

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
January 8, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws (*following Community Input*) with the following Board Members present: Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws, Bruce Hentges, Heather Weems.

I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting and Work Session agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Hentges, Weems. Motion carried.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Hentges, seconded by Andreasen to:

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

LICENSED STAFF

Extended Contract

Pamela Waage, Nurse, Cathedral High School, effective January 2, 2025 through January 31, 2025, Lane MA, Pay Level 11 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Waage’s salary for this assignment will be \$1,681.18.

Sarah Degree, Nurse, North Junior High School, effective January 2, 2025 through January 31, 2025, Lane MA, Pay Level 5 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Degree’s salary for this assignment will be \$1,508.07.

Samantha Olson, Occupational Therapist, Apollo High School, effective November 26, 2024 through December 15, 2024, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Olson’s salary for this assignment will be \$1,318.80.

Katrina Gearhart, Occupational Therapist, Talahi Community School, effective November 26, 2024 through December 15, 2024, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Gearhart's salary for this assignment will be \$659.40.

Andrew Lehn, Social Studies Teacher, South Junior High School, effective December 2, 2024 through June 4, 2025, Lane MA+10, Pay Level 6 (.20 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Lehn's salary for this assignment will be \$8,992.50.

Resignation

Joleen Koopman, ABE ELL Instructor, Quarryview Education Center, effective December 18, 2024.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Joshua Harris, Boys Basketball Coach, North Junior High School, effective January 2, 2025, with an annual stipend of \$3,312.

Thomas Borrett, Student Support Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Javaughn Freeman, Boys Basketball Coach, North Junior High School, effective January 6, 2025, with an annual stipend of \$2,838.

Dek Derbi, Van Driver, District Services Building, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$17.37.

Susan Silber, Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, North Junior High School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Michelle Keller, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective January 6, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Darien Stegner, Restorative Practitioner Specialist, South Junior High School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$26.00.

Kim Haskamp, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Niana Frazee, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Jeannie Benage, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Naima Muhsin, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Asli Jimaale, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 20, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Ugbad Abdulahi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Isaiah Garretson, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective December 17, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.25.

Jordan Lemke-Berzins, Custodian, Tech High School, effective December 17, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Colleen Grady, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective January 9, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Sahra Wais, Student Support Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 16, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Faisa Abdirahman, Student Support Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 16, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Brenda Stang, Kitchen Helper, Talahi Community School, effective December 10, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Shawnjaia Evans, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective December 18, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.25.

Yusuf Omar, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective December 19, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Mariam Dhiba, Kitchen Helper, Apollo High School, effective December 10, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Siham Abdi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 5, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Jaymeson Thom, Custodian, Madison Elementary School, effective December 5, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Anthony Keller, Custodian, Madison Elementary School, effective December 5, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Tiffany Daniels, Family Access and Community Liaison Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective December 9, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$39.06.

Shaina Rosa, Behavior Truancy Interventionist, North Junior High School, effective November 21, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$26.00.

Carole Braun, Substitute Kitchen Helper, District Wide, effective December 4, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Galyna Stewart, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective November 21, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Edna Rodriguez, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective December 16, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Andrea Cook, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Roosevelt Education Center, effective December 9, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Rehire

Jamie Updike, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective January 9, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.25.

Brianna Walz, Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$20.72.

Resignation

Jibril Ahmed, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective December 20, 2024.

Jonathan Eichten, Literacy Accountability Assistant, Community Ed, effective December 19, 2024.

Retirement

Karen Schreifels, First Cook, South Junior High School, effective January 31, 2025, after 12 years of service in District 742.

Termination

Kimberly Cogswell, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, InStep, effective December 13, 2024.

Approve the Monthly Financial Report for November 2024.

Approve the Monthly Treasurer’s Report for November 2024.

Approve the Amended 2025 Legislative Platform.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Hentges, Weems. Motion carried.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. PreSchool 4 Success Update

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, along with Rotarians Amy Trombley and Gayla Holmgren, provided an update on the Preschool 4 Success partnership with District 742. This is a partnership with several agencies, led by the Rotary Club, to benefit additional 4-year-olds in our school district in key neighborhoods for these littlest learners who might not otherwise get a chance to go to preschool. The Rotary Club and District 742 each generate 50% of the funding for this program.

A review of the program that began in 2021-22 and has continued into 2024-25 includes six classrooms at three schools, with 90 4-year-olds supported by three teachers and three paraprofessionals. Future goals include continued advocacy with the Minnesota Legislature and fundraising efforts.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Elementary School Boundaries

Assistant Superintendent Nikki Hansen and Executive Director Joel Heitkamp provided an overview of the proposed Elementary School Boundary changes.

Current space challenges at Oak Hill and Talahi with current space opportunities at Clearview. Enrollment trends were reviewed along with proposed housing developments and current boundaries.

Considerations: St. Augusta Area & County Road 8 area south of Minnesota Blvd.

- Move areas to Clearview.
- Starting 2025-26 school year, move will be optional for existing 742 families.
- New to district students would attend Clearview.
- Kindergarten students with siblings would utilize the same waiver process as Clearview Immersion students.

- This boundary adjustment will not affect middle school or high school.

This agenda item will come back to the January 22, 2025 Board meeting as an Action Item requesting Board approval.

IV. REPORTS

A. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports this evening.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Chair Haws noted January 22, 2025 Regular Board Meeting topics will include:

- Comprehensive Arts Planning Program
- Apollo High School Presentation
- Girls' Soccer Co-op
- Approval of Elementary School Boundaries

VI. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Board meeting.

All Board members stated “aye”. The Board meeting concluded at 7:24 p.m.

The Board then moved to the Work Session, which included discussion of the following items:

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION

A. Full Service Community Schools Presentation

Sang Maxwell, Director of Partnerships for Student Success, along with Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) Site Coordinators Amran Yusuf at Discovery and Abdallah Mire at North, provided an overview of Full Service Community Schools which integrate academic, health, and social services to improve student learning and engage the community. They are hubs of support which incorporate our four pillars of Safety, Sense of Belonging, Collaboration, and Excellence.

Safety – Historical roots in the early 1900’s with settlement houses providing social services to immigrants. In the 1990-2000’s, a modern full-service model emerges addressing comprehensive needs. Today there are over 5,000 schools nationwide funded through various sources. Five years of federal FSCS grant funding with 2024

dedicated to planning and setting up site coordinators at Discovery and North. The grant is our blueprint, and our assessments will help our work.

Belonging – Key components include expanded and enriched learning, integrated support, community partnerships, and collaborative leadership.

Collaboration – Creating systemic change through collaborative partnerships, wraparound support, and students and families gaining agency.

Excellence: High Expectations and High Supports – Community benefits of academic success, behavioral improvements, and strong connections. Our vision of success is thriving students, equitable opportunities, and strong communities. Driving positive change through an integrated approach, community empowerment, and sustainable impact.

B. Schools Update

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, highlighted Oak Hill who puts safety first during physical education with teachers being careful with equipment and providing rules to have a safe and nurturing environment where children learn and are supported and cared for. Belonging includes celebrating with an annual anti-bullying parade promoting community spirit, kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. The district's partnership with Great Theater showcased Finding Nemo for fifth graders' play in a week which enriches students' educational experience and fosters a wide range of skills which contribute to their overall development and future success. High expectations included recognizing Student of the Month awards in December to celebrate their academic and social emotional development and excellence.

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, provided an update on behalf of Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, by highlighting North as they held Family Conferences this week and provided a safe and caring space for teachers and staff as they met with families. Over 60 students competed in the annual Spelling Bee for a wonderful sense of belonging. Collaboration was evident as students with good attendance participated in a No Tardy Party. High expectations included the North Robotics Team who won awards at the last league tournament with three out of four teams already heading to the State Tournament.

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, highlighted safety as we trained 90 bus drivers from Trobecs and Spanier in reframing behaviors and de-escalating strategies. Additionally, we are continuing Restorative Practices training for Student Support staff to help build healthy relationships and repair harm when there is conflict. CPI training was also held today for Nutritional Services staff. Our goal is to always reinforce a sense of belonging for students in their classroom and one way we accomplish this is with hallway hubs and

regulation stations in elementary classrooms which offer in-the-moment opportunities for students to practice self-regulation and mindfulness so they can return to the classroom. Over the last four years, we have collaborated with United Way of Central MN who has supported us with grant funding to have a General Ed Social Worker at Talahi who provides mental health skills training and social/emotional supports to over 200 students in K-3. High expectations features using SpEd Forms for our 504 Plans for our approximately 300 students who qualify. Counselors serve as our 504 Plan Managers, and they received training last spring to begin using SpEd Forms. This helps schools adhere to legal requirements by providing a structured framework.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE WORK SESSION

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Work Session. All Board members stated “aye”.

The Work Session ended at 7:48 p.m.

Bruce Hentges, Clerk

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.