

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 17, 2012

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

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

- Chair Wasson called the special school board meeting of April 17, 2012 to order at 5:42 p.m.

Member Kasper presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION Executive (Closed) Session

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.03 subdivision 1(b) allowing a closed session for discussing contract parameters for pending labor negotiations with all impacted bargaining units.

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.05 subdivision 2(a)(3) closing a meeting for discussing private educational data.

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.05 subdivision 2(b) allowing a closed session for preliminary consideration of allegations against employees of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT 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, April 17, 2012 at approximately 5:00 p.m. (or to follow the Education Committee meeting) in the Board Conference Room of Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of discussion related to contract parameters for pending labor negotiations with all impacted bargaining units; for discussion related to private educational data; and, for preliminary consideration of allegations against employees of the District.

Resolution HR-4-12-3003

April 17, 2012

M-Kasper, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-4-12-3003 – Executive Closed Session.

Member Johnston asked if public comment could be allowed. Chair Wasson stated that there could not be public discussion regarding the items on the agenda.

Upon a vote on the resolution as presented, the same was approved – unanimously.

The board recessed into closed session at 5:46

The board reconvened at 6:41

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Tim Sworsky, Human Resources Certified Manager, reviewed the violations as listed related to Charles Tolo, as the head basketball coach at East High School.

Member Westholm presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION NON-RENEWING COACHING CONTRACT

WHEREAS, Charles Tolo was hired by the School District as Head Coach of the Varsity Boys' Basketball Team at East High School for the 2011-12 school year.

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

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 122A.33, subdivision 3, the coaching contract of Charles Tolo is hereby non-renewed effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.
2. The School Board has reviewed and hereby approves the written notice informing Charles Tolo of the non-renewal of his coaching contract. The Duluth East Principal is directed to sign the written notice of non-renewal on behalf of the School Board.
3. The Duluth East Principal, or her designee, is directed to serve Charles Tolo with a copy of this Resolution and the written notice informing him of the non-renewal of his coaching contract. Service on Charles Tolo shall be accomplished by regular and certified mail and shall take place within fourteen (14) calendar days of the adoption of this Resolution.

HR-4-12-3004

April 17, 2012

M-Westholm, S-Kasper, to approve Resolution B-4-12-3004 – Resolution Non-Renewing Coaching Contract.

Member Johnston stated that he wanted to hear from Mr. Tolo. Mr. Sworsky explained that he would be able to respond to the board through a process after the board makes their decision. Member Johnston expressed his concern with the fact that no one has looked at extenuating circumstances and the lack of evidence. Member Cameron stated she would not support the resolution due process issues and lack of consistency in the district.

Upon a vote on the resolution as presented, the same was approved 5-2 as follows:

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

Nay: Cameron, Johnston

Member Westholm presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION NON-RENEWING COACHING CONTRACT

WHEREAS, Will Starks was hired by the School District as Assistant Coach of the Varsity Boys' Basketball Team at East High School for the 2011-12 school year.

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

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1. The coaching contract of Will Starks is hereby non-renewed effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.
2. The School Board has reviewed and hereby approves the written notice informing Will Starks of the non-renewal of his coaching contract. The Duluth East Principal is directed to sign the written notice of non-renewal on behalf of the School Board.
3. The Duluth East Principal, or her designee, is directed to serve Will Starks with a copy of this Resolution and the written notice informing him of the non-renewal of his coaching contract. Service on Will Starks shall be accomplished by regular and certified mail and shall take place within fourteen (14) calendar days of the adoption of this Resolution.

B-4-12-3006

April 17, 2012

M-Westholm, S-Kasper, to approve Resolution B-4-12-3006 – Resolution Non-Renewing Coaching Contract.

Member Johnston stated that he would not support the resolution due to lack of evidence and not looking at extenuating circumstances.

Upon a vote on the resolution as presented, the same was approved 5-2 as follows:

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

Nay: Cameron, Johnston

- Chair Wasson adjourned the Special School Board meeting of April 17, 2012 at 6:55 p.m.