

## **Regular School Board Meeting**

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

### **Agenda**

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

District Services Center

709 Portia Johnson Dr.

Duluth, MN 55811

6:30 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Approval of the Agenda**
5. **Reading and Approving Minutes**
  - A. Regular School Board Meeting of October 19, 2010 2
  - B. Special School Board Meeting of November 8, 2010 8
6. **Audience**
7. **Reading Communications, Petitions, Etc.** 11
8. **Report of the Superintendent** 12
9. **Report of Standing Committees**
  - A. Education Committee (*see separate report*)
  - B. Human Resources Committee (*see separate report*)
  - C. Business Committee (*see separate report*)
10. **Special Resolutions • None**
11. **Questions / Other**
12. **Adjournment**

**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, October 19, 2010

**Members Present:**

Mary Cameron  
Gary Glass  
Tim Grover  
Art Johnston  
Tom Kasper  
Judy Seliga Punyko  
Ann Wasson

**Others Present:**

Keith Dixon, Superintendent  
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk  
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

**Student Representatives**

Chair Grover called the regular school board meeting of October 19, 2010 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve the agenda as presented.**

**M-Glass, S-Johnston, to add four items to the agenda as follows:**

1-to use the MSBA report to improve board meetings, 2-teacher training with an emphasis on student opportunities to replace those lost by the consolidations, 3-the ethics policy and content of bylaws to obligate board officers to inform board members, 4-review the critical safety and security needs of this building (HOCHS) and other buildings within the district in view of future needs including the Duluth Academy

**Upon a vote, the same failed 3-4 as follows:**

**Yea: Glass, Johnston, Kasper**

**Nay: Cameron, Grover, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

Member Johnston stated that he did not have an opportunity to finish speaking on Item 6.J. at the September board meeting because the meeting was illegally adjourned, and he requested to have it added to the October agenda. Chair Grover asked if he was making a motion to add the item. Member Johnston stated that it was not a motion to add the item but that it had to be added according to Roberts Rules. Chair Grover stated that the motion to adjourn at the October meeting was legal and there were no items to automatically carry over from the prior meeting.

**M-Johnston, S-Glass, to add Item 6.J. from the informational section of the September Board meeting.**

**Upon a vote the same failed 3-4 as follows:**

**Yea: Glass, Johnston, Kasper**

**Nay: Cameron, Grover, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**M-Johnston, S-Glass, to add the hiring of a lawyer for the EAW appeal to the agenda.**

Chair Grover ruled the motion out of order because it was a part of Item 6.J. that he had just requested to add to the agenda. Member Johnston appealed the Chairs decision. Chair Grover stated that discussion on the item occurred in closed session which is the appropriate venue for discussion on pending litigation.

**Upon a vote the same failed 3-4 as follows:**

**Yea: Glass, Johnston, Kasper**

**Nay: Cameron, Grover, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**M-Johnston, S-Glass, to add an item to discuss the legality of the DFT contract.**

Chair Grover called to move into a vote on the request because the board has had ample discussion regarding the issue. Member Johnston called a point of order stating that it was an illegal vote.

**Upon a vote the same failed 3-4 as follows:**

**Yea: Glass, Johnston, Kasper**

**Nay: Cameron, Grover, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**M-Johnston, S-Glass, to add an item to have Chair Grover resign as board chair. Upon a vote, the same failed 2-5 as follows:**

**Yea: Glass, Johnston**

**Nay: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Upon a vote on the agenda as presented the same passed – 5-2 as follows:**

**Yea: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Nay: Glass, Johnston**

Chair Grover asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the regular school board meeting of September 21, 2010.

Member Johnston said he made a point of order after a motion was made to adjourn but that it wasn't in the minutes. Chair Grover stated to indicate that Member Johnston had made a point of order in the minutes.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2010 regular school board meeting as amended. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 5-2 as follows:**

**Yea: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Nay: Glass, Johnston**

Chair Grover asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the special school board meeting of October 6, 2010.

Member Johnston stated that minutes didn't say why Chair Grover denied his point of order. Secretary Thibault pointed out that the reason was included. Chair Grover agreed – no correction to the minutes.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2010 special school board meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – 5-2**

**Yea: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Nay: Glass, Johnston**

**Public Comments**

**October 2010**

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Rich Paulson, 524 West Ideal Street, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with district health insurance costs.

Loren Martel, 623 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke to the board regarding his concern with the delay in the plan b vote.

The board took a brief recess at 6:55 p.m.

**Communications, Petitions, Etc.**

**October 2010**

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Superintendent Dixon acknowledged the communications received.

Member Glass stated that emails should be included in the communications.

**M-Glass, S-Johnston, to include emails in the communications.**

Chair Grover ruled the motion out of order because it is not an item on the agenda.

Superintendent Dixon stated that the board should get a legal opinion and then discuss it at a later time.

**Superintendent's Report**

**October 2010**

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Superintendent Dixon welcomed the students attending the meeting.

**Education Committee Report**  
**October 2010**

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Member Seliga Punyko presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Seliga Punyko 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
1.	Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation	Kris Teberg, Principal at Lakewood Elementary	Lakewood School Foundation	\$10,000	Funds from this grant award will be used to provide scholarships to qualifying families to attend the new Lakewood School Montessori Pre-school Program.
2.	Northland Foundation	Annette Petersmeyer, Teacher at Piedmont/Lincoln Park Elementary	REACH Program/Connecting Students, Families, and the Community	\$4,475	Funds from this grant award will be used to support the REACH Program at Piedmont/Lincoln Park Elementary.
3.	Minnesota State Colleges & Universities and Minnesota Department of Education	Jim Arndt, Principal of STC	FY 11 Perkins Federal Grant - Lake Superior Consortium	\$550,377.03	Funds from this grant award will be used to support Lake Superior area Career and Technical Education Programs.
4.	NE MN Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP)	Mimi Stender from Fit City	School Nutrition Sub Grant from City of Duluth's SHIP Grant Award	\$8,232	Funds from this sub-grant award will be used to fund .10 of Jeanne Tonkin's salary (Family Consumer Science teacher at Morgan Park) to provide a nutrition program in the Duluth Public Schools.

Resolution E-10-10-2822

October 19, 2010

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve Resolution E-10-10-2822 - Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.**

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Kasper, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee report as presented.**

Member Kasper withheld Item 1.F.  
Member Glass withheld Items 1.D. and 1.E.  
Member Johnston withheld Item 1.B.

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.B. – Sustainable Duluth Public Schools Presentation, to note that he doesn't agree that what the district is doing is environmentally sound.

Member Glass withheld Item 1.D. – Standards Based Elementary report Card, to ask how the standards and rules will be communicated. Member Gronseth explained that the presentation were examples only.

Member Glass withheld Item 1.E. Duluth Academy Update, to ask for any backup that was distributed at the meeting.

Member Kasper withheld Item 1.F. – Anti-Bullying Training Update, to ask for an overview of the training/program. Superintendent Dixon gave a brief overview and board discussion took place on the issue.

**Upon a vote taken on the remainder of the Education Committee as presented - the same was approved – unanimously.**

**Human Resources Committee Report**  
**October 2010**

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

**M-Cameron, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the addition of a Systems Maintenance Technician at \$21.54 per hour to the hourly pay sheet. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.**

**M-Cameron, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the change in pay rate of Special Education Assistant to \$20.00 per hour to the hourly pay sheet. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.**

**M-Cameron, S-Seliga Punyko, to the Co-Curricular Stipends for 2010-11 for Golf and Tennis Assistants. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.**

**M-Cameron, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the remainder of the Human Resources Committee report as presented. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.**

**Business Committee Report**  
**October 2010**

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

**M-Wasson, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the Business Committee report as presented:**

Member Glass withheld Items 6.A., and 6.B.

Member Johnston withheld Items 4.A.1., 4.B.1, 4.B.2, and 6.D.

Member Kasper withheld Item 1.F.

Member Glass withheld Item 6.A. – Financials, to ask why they hadn't received June's report. Jody LeBlanc, Finance Manager, explained that there are still audit entries being made to the reports.

Member Glass withheld Item 6.B. – Approval of Payment of Claims to note payments to JCI and ask questions about specifics within the report.

Member Kasper withheld Item 1.F. – WADM Projections to ask for an explanation between WADM and Weighted numbers. Bill Hanson, Director of Business Services explained the difference.

**Upon a separate vote taken on item 4.A.1. - Marlys Johnston contract, the same was approved – unanimously.**

Member Johnston withheld Item B.1.) – Change Order at Eastern High School to ask about the item. Kerry Leider explained the change order.

**Upon a separate vote on Item 4.B.2) – East Middle School asbestos abatement, the same was approved – unanimously.**

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.D. – Facilities Management & Capital Project Status Report to ask about the difference in that report and the Vendor Payments. Jody LeBlanc explained that the facilities report only includes work on the facilities plan.

**Upon a vote taken on the remainder of the Business Committee, the same was approved 5-2 as follows:**

**Yea: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Nay: Glass, Johnston**

**Other**  
**October 2010**

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Chair Grover adjourned the regular school board meeting of October 19, 2010 at 8:05 p.m.

**Minutes of the Special 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

Monday, November 8, 2010

**Members Present:**

Mary Cameron  
Gary Glass  
Tim Grover  
Art Johnston  
Tom Kasper  
Judy Seliga Punyko  
Ann Wasson

**Others Present:**

Keith Dixon, Superintendent  
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk  
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

**Members Absent:**

Chair Grover called the special school board meeting of November 8, 2010 to order at 4:18 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

**Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Special Election of November 2, 2010**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District 709, as follows:

1. It is hereby found, determined and declared that the special election of the voters of this district, held on November 2, 2010, was in all respects duly and legally called and held.
2. As specified in the attached Abstract and Return of Votes Cast, a total of 31,974 voters of the district voted at said election on the Question, Shall the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, Duluth, be authorized to issue general obligation bonds totaling \$128,000,000 to be used with an estimated \$66,092,086 in bonds and investment earnings previously approved by the Board for alternative facilities to build two new middle schools and two new elementary schools; repair and remodel three high schools, one middle school, and five elementary schools; repair and expand two elementary schools; and repair and remodel 'Old Central High' and the Secondary Technical Center?, of which 11,362 voted in favor, 20,612 voted against the same.
3. Said proposition, not having received the approval of at least a majority of such votes, is hereby declared to have failed.
4. The School District Clerk is hereby authorized to certify the results of the election to the County Auditor of each County in which the School District is located in whole or in part.

Resolution B-11-10-2835

November 8, 2010

**ABSTRACT AND RETURN OF VOTES CAST  
FOR SPECIAL ELECTION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709 (DULUTH)  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**ABSTRACT AND RETURN OF VOTES CAST  
SPECIAL ELECTION QUESTION  
November 2, 2010**

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A. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS REGISTERED:  
AT 7:00 O'CLOCK A. M. 60,322

B. TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW REGISTRATIONS ON ELECTION DAY: 4,610

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C. TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES ON THE POLLING PLACE ROSTER 36,234

D. TOTAL NUMBER OF ACCEPTED REGULAR, MILITARY AND OVERSEAS  
ABSENTEE BALLOTS \*

E. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VOTING IN THE ELECTION 36,234

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F. TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETELY BLANK BALLOTS IN THE BALLOT  
BOX \*

G. TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETELY DEFECTIVE BALLOTS IN THE  
BALLOT BOX: \*

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H. TOTAL NUMBER OF SPOILED BALLOTS IN THE SPOILED BALLOT  
ENVELOPE \*

I. TOTAL NUMBER OF UNUSED BALLOTS RETURNED TO THE CLERK \*

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**SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION**

**YES** 11,362

**NO** 20,612

**Completely Blank Ballots** \*

**Completely Defective Ballots** \*

TOTAL BALLOTS COUNTED FOR THIS QUESTION: 31,974

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\*City Clerk's System does not generate blank or defective ballot information, which could be used for this abstract.

3-Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting  
November 8, 2010

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**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Wasson, to approve Resolution B-11-10-2835 - Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Special Election of November 2, 2010. Upon a vote, the same was approved 5-2 as follows:**

**Yea: Cameron, Grover, Kasper, Seliga Punyko, Wasson**

**Nay: Glass, Johnston**

Chair Grover adjourned the Special School Board meeting of November 8, 2010 at 4:22 p.m.

7. Communications, Petitions, etc.

- 10/20/10 Copy of letter addressed to Director of Duluth School Board from Wallace Newquist regarding foundation cracks at his residence and his earlier letter (received 9/14/10).
- 11/02/10 Copy of letter addressed to Superintendent Dixon and copied to Tim Grover, School Board Chair, from Bobbi Hoyt expressing concern that the school board may not continue the position of Career and Technical Education Principal/Director, currently held by Jim Arndt.
- 11/10/10 Copy of letter addressed to all School Board Members from Barbara Walcome regarding construction at Lester Park School and student safety.

Independent School District 709  
**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

*All meetings are scheduled at Historic Old Central High School unless otherwise noted.*

**Week of November 15 – November 19, 2010**

Tuesday	November 16	5:30 p.m.	Special School Board Meeting <i>(Agenda Attached)</i> Recess to Executive (Closed) Session RE: Discussion of Private Educational Data Relating to Possible Student Expulsion RE: Discussion of Possible Acquisition of Property Reconvene to Special School Board Meeting Board Room
Tuesday	November 16	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting <i>(Agenda Attached)</i> Board Room
<del>Wednesday</del> Tuesday	<del>November 17</del> November 16	4:15 p.m.	Parent Advisory Council on Special Education (PACSE) Steering Committee Business Meeting Room 203C

**Week of November 22 – November 26, 2010**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**Week of November 29 – December 3, 2010**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**Week of December 6 – December 10, 2010**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**Week of December 13 – December 17, 2010**

Monday	December 13	4:15 p.m.	Human Resources Committee Board Room
Monday	December 13	4:30 p.m. <i>(or to follow Human Resources Comm. Mtg)</i>	Business Committee Board Room
Tuesday	December 14	4:15 p.m.	Education Committee Board Room
Thursday	December 16	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room

**Week of December 20 – December 24, 2010**

Tuesday      December 21      6:30 p.m.

Regular School Board Meeting  
*Includes Truth in Taxation Hearing*  
 Board Room

**Week of December 27 – December 31, 2010**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**Week of January 3 – January 7, 2011**

Tuesday      January 4      6:30 p.m.

Organizational Meeting  
 Board Room

Thursday      January 6      5:00 p.m.

Education Equity Advisory  
 Monitoring Subcommittee  
 Room 302

*Office of the Superintendent  
 November 12, 2010*