

Consent Agenda - Regular School Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

UnitedHealth Group Building

4316 Rice Lake Road

Suite 108

Duluth, MN 55811

6:30 PM

1. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes from Past School Board Meetings

- 1) Regular School Board Meeting - August 18, 2020 3
- 2) Special School Board Meeting - August 24, 2020 8

B. Approval of Resolutions

- 1) Human Resources
 - a. HR-9-20-3755 - Employment of School Board Member by District
- 2) Finance
 - a. B-9-20-3756 - Acceptance of Donations
 - b. B-9-20-3757 - Authorized Bank Account Signer
 - c. B-9-20-3758 - Maximum Levy Certification
 - d. B-9-20-3759 - Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools
 - e. B-9-20-3760 - Authorizing the Issuance of Taxable Full-Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2020A
 - f. B-9-20-3761 - Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Certificates of Participation Series, 2020B
- 3) Other

C. Approval of Action Items

- 1) Human Resources
 - a. Staffing Report
 - b. Other Action Items
- 2) Finance
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Bids, RFPs and Quotes
 - (1) Bids - None
 - (2) RFPs - None
 - (3) Quotes - None
 - c. Contracts, Change Orders, Leases
 - (1) Contracts - None
 - (2) Change Orders - None
 - (3) Leases - None
- 3) Items Brought Forward From the Monthly Committee of the Whole Meeting
 - a. Duluth Head Start Transportation Waiver 9
 - Duluth Preschool Supervisor & Head Start Director Sherry Williams

4) <u>Other</u>	
a. <u>Diploma Requests</u>	<u>10</u>
D. <u>Approval of Policy Readings</u>	
1) <u>First Readings</u>	
a. <u>521 - Student Disability Nondiscrimination</u>	<u>14</u>
2) <u>Second Readings</u>	
E. <u>Approval of Committee Reports</u>	
By approving Committee Reports, the board acknowledges and approves all informational and action items represented in the Regular School Board Meeting Report of each committee.	
1) <u>Human Resources/Finance Committee - September 8, 2020</u>	
2) <u>Monthly Committee of the Whole - September 1, 2020</u>	
Members Present: Durick Eder, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Lofald, Oswald, Sandholm, Trnka	
3) <u>Policy Committee - September 3, 2020</u>	

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting

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

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Members Present:

Kelly Durick Eder
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Jill Lofald
Alanna Oswald
Paul Sandholm
Sally Trnka

Others Present:

John Magas, Superintendent
Cathy Erickson, CFO
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Nabiha Imtiaz (East)
Phoenix Ocean (Denfeld)

- Chair Lofald called the Regular School Board meeting August 18, 2020 to order at 6:34 p.m.

M-Durick Eder, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the agenda. Upon a vote on the agenda as presented, the same was approved – Unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

August 2020

This month we recognize students from Denfeld and Duluth East High Schools for their accomplishments.

Keegan Chastey, Denfeld, is a recipient of the Yale Book Award. The Yale Alumni Club asks schools to present the Award to a junior, based on intellectual promise and outstanding character. Counselors at Denfeld chose Keegan as this year's recipient, congratulations!

Two Duluth East students realized success at the Minnesota Virtual National History Day Competition. Natalie Miller received the Gold Medal in Senior Paper: "Too Strong for a Woman: How Bernice Sandler Created Title IX to Break Barriers for Female Faculty in Higher Education."

Natalie also received a scholarship to the National History Academy in Summer 2021. Erin Coleman took 6th place in Senior Paper for "Breaking Barriers in Public Health: John Snow and London's 1854 Cholera Epidemic."

This year's theme for the 2020 Virtual National History Day competition: Breaking Barriers in History.

Congratulations, Natalie and Erin! Thanks to Mr. Tracey, Mrs. Fuller, Ms. Andrews, Ms. Jensen and Ms. Nachbar for offering History Day and supporting this learning opportunity.

Public Comments
August 2020

Public comments were read into the record by the Board Chair or played via voice messages (no public presence was allowed at the meeting) as follows (some spellings/names may be incomplete due to lack of information via voice messages):

The following people spoke in favor of sending students back to school full time:
Krista Simonson, Analisa Redinger, Lacy Lipe, Christine Simonson, David Raisanen, John Simonson, Dean Simonson, Melissa Anderson, Karri Rosenlund, Angie Hanson, Deserie Tommaro, Jeff & Jessica Aili, Megan Massie, Heidi Smerz, Kayli Johnston, Bethany Nelson, Tori Sundberg, Bern Young, Karla Aili, Kelli Johnston, Brittany Hallstrom, Karin Bruckelmyer, Lexi Sundberg, Susanne Aili, Sara Johnston, Anea Johnston, Derek Aili, Darren Stanley, Jude Homola, Kristy Blomquist, Tiffany Simonson, Jordan Oja, Dany Bruckelmyer, Nikki Sundberg, Karen Reabe,

The following people spoke against sending students back to school:
Marcus Jones

The following people had comments/questions regarding the return to learn plan:
Chayme Loraas, Stephen Abernethy

The following people spoke in favor of keeping the school resource officers in the schools:
Cathleen Waterhouse, Johanna Cummins, Laurelei Gunsolus, Nicole Scharte, Jeremy Rupp

The following people spoke regarding the school resource officers issue:
Jennifer McDowell

Communications, Petitions, Etc.
August 2020

Chair Lofald stated that there were no communications received.

Superintendent's Report
August 2020

Superintendent Magas stated: I want the public to know, and I want our teachers to know, and I want our students and community to know how hard we are working to listen to the multiple perspectives, to consider the multiple voices, and the multiple concerns. To listen to the science, to learn about the numbers as things change, and to very carefully weigh what is the best course of action at this time. I also want to say this is something the board is thinking about 24/7 as well, and all of us are really trying our best to make sure that we're thinking about these multiple needs and multiple perspectives. It is by far one of the most difficult decisions that I've made

from a professional perspective and I'm sure from a board perspective it's very much one of the most challenging decisions as well. He reviewed a return to learn planning presentation.

Student Representative Phoenix Ocean (Denfeld): Stated that Denfeld's community is mourning the loss of Dick Swanson. She said the student representatives are continuing discussion regarding the role of SRO's in the schools. The MSHSL has released its recommendations for fall sports, and stated that as a student she agrees with the guidelines and the decision to move to a hybrid model as she does not feel it could be safe to send everyone back in person. We can learn to work together as a community to keep everyone safe and educated.

Student Representative Nabiha Imtiaz (East): The sports season is starting up taking safety into account during practices. Please remember to think of students' mental health as we return to school and make sure we have supports and resources in place for students to use both in person and at home. As a student and someone who really struggled with the isolation that school closing caused, I personally still promote the hybrid model the district has come up with because I want to be in school and see my teachers and friends every day, but I want to be safe and have everyone's safety to be put first.

Chair Lofald reviewed the schedule of meetings.

Policy Committee Report
August 2020

There was not a policy committee meeting in August.

Monthly Committee of the Whole Report
August 2020

Member Lofald presented the Monthly Committee of the Whole report which was available electronically to each school board member.

Human Resources/Finance Committee Report
August 2020

Member Trnka presented the Human Resources Committee report which was available electronically to each school board member.

Consent Agenda
August 2020

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Durick Eder, to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon a vote on the consent agenda, the same was approved - Unanimously

Special Resolutions/Other Action Items
August 2020

- Superintendent Magas presented the resolution:

Temporary Suspension of District Policy during COVID-19 Emergency Pandemic

WHEREAS, the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose significant challenges for Minnesota’s school districts and charter schools as they serve their students, families, and communities.; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walz authorized through various Executive Orders for the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota State Board of Education, and other State executive departments to provide for waivers of State laws and rules that were interfering with the response to the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have released new directives and guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, which are being updated and modified based on new information and changes in the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the school district continues to follow the newly created and ever-changing guidance from the “Minnesota’s Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year”, the Minnesota Department of Health “2020-21 Planning Guidance for Schools”, additional instructional guidance by the Minnesota Department of Education and all other state and federal requirements; and

WHEREAS, many new executive orders, changes or modifications in regulations at the state and federal level are intended to be temporary; and

WHEREAS, school district policies may not address or may be in conflict with district Covid-19 implementation of all school district educational and operational planning models;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 as follows:

All board policies, regulations, and administrative procedures may be suspended in whole or in part to the extent that any policy or procedure of the district conflicts with new state and federal guidance, laws, or requirements relating to Covid-19 and the scenario and planning guidance created by the district to implement educational and operational models.

- The Superintendent will provide to the School Board regular updates pursuant to this resolution.
- This resolution will continue until the Governor declares the end of the state of emergency or when the school board rescinds the resolution in whole or in part.

Resolution SP-8-20-3754

August 18, 2020

M-Trnka, S-Oswald, to approve Resolution SP-8-20-3754 Temporary Suspension of District Policy during COVID-19 Emergency Pandemic.

5 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
August 18, 2020

Discussion took place regarding the resolution.

Upon a vote on the resolution, the same was approved – Unanimously

➤ Face Covering Policy as recommended by MSBA

Member Lofald presented the proposed face covering policy which was available electronically to each school board member

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Sandholm, to approve Policy 808-COVID-19 Face Covering Policy.

M-Oswald, S-Trnka, to strike the second sentence of item V.E. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

~~[To the extent the face covering requirements of this policy conflict with MSBA Model Policy 504 – Student Dress and Appearance, this Policy shall control.]~~

M-Oswald, S-Durick Eder, to strike the first sentence of item IV.D. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

~~[The school district may, in its discretion, report violators of this policy to law enforcement.]~~

Upon a vote on the policy as amended, the same was approved – unanimously.

Other
August 2020

M-Trnka, S-Durick Eder, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Lofald adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of August 18, 2020 at 11:23 p.m.

Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at virtually via video conference, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, on

Monday, August 24, 2020

Members Present:

Kelly Durick Eder
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Jill Lofald
Paul Sandholm
Alanna Oswald

Others Present:

John Magas, Superintendent
Cathy Erickson, CFO
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Nabiha Imtiaz, East
Phoenix Ocean, Denfeld

Members Absent:

Sally Trnka

Chair Lofald called the Special School Board meeting of August 24, 2020 to order at 5:04 p.m.

Chair Lofald made a statement regarding holding the meeting remotely.

➤ **Return to Learn Plan**

Superintendent Magas reviewed additional information regarding the return to learn plan, and announced that he would be recommending a hybrid model for elementary and distance learning plan for secondary in the fall.

Discussion took place regarding the recommendation.

M-Oswald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve administration’s recommendation to move to a Hybrid Elementary and Distance Secondary model for the start of the school year.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed recommendation.

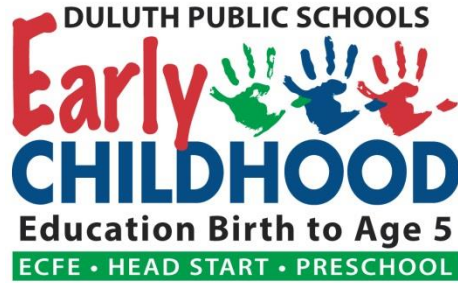
Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0 as follows:

Yea: Durick Eder, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Lofald, Oswald, Sandholm

Absent: Trnka

M-Durick Eder, S-Sandholm, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

Chair Lofald adjourned the Special School Board meeting of August 24, 2020 at 6:25 p.m.



August 24,2020

The Duluth Public Schools Preschool program has had the opportunity to allow 4 year old children in our program to ride the school bus to and from school alongside elementary students for the last several years. Our preschool program blends Head Start funding with state funded School Readiness, and includes students from the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program. As per state guidelines, students in Voluntary Pre-K must be provided with transportation. Our district has generously provided this same access to Head Start and School Readiness families. This has reduced a significant barrier for our Head Start families in particular, who all meet the federal poverty guidelines in order to qualify for the program, and for whom transportation can present great challenges.

This request is asking you to continue providing transportation for students enrolled in our programs that follow the elementary school day schedule. We also ask that you waive regulations for restraints and monitors (Head Start Performance Standards 1303.71 (d); 1303.72 (a)(1) and 1303.72(a)(4). We have seen that 4 year old children have been successful riding the bus without restraints and monitors for the last 3 years. We do have safety measures in place, such as seating the children in the first seats in the bus, having adults wait with and pick up children from the bus stop, and teaching children bus safety procedures. Riding the bus is not required. It is optional for families.

We have seen attendance rates improve with transportation. We know we are setting the habits families are likely to continue when children enter elementary school. We believe this is an important reason to approve this request. Thank you for your commitment to equity that implores us to Start Early.

Please sign below, indicating your support to waive the requirements for restraints and bus monitors that Head Start typically requires.

School Board Chairperson

Date

8/12/2020

Anthony Bonds, Assistant Superintendent
Independent School District 709
215 N 1st Ave E
Duluth MN 55802

Dear Mr. Bonds:

This is to certify that the person(s) listed below has completed all the requirements for High School graduation from the Duluth Public Schools and is eligible to receive their diploma from the school listed.

<u>NAME OF GRADUATE</u>	<u>SCHOOL ON DIPLOMA</u>	<u>GRADUATION</u>
Makaya R. Moore	Duluth Public Schools	8/13/2020

Please send diploma to Michelle Porter at the Area Learning Center, Room 126.

Adrian Norman
Principal

Michelle Porter
Administrative Assistant
Area Learning Center

8/13/2020

Anthony Bonds, Assistant Superintendent
Independent School District 709
215 N 1st Ave E
Duluth MN 55802

Dear Mr. Bonds:

This is to certify that the person(s) listed below has completed all the requirements for High School graduation from the Duluth Public Schools and is eligible to receive their diploma from the school listed.

<u>NAME OF GRADUATE</u>	<u>SCHOOL ON DIPLOMA</u>	<u>GRADUATION</u>
Isabell A. Levings	Duluth Public Schools	8/14/2020

Please send diploma to Michelle Porter at the Area Learning Center, Room 126.

Adrian Norman
Principal

Michelle Porter
Administrative Assistant
Area Learning Center

8/20/2020

Anthony Bonds, Assistant Superintendent
Independent School District 709
215 N 1st Ave E
Duluth MN 55802

Dear Mr. Bonds:

This is to certify that the person(s) listed below has completed all the requirements for High School graduation from the Duluth Public Schools and is eligible to receive their diploma from the school listed.

<u>NAME OF GRADUATE</u>	<u>SCHOOL ON DIPLOMA</u>	<u>GRADUATION DATE</u>
Victoria Grace Brissett-White	Duluth Public Schools	8/20/2020

Please send diploma to Michelle Porter at the Area Learning Center, Room 126.

Adrian Norman
Principal

Michelle Porter
Administrative Assistant
Area Learning Center

8/20/2020

Anthony Bonds, Assistant Superintendent
Independent School District 709
215 N 1st Ave E
Duluth MN 55802

Dear Mr. Bonds:

This is to certify that the person(s) listed below has completed all the requirements for High School graduation from the Duluth Public Schools and is eligible to receive their diploma from the school listed.

<u>NAME OF GRADUATE</u>	<u>SCHOOL ON DIPLOMA</u>	<u>GRADUATION DATE</u>
Kelis A. Anderson	Duluth Public Schools	8/21/2020

Please send diploma to Michelle Porter at the Area Learning Center, Room 126.

Adrian Norman
Principal

Michelle Porter
Administrative Assistant
Area Learning Center

521 STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to protect students with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of disability and to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), need services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Students with disabilities who meet the criteria of Paragraph C. below are protected from discrimination on the basis of a disability.
- B. The responsibility of the school district is to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504, need services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education.
- C. For this policy, a learner who is protected under Section 504 is one who:
 - 1. has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities; or
 - 2. has a record of such an impairment; or
 - 3. is regarded as having such an impairment.
- D. Learners may be protected from disability discrimination and be eligible for services, accommodations, or programs under the provisions of Section 504 even though they are not eligible for special education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- E. Persons who wish to make a complaint regarding a disability discrimination matter may refer to District Policy [103 Complaints - Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons](#) for complaint and grievance procedures and form(s).

Claims of discrimination may also be pursued through the following agencies where appropriate:

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Civil Rights, Region V
500 W. Madison Street - Suite 1475
Chicago, IL 60661
312-730-1560
TDD: 312-730-1609

MN Department of Human Rights
540 Fairview Ave N, Ste. 201
St. Paul, MN 55104
800-657-3704

651-296-5663
TDD: 651-296-1283

III. COORDINATOR

Persons who have questions or comments should contact the Office of the Assistant Superintendent, 215 N. 1st Ave E, Duluth, MN 55802, (218)336-8739, jeffrey.horton@isd709.org anthony.bonds@isd709.org. The Assistant Superintendent, ~~Jeffrey Horton~~ **Anthony Bonds**, is the school district's Americans with Disabilities Act/Section 504 coordinator.

Legal References: Pub. L. 110-325, 122 Stat. 3553 (ADA Amendments Act of 2008, § 7)
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
34 C.F.R. Part 104 (Section 504 Implementing Regulations)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination)
ISD 709 Policy 103 Complaints - Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons

Adopted: 12-20-2016
Revised: **9-17-2019 ISD 709**
First Reading: 9-15-2020