

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 283

January 23, at 6:30 PM Regular Board Meeting MINUTES

The regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 283 of St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, convened at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, in the Central Community Center - District Office, 6300 Walker Street, Room 21, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Present: Colin Cox, Anne Casey, Virginia Mancini, Sarah Davis, Celia Anderson, Taylor Williams, Abdihakim Ibrahim and Interim Superintendent Dr. Maguire. Also present were members of the Superintendent's Cabinet; Julia McBride-Bibby, St. Louis Park Multicultural Liaison/Curriculum Staff, along with American Indian Parent Advisory (AIPAC) Committee Members Scott Shoemaker, Chair, Rachel King, Co-Chair and Tahra Bielous-Secretary. Also present was Barb Dorn, Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA).

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Colin Cox called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Community Center - District Office.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Cox recited the Land Acknowledgement "We are gathered on the land of the Dakota and Ojibwe peoples. I ask you to join me in acknowledging the Dakota and Ojibwe community, their elders, both past and present, as well as future generations. St. Louis Park Public Schools also acknowledges that it was founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous Peoples, including those on whose land this school district is located. This acknowledgment demonstrates a commitment to dismantling the ongoing legacies of colonial power and the district's desire to support the ongoing work of local Indigenous communities to thrive in our schools."

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The regular board meeting agenda was presented for approval. *Motion by Casey, seconded by Anderson, to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

OPEN FORUM

There were eight Open Forum participants.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Maguire started her report by reading the St. Louis Park Schools mission statement. She then proceeded to report about the January 18, 2024 incident at the high school. The superintendent expressed gratitude for the support demonstrated by students, staff, community members, and city staff. She further outlined both short and long term actions for the high school and school district. In the long term, Dr. Maguire focused on efforts that characterize effective schools.

- First, effective schools and school districts have a shared vision for what they desire for students. The St. Louis Park Strategic Plan for Racial Equity Transformation provides a compelling vision for what we desire for our students and community. The superintendent noted that staff members share this vision and work each day to align their practice to this vision which is a strength of our district.

- Second, effective schools nurture a culture of safety, care, and relationship - with students, among staff colleagues, and with families. Our organizational core values which include holding high expectations, collective responsibility, demonstrating persistent effort, being racially conscious and culturally competent are relevant as we face this challenge. The school will be working with students to reinforce our expectations for being in this school space together and to further develop their skills to meet our expectations.
- Third, effective schools maintain a sharp focus on instructional practice. A sharp instructional focus looks like: using relevant curriculum where students see their experience reflected; designing engaging lessons; working collaboratively to examine data and improve instructional practice; maximizing instructional time; opening access to rigorous coursework; utilizing both formative and summative assessments; providing support to meet the individual needs of students. The staff in SLP are attuned to these practices and utilize them in their everyday work.
- Fourth, effective schools maintain a safe and healthy work and learning environment. Foundational to this effort is setting and communicating high expectations for student behavior; holding students accountable to those high expectations in a variety of ways including what we might think of as traditional consequences and including restorative practices. Also foundational to this element are crisis management and emergency plans which require staff training; this is an area where, as a district, we are working to improve.
- Lastly, effective schools employ a continuous improvement mindset.

Attention to each of these five elements is required to increase student engagement, to ensure staff and student well being, and to improve academic outcomes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Search: Search Process Update, Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Executive Search Services

Barb Dorn, MSBA, started her discussion with an update on the number of online stakeholder surveys completed. To date, there have been 1,572 responses to the online survey, including 704 student responses. Focus groups with students, Somali families, and Latino families will provide additional insight to the School Board. The stakeholder survey and focus group results will be presented by MSBA to the School Board on February 7. At this meeting, MSBA will talk about interview training, discuss the stakeholder survey and discuss interview questions and schedules for the first round of interviews.

American Indian Annual Compliance Agreement

Freida Bailey, Principal on Special Assignment and Julia McBride-Bibby, Multicultural Liaison/Curriculum Staff, presented the American Indian Program, along with representatives from the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC); Scott Shoemaker, Chair, Rachel King, Co-Chair and Tahra Bielous, Secretary. The AIPAC met to discuss whether or not they concur with the educational offerings that have been extended by St. Louis Park School to American Indian students. The AIPAC issued St. Louis Park Public Schools a Vote of Concurrence.

2024 Pay Equity Report

Richard Kreyer, Director of Human Resources, presented the District compensation structure and Pay Equity report and answered questions from the School Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Williams, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

ACTION AGENDA

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Mancini, seconded by Davis, to approve School Board Policy 545 - Park Spanish Immersion Admissions as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Casey, seconded by Davis, to approve the 2024 Pay Equity Report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSMITTALS

Board members reported on recent educational activities/events in which they have participated.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was heard and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Central Community Center - District Office, Room 21.

Submitted by
Barb Mumm,
Temporary Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed: Chair _____ Clerk _____

Date _____ Date _____