor, Chef Glenn D'Amour. Sean and Samuel participated in the SkillsUSA competition and came away with some exciting awards. Sean took first place and received a \$15,000 scholarship to the New England Culinary Institute; he's advancing to the National SkillsUSA competition. Samuel took 2nd place and received a \$12,000 scholarship. Classes taken by Sean and Samuel are part of the Hospitality and Tourism career cluster, offering opportunities from cooking, serving, and hotel management all the way to marketing and service in large convention settings. Students from HOSA are here tonight, with their instructor Kim Olson, participants in our Health Occupations program. Mikayla Cozzi, Johanna Marciniak, Tori Anderson, Augustanna Korkalo, Mariah Goodreau, Jena Kessler, and Lauren Lemker participated in the 2016 HOSA State Leadership Conference competitions. Individually, these students took from 1st place to 5th place in several categories, including Medical Terminology, HOSA Knowledge Bowl, Public Service Announcement and others. Mikayla received the Barbara James Service Award. Johanna and Tori serve as elected State HOSA leaders. Duluth was recognized as a HOSA Honors Chapter and received National Service Project and Minnesota Service Project recognition. Congratulations to these outstanding students as they prepare for their future careers, and many thanks to their instructors for their support!

Public Comments

May 2016

Member Loeffler-Kemp read the community vision statement.

Jebbeh Edmunds, 1520 Vermilion Road, a first grade teacher at Myers-Wilkins, spoke to the school board regarding the success of the guided reading instructional practices she uses in her classroom, noting the improvement in the number of readers in her classroom.

3 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
May 17, 2016

Rhett McDonald, 4706 West 6th Street, a social studies teacher at Lincoln Park Middle School, spoke to the school board regarding the success of a PLC group program in his classroom. Jayden Erie and Emily Tusken spoke regarding the book *A Long Walk to Water* and their experience with the program.

Bernie Bernham, President of the Teachers Union, spoke to the school board regarding Teacher Appreciation Week, Nurses Month, and Food Service Appreciation, she spoke about the many amazing awards ceremonies she has attended, including teacher of the year.

Jill Lofald, 6310 Elinor Street, the Speech and Debate Programs Coach, spoke the school board regarding the speech and debate programs and how they better prepare our students for college and provide life skills.

Laura LaFontaine, Duluth East, spoke to the school board to thank the school board for taking the zero hour budget cut consideration off the cuts list.

Jude Goossens, 1816 North Road, spoke to the school board to thank them for keeping the zero hour for the coming school year. He also spoke regarding concerns with equity in opportunities, and to work toward bringing equity to all students by reinstating the seventh hour.

Henri Laliberte, 138 Laurie Street, spoke to the school board to thank them for keeping zero hour in place for next year. He also spoke regarding concerns with the budget cutting processes in the district.

Dani Dunphy and Janelle Zueck, co-chairs of the American Indian Parent Advisory Board, spoke to the school board regarding the proposed \$50,000 cut to the American Indian program and the effects it could have on students.

Solveis Reenan, 15 West Wabasha Street, spoke to the school board to thank them for not cutting zero hour next year, and her concern with the proposed cuts to mental health services.

Marcia Stromgren, no address provided, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with the proposed budget cuts for next year.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

May 2016

Superintendent Gronseth acknowledged the communications received.

Superintendent's Report
May 2016

I think that Spring has finally arrived! I am sure that our student reps would be able to tell us how many days of school remain, but I encourage everyone to finish strong. There are still projects to be completed, tests to study for and we want everyone to have a successful end to the year. As we wrap up this school year, staff across the district are already busy planning for next year. There is much to do as we prepare course schedules, staffing, and class lists. Of course these are subject to change over the summer, but our initial plans are being made. Developing the budget is a part of that work. By the end of next month, the board will be adopting a finalized budget plan for next year. There will be additional opportunities for the board to consider the plan before they finalize the plan. I also want to take a moment to speak to President Obama's letter on transgender students. It's our responsibility to ensure all students – including students who identify as transgender – can attend our schools and receive a great education in an environment free from discrimination based on sex. We endeavor to treat all students with respect and equity and to validate the rights of all students and staff to a safe and welcoming environment. In recent years, we've provided support for students who identify as transgender and will continue to do so into the future. As an organization, we've worked with the community to create policies and practices to comply with Minnesota's Safe and Supportive School Act and Federal harassment laws that include gender identity and inclusion. We will continue to work with the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota School Board Association and the Minnesota State High School League as schools and communities continue to adapt and evolve to create safe environments for all students.

In closing, I also want to mention a few safety items. This time of year people start riding bikes, and skateboards, and hover boards, and are generally more active. Let's all help to keep each other safe on our streets and our sidewalks. Obey traffic rules, keep an extra watchful eye out for others, and please, do not text and drive. We also want to be safe around water. Especially during the spring, rivers and streams are rushing, the water is still cold, be careful around water. Sixth grade students throughout the district receive information on the rip currents of Lake Superior, but it is something we can never be too careful about, wear your life jackets and stay safe.

HASE FAMILY TRUST SCHOLARSHIP : *Selection for 2016*

Fred Hase (*Haze*) graduated from Duluth Central High School in 1915. The *Hase Family Trust Scholarship* provides an annual scholarship for a graduate of each of Duluth's two high schools who are enrolling in a post-secondary school in the fall. For 2016, two non-renewable awards of \$1,750 each will be awarded – one to an East HS graduate and one to a Denfeld HS graduate. Assistant Superintendent Amy Starzecki and Student School Board Representatives Johanna Uden and Spencer Frederickson will oversee this year's drawing from the Fred Hase Scholarship Bowl.

The scholarships were awarded to: Denfeld – Alexander Tafs, East High – Lisa Saari

5 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
 May 17, 2016

East: Spencer Fredrickson – spring is going along great, the baseball team only has one loss this season, all other spring teams are doing well, and the lacrosse teams are grateful for the recognition. AP tests are done, prom was a great success, and a successful mock crash changed ideas and mind sets about using phones while driving. East students appreciate the school board for listening about the zero hour. He recognized Laurie Knapp, East High principal who will be retiring this year.

Denfeld High: Johanna Unden – there has been a lot going on in the arts department with concerts, theatre and art programs, and working with UMD to create more art based enrichment. Design lab was an exciting addition this year, robotics went to the world competition and made it to semifinals of their division, Black Box Theatre, a group from Washburn, spoke about issues that affect students but don't necessarily get taught in the classroom, and they held the last blood drive of the school year. She recognized Marcia Van Camp and Jill Lofald as retirees and thanked board for considering keeping zero hour.

Education Committee Report

May 2016

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a school district to accept grants by resolution expressed in the terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the grant in accordance with the donor's terms is in the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools does accept the below-described grants from said organizations in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to these various organizations.

Organization	Author/ Contact	Project Title	Award Amount	Terms
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation – Duluth Public Schools Endowment Fund	Various	Various	\$19,363.00	Funds from these eighteen grant awards will be used to provide supplemental funding to enrich the academic, cultural and overall experiences of Duluth Public Schools students and staff. See the attached spreadsheet for additional details.

6 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
 May 17, 2016

Lester Park Elementary School Foundation	Various	Various	\$2281.77	Funds from these seven grant awards will be used to provide supplemental funding to enrich the academic, cultural and overall experiences of Lester Park Elementary School students and staff. See the attached spreadsheet for additional details.
Duluth East High School Foundation	Various	Various	\$2000.00	Funds from these four grant awards will be used to provide supplemental funding to enrich the academic, cultural and overall experiences of East High School students and staff. See the attached spreadsheet for additional details.

E-5-16-3366

May 17, 2016

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Oswald, to approve Resolution E-5-16-3366 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Welty, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report.

Member Oswald withheld Items 1.B.2), 1.D.4), 2.A.1), and 2.D.2)

Member Welty withheld Item 1.B.2)

Member Johnston withheld Items 1.B.1), and 2.A.1)

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.B.1) Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to thank administration for their informative presentations.

Members Welty and Oswald withheld Item 1.B.2) – Families in Transition Program to make notes about the program and presentation. Discussion continued regarding the program. Deb Wagner was recognized as retiring from this position.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.D.4) - DSACF Grant Application – Parent/Teacher Home Visit program to note how pleased she is with the program.

Members Oswald and Johnston withheld Item 2.A.1) – Resolution of Concurrence and Non-Concurrence 2016 to note their concerns with the data and the need to continue to work toward improvement. Discussion continued regarding the presentation.

Member Oswald withheld Item 2.D.2) – New Policy 532 – Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEP’s from School Grounds to ask questions about the policy. Amy Starzecki, Assistant Superintendent, recommended changing the title of the policy to Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students. Jason Crane, Special Services Director,

7 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
May 17, 2016

explained the difference for policies and procedures for students with and without IEP's. Discussion continued regarding the policy. It was noted that there will be updates to the titles within the policy.

Upon a vote on the remainder of the Education Committee, the same was approved – unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report
May 2016

Member Kirby presented the Human Resources Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

M-Kirby, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the Human Resource Committee report. Upon a vote on the Human Resources Committee, the same was approved – unanimously.

Business Committee Report
May 2016

Member Sandstad presented the Business Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a school district to accept donations by resolution expressed in the terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the donations in accordance with the donor's terms is in the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools does accept the below-described donations from said organizations in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to these various organizations.

SCHOOL	NAME	RESTRICTION	AMOUNT
East	Northwoods Orthodontics	BPA	\$300.00
East	Craig & Jean Peterson	Drama	\$150.00
East	Judy Weber/ICO	BPA	\$150.00
East	Maurices	None	\$65.00
East	Cirrus Design	Sterling Strings	\$250.00
East	Full Circle Senior Living	Sterling Strings	\$100.00
East	LoAnn Stone	Orchestra/Violin	In Kind

8 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
 May 17, 2016

District Wide	George J. Trachte	1997 Ford IC Van - Automotive Prog.	In Kind
Lester Park	Maurices	None	\$50.00
ALC	Kate Ermides	Glazes for ALC	\$75.00
ALC	Bruce & Patricia Breilein	Glazes for ALC	\$200.00
ALC	Thomas Breilein	Glazes for ALC	\$75.00
ALC	Ebert Denklestein	Glazes for ALC	\$40.00
ALC	Ali Lemorie	Glazes for ALC	\$20.00
ALC	Alice Jasper	Glazes for ALC	\$30.00
ALC	Joe Nuzzo	Glazes for ALC	\$40.00
ALC	Meghan Solano	Glazes for ALC	\$60.00
ALC	Steve Williams	Glazes for ALC	\$40.00
		TOTAL	\$1,645.00

B-5-16-3369

May 17, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-5-16-3369 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Authorized Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

District Building	Banking Institution	Account Number	Addition of Authorized Signer	Removal of Authorized Signer
ALC (Unity)	DTCU	XXXX4	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Congdon	Northshore	XXXXXXX0	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Denfeld	Western Natl Bank	XXXXX4	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
East	DTCU	XXXX6	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Headstart (Student)	DTCU	XXXX0	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Homecroft	DTCU	XXXX2	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
ISD709	MN Trust	XXXX8	Heidi M Morris	Diana L Conway
Lakewood	Northshore	XXXXXXX7	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Laura MacArthur	Western Natl Bank	XXXXXXX2	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Lester Park	DTCU	XXXX7	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Lincoln Park	Park State Bank	XXXXXXX5	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Lowell	DTCU	XXXX4	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Merritt Creek Academy	DTCU	XXXX0	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Myers-Wilkins	DTCU	XXXX3	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck

9 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
May 17, 2016

Ordean East M S	DTCU	XXX5	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Piedmont	DTCU	XXXXX4	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Public School Stadium	DTCU	XXXX6	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
			Amy L Starzecki	Eddie J Crawford
				Mark S Krysiak
Stowe	DTCU	XXXX0	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck
Woodland Hills	DTCU	XXXX1	Nichele L Canavan	Therese M Dzuck

Resolution B-5-16-3370

May 17, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to approve Resolution B-5-16-3370 – Authorized Bank Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Designation of the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) SERVS Financial

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requests that School Districts annually designate the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for the MDE External User Access Recertification System (SERVS Financial). The Identified Official with Authority is responsible for assigning job duties to the appropriate School District staff and authorizing access to MDE secure systems. This annual review and designation of the Superintendent as Identified Official with Authority is in accordance with State Access Security Standard 1.0.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Superintendent of Schools, be designated the legal authorized representative to serve as the 2016-2017 Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for MDE SERVS Financial for the School District.

Resolution B-5-16-3365

May 17, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-5-16-3365 – Authorized Bank Account Signer Designation of the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) SERVS Financial. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

10 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
May 17, 2016

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement with the
State of Minnesota/Minnesota State Colleges and Universities/Lake Superior College

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that the Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Minnesota/Minnesota State Colleges and Universities/Lake Superior College and the ISD 709 Adult Basic Education Program attached hereto is hereby approved.

B-5-16-3371

May 17, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-5-16-3371 Authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota/Minnesota State Colleges and Universities/Lake Superior College. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Sandstad, S-Kirby, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee report.

Member Johnston withheld Items 1.F., 2.A.1), 2.A.4), and 4.A.1).

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.F. APU/(WADM) Projections to note his concerns with the loss of students, and the need to bring the seven period day back. Discussion continued regarding bringing back the seven period day.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.A.1) – Bid 1250-Dairy Products for Child Nutrition to ask what we do with unused food, noting that Second Harvest collects unused food at some places. Discussion continued regarding food waste.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.A.4) – Bid 1248-1 Historic Old Central High School Parking Lot Improvements to note his concern with funds being spent on the HOCHS building, and the need to talk more about possible funding sources for needed repairs. Discussion took place regarding working with the Historical Society to secure funding for restoration of the building.

Member Johnston withheld Item 4.A.1) – PEIP Insurance Renewal to ask questions about specifics within the program, and to suggest that in the future we look at asking our employees to pay part of the premiums to save the district money. Discussion continued regarding health insurance costs.

Upon a vote on the remainder of the Business Committee, the same was approved – unanimously.

11 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
May 17, 2016

Other
May 2016

Member Oswald asked that there be a follow up discussion on the playground mulch issue.

Member Johnston asked that his requested agenda items be put on the agenda, and that he receive communications regarding his requested items.

Chair Harala adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of May 17, 2016 at 8:55 p.m.

Chair

Clerk