

November 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM - Regular Business Meeting

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, November 26, 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, Taylor Williams, Abdihakim Ibrahim, Celia Anderson, and Superintendent Hines. Also present were members of the Cabinet. School Board Members Not Present: Sarah Davis

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Colin Cox called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. at the Central Community Center - District Office

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair, Colin 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 Anderson, seconded by Williams, to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were two Public Comment participants.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hines centered her report around the district's commitment to fostering an inclusive, globally aware community that values diversity, civic engagement, and educational excellence. Her report highlighted key community interactions and district initiatives aimed at enhancing student experiences and engagement. The following topics were discussed:

1. **Senior Programs "Coffee with Us"**: Dr. Hines participated in the October series, engaging with community members and Mayor Mohamed, fostering dialogue and collaboration on local issues.
2. **Visit from Somali Ambassador Dahir Hassan Abdi**: The district hosted the Somali Ambassador, reinforcing the importance of global perspectives and diversity within our schools.
3. **School Law Conference**: Dr. Hines participated in a panel at the conference, showcasing the district's innovative efforts while learning from other education leaders.
4. **November Celebrations**: The district is observing Native American Heritage Month and American Education Week, honoring the contributions of Native American communities as well as the pivotal role of education in shaping the future.
5. **Student Civic Engagement**: Sixth graders participated in a mock election and explored local government, deepening their understanding of democracy and civic responsibility.

6. **Kindergarten Enrollment:** Early enrollment for the 2025-26 school year kicked off with the Kindergarten Welcome event, receiving 66 submissions, demonstrating strong interest from families.

Dr. Hines closed by expressing gratitude to the entire school community for their ongoing commitment to student learning, growth, and engagement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dr. Silvy Lafayette, Director of Assessment, Research, and Evaluation presented a data story showcasing how the efforts of the Gifted and Talented Design Team, along with the first Youth Data Analyst internship cohort, have contributed to an increase in enrollment in advanced-level classes.

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, presented the FY2024 Year-End Audit Results alongside the first FY2025 Mid-Year Budget Update, which reflects the FY2024 results as the beginning balance.

Ashley Sukhu, Communications Director, provided an overview of the strategic planning timeline. In her presentation, she highlighted the ongoing work being conducted by Pink Consulting in support of the planning process.

Patrice Howard, Director of Community Education, and Katie Elsbernd, Adult Programs Manager, presented a review of the 2023-2024 Adult Programs, highlighting how key initiatives led to increased participation and engagement in adult education courses. They discussed the impact of program improvements and outreach efforts that helped better serve the needs of adult learners.

Ashley Sukhu, Communications Director, provided an overview of the feedback received during the budget listening session. She highlighted key themes from the initial data and discussed plans for gathering additional feedback in the future.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Cox, seconded by Ibrahim, 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 Casey to approve the bids in the amount of \$11,562,840, and Knutson General Conditions of \$1,657,973, for a total of \$13,220,813. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Mancini, seconded by Cox to approve Policy 614 School District Testing Plan and Procedure as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Williams, seconded by Anderson to approve Policy 410 Family and Medical Leave Policy as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Willaims, seconded by Mancini to approve Policy 413 Harassment and Violence as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Anderson, seconded by Cox to approve Policy 503.3 Admission of Resident Students as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

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 8:07 p.m.

Submitted by:
Jazmin Hankerson,
Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed: Chair _____ Clerk _____
Date _____ Date _____