

Regular School Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

UnitedHealth Group Building

4316 Rice Lake Road

Suite 108

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. Special School Board Meeting / Executive Session - March 19, 2013 2
 - B. Regular School Board Meeting - March 19, 2013 3
 - C. Special School Board Meeting - April 02, 2013 9
 - D. Special School Board Meeting / Executive Session - April 15, 2013 12
6. **School and Community Recognition**
7. **Audience**
8. **Reading Communications, Petitions, Etc.** 14
9. **Report of the Superintendent**
 - A. Schedule of Meetings and Events 15
10. **Report of Standing Committees**
 - A. Education Committee (*see separate report*)
 - B. Human Resources Committee (*see separate report*)
 - C. Business Committee (*see separate report*)
11. **Special Resolutions - No Special Resolutions**
12. **Questions / Other**
13. **Adjournment**

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

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Art Johnston
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Judy Seliga Punyko
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Members Absent:

Ann Wasson

- Chair Kasper called the special school board meeting of March 19, 2013 to order at 5:00 p.m.

Member Seliga Punyko presented the Resolution:

RESOLUTION **Executive (Closed) Session**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3(c) allowing a closed meeting for discussion related to the purchase or sale of real property.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the School Board shall meet in Executive (Closed) Session on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of discussion related to the possible sale of property as listed on attachment.

B-3-13-3083

March 19, 2013

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve the Resolution B-3-13-3083 - Executive Closed Session. Upon a vote the same passed – 6-0.

Recess at: 5:03 p.m.

Reconvene at: 6:04 p.m.

- Chair Kasper adjourned the Special School Board meeting of March 19, 2013 at 6:04 p.m.

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, March 19, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Art Johnston
Judy Seliga Punyko
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

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

Student Representatives

Erik Thibault

Members Absent:

Ann Wasson

- Chair Kasper called the regular school board meeting of March 19, 2013 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

The Denfeld Little Mob and Solid Gold groups performed for the school board prior to the meeting and at the start of the meeting.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote on the agenda as presented, the same was approved – 6-0.

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of February 26, 2013.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of February 26, 2013.

Member Johnston stated that he had made a point of order that wasn't included in the minutes, and noted his concern with his motions not being included in the minutes. Discussion took place and it was noted that his motions were not seconded and therefore not recorded. He also stated that there were several other mistakes on page five that he would submit later. Chair Kasper stated that his concerns had been noted.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 5-1 as follows:

Yea: Cameron, Kasper, Miernicki, Seliga Punyko, Westholm

Nay: Johnston

2-Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
March 19, 2013

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of March 11, 2013.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

Public Comments
March 2013

Terry Akervik, Music Curriculum Specialist, spoke to the school board regarding Music in Our Schools Month and upcoming events taking place.

Jane Rudd, 2733 Northridge Drive, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with the cuts to the music programs at all grade levels.

Zane Kaiser, a student at Denfeld, 236 West Winona Street, spoke to the school board regarding the possible loss of zero hour and alternative music programs.

Leslie Churchill, no address provided, spoke to the school board regarding her concerns with the effect the six period day, at the middle level, is having on the music programs.

Megan Rudd, 2733 Northridge Drive, spoke to the school board regarding how music has helped her in her student career and her concerns with the loss of music programs in the schools due to the loss of zero hour and the six period day at the middle schools.

Andrew Martin, 5612 Columbia Street, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with the loss of music programs in the schools due to the loss of zero hour and the six period day at the middle schools.

Carl Soderberg, 312 North 38th Avenue West, spoke to the school board regarding how music has helped his daughter in school and his concern with the possible loss of music programs in the schools.

Cris Stolen, a student at Denfeld, 3310 Commonwealth Avenue, spoke to the school board regarding how music has helped him in school and his concerns with the loss of music programs due to cutting the zero hour.

Laura Warren, 2222 Woodland Avenue, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with the possible loss of music and art programs due to the cut of zero hour.

Henry Helgen, 5422 Wyoming Street, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with the possible loss of music programs due to the loss of zero hour and middle school programming.

Sandy Bacon, 2502 East 7th Street, spoke to the school board regarding the upcoming meeting regarding construction at Condon Park Elementary and asked board members not to choose recreational space over safety and handicap accessibility issues.

Sue VanOss, 2427 East 3rd Street, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with choices

being put forward for construction at Congdon Park, and not to choose recreational space over safety and handicap accessibility.

Kim Wood, 2408 East 2nd Street, spoke to the school board to ask that they move forward with the limited use design elevator and other accessibility items at Congdon Park Elementary School.

Tom Ruther, 5114 Oakley, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with the future use of the Rockridge Elementary property, and the pending land use change.

Mary Larson, 4853 Glendale, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with the future use of the Rockridge Elementary property.

Brian Medred, 4906 Glendale, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with the possible future use of the Rockridge Elementary property and the possible loss of green space.

Barb Soder, 5025 Glendale, spoke to the school board regarding her concern with the future use of the Rockridge Elementary School site.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

March 2013

Superintendent Gronseth stated that no communications had been received.

Superintendent's Report

March 2013

Superintendent Gronseth thanked all the speakers and performers for attending. He stated that the board would support the limited use elevator at Congdon Park, that the elimination of the zero hour has not been decided and it is an ongoing discussion.

Superintendent Gronseth Congratulated/acknowledged:

- **St. Louis/Carlton County Pheasants Forever representatives** - Chapter President Phil Storsteen and Youth Director David Lood presented a check for \$18,670 to be applied toward the purchase of land for a project called Habitat for Homecroft. This project focuses on establishing an outdoor classroom adjacent to Homecroft Elementary School, where school and community youth will receive hands-on learning about wildlife ecology, conservation and biology within a natural environment.
- Really proud of the Denfeld and East Robotics Teams. Through a partnership with the Duluth News Tribune, East's team produced a special insert about the regional robotics competition, they did a great job.
- Also proud of the Denfeld and East Hockey teams, great job.
- East Hockey fans conduct at State Tournament
- Congratulations to Kevin Smalley, Denfeld and Mike Randolph, Duluth East. They were named John Mariucci Award winners as state high school boys hockey coach of the year

in Class A and AA, respectively, as chosen by the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association. Denfeld's Bryan Lent was named Class A assistant coach of the year.

- We were pleased to welcome Minnesota's Education Commissioner Brenda Casselius to Duluth earlier this month. She came to hear about special education in Duluth and to talk about the Governor's proposal to reduce the impact of unfunded state and federal mandates on public schools.
- Nearly 2,000 people have participated in the Think Kids conversation through community, parent and staff meetings, online surveys and other communication venues, sharing their ideas for the future of our public schools. Those results are being used to help create a common educational vision for ISD 709. A draft vision document, along with detail from the community conversations, will be available to the public for review and comment beginning the week of March 25 at duluth.k12.mn.us. A final document is expected to be presented next month. The final vision document will be used to guide decision-making and influence school and district continuous improvement plans.
- **Cassie Mahlberg, Denfeld High School:** Cassie was selected for the 2013 Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year Award. She will go on to compete with other youth on the state and national level.
- **-Kirsi Kuutti, captain of the Duluth East Daredevils Robotics Team.** Kirsi is a recipient of the Minnesota Aspirations for Women in Computing Award for High School Students. The award was presented by Advance IT Minnesota.

Education Committee Report

March 2013

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

M-Cameron, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the Education Committee Report as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 5-0 (with Member Cameron absent from voting).

Human Resources Committee Report

March 2013

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

M-Westholm, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the Human Resources Committee Report as presented. Upon a vote on the Human Resources Report as presented, the same was approved – 6-0.

Business Committee Report

March 2013

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March 19, 2013

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

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

R E S O L U T I O N
Designation of Depository and Acceptance of Collateral

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes and at the request of the financial institution, the National Bank of Commerce wishes to be a designated depository of District funds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the School Board of Duluth Public Schools, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that National Bank of Commerce shall be a depository of the funds of this School District for up to one year period commencing January 1, 2013, and said bank shall be required to deposit for said district collateral securities, if required by Minnesota statutes, subject to approval by the School Board, and kept in trust.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer, Clerk, and/or Director of Business Services shall be authorized to arrange for the exchange, release, or placing of collateral, provide that in all instances such exchange, releases, or placing of additional collateral shall be approved by the school board and all new collateral shall be placed in trust.

B-3-13-3079

March 19, 2013

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Cameron, to approve Resolution B-3-13-3079 Designation of Depository and Acceptance of Collateral. Upon a vote the same was approved 6-0.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the Business Committee Report as presented.

Member Johnston withheld Items 1.F., 1.G. and 1.H. for a separate vote, 4.B., 6.A. and F, and 6.H.

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.F. – WADM Projections to note his concerns with the numbers, and the budget issues facing the district. Discussion continued regarding enrollment numbers.

Upon a separate vote on item 1.G. – Fundraisers, the same was approved – 6-0.

Upon a separate vote on item 1.H. – Investments in School Children, the same was approved – 6-0.

Member Johnston withheld Item 4.B. - Change Orders to note his concerns with the change orders.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.A. – Expenditure Contracts to state that he supports this item but will vote against the entire report.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.F. – Change Orders Pertaining to the Long-range Facilities Plan to note his concerns with the change orders.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.H. – Actuarial Presentation to ask what the cost was. Jody

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LeBlanc, Finance Manager, stated he would get the cost to him but he thought it was under \$9,000.00. He also noted concern with the district being solvent in the future.

Upon a vote on the remainder of the business committee report as presented, the same was approved 5 – 1 as follows:

Yea: Cameron, Kasper, Miernicki, Seliga Punyko, Westholm
Nay: Johnston

Special Resolutions
March 2013

Member Miernicki presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Board Member Attendance at the MSBA 2013 Joint Legislative Conference

RESOLVED, That Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, pay costs incurred, as per District policy, for school board members to attend the *Minnesota School Boards Association 2013 Joint Legislative Conference* in St. Paul, Minnesota, on March 20-21, 2013.

SP-3-13-3078

March 19, 2013

M-Miernicki, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution SP-3-13-3078 – Board Member Attendance at the MSBA 2013 Joint Legislative Conference, the same was approved – 6-0.

Other
March 2013

Student Advisor Erik Thibault asked Superintendent Gronseth if zero hour is available to incoming freshmen and the Superintendent said yes it is. He also noted concerns brought forward regarding the loss of the vending machines at the high schools. Mr. Gronseth stated that administration is working on plans regarding bringing back a water vending machine but the others were taken out relative to the wellness policy, he added that the issue could always be discussed. Member Miernicki asked to put the issue on the business agenda for discussion.

➤ Chair Kasper adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of March 19, 2013 at 8:29 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

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Members Present:

Art Johnston
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Judy Seliga Punyko
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

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

Members Absent:

Mary Cameron
Ann Wasson

- Chair Kasper called the special school board meeting of April 2, 2013 to order at 5:30 p.m.
- Public Comment as Related to Agenda Items Listed Below
Greg Repensky, 324 Halsey Street, spoke to the school board regarding the need for equity among the elementary school buildings and encouraged board members to approve the items on the agenda.

Luisa VanOss, 2427 East 3rd Street, spoke to the school board regarding the need for additional outdoor activity space and accessibility at Congdon Park.

Renee Willemsen, 2930 Branch Street, spoke to the school board regarding the need to complete projects at Congdon Park for safety/accessibility.

Kim Wood, 2408 East 2nd Street, spoke to the school board regarding the need to complete projects at Congdon Park Elementary for safety/equity/accessibility.

Sandy Bacon, 2502 East 7th Street, spoke to the school board to ask that the safety and accessibility issues at Congdon Park be addressed first when voting on items.

Kathi Marshall, 201 Clover Street, spoke to the school board on behalf of the Congdon Park staff to ask that they approve the safety/accessibility items.

Sara Vallie, 2614 Branch Street, spoke to the school board regarding the need for clarification that the hockey group wasn't asking for more, but for something that was taken away and had been there before the new construction at Congdon Park. She also stated that the group doesn't want to be seen as against the safety/accessibility items.

➤ Consideration for Construction Project Items Related to Congdon Park Elementary School

Member Westholm presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Approving Working Drawing Amendments to Add Scope of Work and to Authorize
Previously Approved Work Scope to Proceed by Change Order at Congdon Park
Elementary School

WHEREAS, the School Board, by Resolution B-6-07-2452, adopted a Long-range Facilities Plan for the District, and therein also directed the District’s Administration and Johnson Controls Inc. to proceed with Development of Plans and Specifications; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2009 by Resolution B-11-09-2686, the School Board approved the Schematic Design Pertaining to the Building Only at Congdon Park School; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2011 by Resolution B-9-11-2932 the School Board approved the Site Plan Schematic Design Pertaining to Congdon Park School, as presented at the September 12, 2011 Business Committee Meeting; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2012 by Resolution B-2-12-2979 the School Board approved the Working Drawings Pertaining to Congdon Park School, as presented at the February 13, 2012 Business Committee Meeting; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that the Working Drawings for Construction at Congdon Park Elementary School, as presented at the February 13, 2012 Business Committee Meeting, are hereby amended to add the attached scope of work; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the School Board directs the Administration and Johnson Controls to proceed with completing the approved items on the attached list.

B-4-13-3085

April 2, 2013

Congdon Park Elementary School				
Resolution #B-4-13-3085				
Item	Authorized To Proceed	Work Scope		Estimated Cost
1	YES / NO	Exterior Masonry Repair		330000
2	YES / NO	New Sidewalk at Greysolon Place and 31st Avenue East		29400
3	YES / NO	Front Sidewalk, Sstairs and Railing Replacement		59800
4	YES / NO	Interior Limited Use Elevator		32000
5	YES / NO	Sand field and related drainage and engineering		100000
6	YES / NO	Additional Hardsurface and Basketball Hoops		50000
7	YES / NO	Expanded Play Apparatus		50000
8	YES / NO	Retaining Wall to Increase Play Field Area 4,800 sqft		200000

M-Westholm, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the resolution Approving Working Drawing Amendments to Add Scope of Work and to Authorize Previously Approved Work Scope to Proceed by Change Order at Congdon Park Elementary School.

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April 2, 2013

M-Miernicki, S-Seliga Punyko, to amend the list to take Item 8 - Retaining Wall item off the list for approval.

Discussion took place regarding the retaining wall and the other items on the list for approval.

Upon a vote on the amendment, the same was approved 4-1 as follows:

Yea: Kasper, Miernicki, Seliga Punyko, Westholm

Nay: Johnston

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to support approving items 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 on the list.

Discussion took place regarding the items.

Upon a vote to support approving items 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 on the list, the same was approved 5-0.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to remove items 1 and 5 from the list (not approve).

Discussion took place regarding the items.

Upon a vote to remove (not approve) items 1 and 5 on the list, the same was approved 5-0.

Upon a vote on the resolution/list as amended, the same was approved 5-0.

➤ Chair Kasper adjourned the Special School Board meeting of April 2, 2013 at 6:49 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, April 15, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Art Johnston
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Judy Seliga Punyko
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk
Sue Talerico, Substitute Secretary

Members Absent:

Ann Wasson

- Chair Kasper called the special school board meeting of April 15, 2013 to order at 5:21 p.m.

Member Miernicki presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION **Executive (Closed) Session**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3(c) allowing a closed meeting for discussion related to the purchase or sale of real property.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the School Board shall meet in Executive (Closed) Session on Monday, April 15, 2013, at approximately 4:45 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of discussion related to the possible sale and purchase of property as listed on attachment.

Resolution B-04-13-3087

April 15, 2013

M-Miernicki, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve Resolution B-4-13-3087 - Executive Closed Session. Upon a vote the same passed – 6-0.

Recess at: 5:23 p.m.

Reconvene at: 5:57 p.m.

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION **Authorizing the Sale of the Nettleton School Property Located at 108 East 6th Street**

WHEREAS, the School Board by Resolution B-6-07-2452 adopted a Long-range Facilities Plan for the District, and therein also directed the District's administrative staff to commence with the disposition of certain non-school sites including the Nettleton Elementary

2-Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting
April 15, 2013

School property; and,

WHEREAS, said property will no longer be used for purposes set forth in Minnesota Statute Section 123B.51.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that subject to the official school closing, the School Board authorizes the sale of real property located at 108 East 6th Street legally described as Lots 17-32, Duluth Proper First Division, City of Duluth, in St. Louis County, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Board authorizes the School Board Chair to execute a purchase agreement consistent with the terms considered by the board in Executive Closed Session on April 15, 2013, and to sign all other documents required for closing this sale transaction.

B-4-13-3089

April 15, 2013

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-4-13-3089 - Authorizing the Sale of the Nettleton School Property Located at 108 East 6th Street. Upon a vote, the same was approved 5-0 with Member Cameron absent from the vote.

➤ Chair Kasper adjourned the Special School Board meeting of April 15, 2013 at 5:58 p.m.

7. Communications, Petitions, etc.

No communications received.

DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ISD 709
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

All meetings are scheduled at Historic Old Central High School, 215 N 1st Avenue East, unless otherwise noted.

April 22 – April 26, 2013

Tuesday	April 23	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting (Agenda Attached) Board Room
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Thursday	April 25	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room
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April 29 – May 3, 2013

Thursday	May 2	5:00 p.m.	Education Equity Monitoring Subcommittee Room 302
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May 6 – May 10, 2013

Monday	May 6	6:00 p.m.	Public Hearing on the Proposed Closing of Nettleton Elementary School 108 East Sixth Street, Duluth MN 55806
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Monday	May 6	7:30 p.m.	Public Hearing on the Proposed Closing of Woodland Middle School 201 Clover Street, Duluth MN 55812
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Wednesday	May 8	11:00 a.m.	PTSA City-Wide Council ~ End of Year Mtg Board Room
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Thursday	May 9	5:00 p.m.	Education Equity Budget Subcommittee Room 302
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May 13 – May 17, 2013

Monday	May 13	4:15 p.m.	Human Resources Committee Board Room
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Monday	May 13	4:30 p.m. <i>(or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg)</i>	Business Committee Board Room
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Tuesday	May 14	4:15 p.m.	Education Committee Board Room
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May 20 – May 24, 2013

Tuesday	May 21	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting Board Room
Wednesday	May 22	4:00 p.m.	Retirement Reception Lincoln Park Middle School ~ Commons 3215 W Third Street
Thursday	May 23	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room

May 27 – May 31, 2013

No meetings scheduled at this time.

June 3 – June 7, 2013

No meetings scheduled at this time.

June 10 – June 14, 2013

Monday	June 10	4:15 p.m.	Human Resources Committee Board Room
Monday	June 10	4:30 p.m. <i>(or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg)</i>	Business Committee Board Room
Tuesday	June 11	4:15 p.m.	Education Committee Board Room

*Office of the Superintendent
April 18, 2013*