

Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at: Denfeld High School Media Center, 401 North Forty-Fourth Avenue West, Duluth, Minnesota 55807, on

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Members Present:

Kelly Durick Eder
David Kirby (arrived at 5:11 pm)
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Jill Lofald
Alanna Oswald
Paul Sandholm
Sally Trnka

Others Present:

John Magas, Superintendent
Anthony Bonds, Assistant Superintendent
Patty Paquette, Secretary

Chair Lofald called the Special School Board meeting of December 7, 2021 to order at 5:07 p.m.

Member Durick-Eder presented the resolution:

Resolution

FY22 Calendar Change

WHEREAS, Duluth Public Schools is proposing action to address staff and student safety, including the impact of staffing shortages on district operations by extending the 2021-2022 Winter Break; and

WHEREAS, with general staffing shortages, every position in the district has been impacted; and

WHEREAS, the district needs to ensure that sufficient custodial, clerical, child nutrition, paraprofessional, transportation, support, childcare, and instructional staff to safely serve our students; and

WHEREAS, the district wants to ensure student, staff and family safety by providing COVID testing opportunities for students and staff as they return to school from winter break; and

WHEREAS, due to the recent increases in case numbers, as well as the unknowns related to the new variant, the district is planning to offer testing through local public health and our community partners on Monday, January 3rd; and

WHEREAS, the district also recognizes and acknowledges the stress and challenges both families and staff are facing due to the pandemic; and

2 – Special School Board Meeting
June 17, 2021

WHEREAS, the district wants to give students, school staff and their families an extended break to recognize these efforts and sacrifices and encourage everyone to use this time to get vaccinated or get a booster shot if eligible and haven't already done so; and

WHEREAS, the district recognizes that food service and child care needs must be acknowledged and supported and the district is proud to be working with our community partners to assist with these vital needs; and

WHEREAS, the district has proposed the addition of two district wide closure dates as part of the calendar modification plan after reviewing staffing trends on days prior to and immediately following breaks

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 that Wednesday, December 22, 2021 and Monday, January 3, 2022 will be non-school days, the district will be closed, and staff will be compensated.

Resolution SP-12-21-3854

December 7, 2021

M-Durick Eder, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution SP-12-21-3854 – Resolution FY22 Calendar Change.

Superintendent Magas presented the Safe Learning Plan, and discussion followed.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

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

Chair Lofald adjourned the Special School Board Meeting of December 7, 2021 at 5:42 p.m.