

MEMO

To: School Board Members
Superintendent Magas

From: Cathy Erickson

Date: April 2, 2021

Re: Special meeting resolution for April 6th and HOCHS transition progress update

On the April 6, 2021 special meeting agenda you will find a resolution to authorize district administration and our project management team to compile and submit required documentation to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) for formal review and comment which will represent planning that has been shared with school board members over the past several months related to the school district development at the Central on the Hill site.

MDE reviews standard parameters, including enrollment, geographic area, existing District facilities, current deficiencies, description of the proposed improvements, method of financing, etc. This is to make sure we are in statute and MDE compliance, as well as allowing the review of the financial plan for the project. This submission happens for every district doing a project of \$2 million or more.

This process approval allows the District to continue to develop plans and specifications in order to move forward with the project planning and allows us to develop documents for the future sale of bonds related to the Special Legislation approved in October of 2020.

Once MDE has completed the review we will share with the school board the feedback provided. Due to the delay in our regular school board meeting in April caused by spring break, this board approval on April 6 will allow us to keep within our timelines.

Also attached to this memo is our Monthly Progress Report related to the transition from HOCHS. Much work is happening in several key areas, including securing transition space, permanent space, floor plan design feedback from district programs and staff, site testing, and coordination with the City of Duluth.

We will be looking to you as board members to help support and communicate with our City elected officials. Jeff Anderson will be coordinating this and providing information soon.

Please reach out to me if you have any further questions and we look forward to continuing to share more project progress and next steps.

