

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
February 19, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws. Absent: Heather Weems.

I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Board member Copeland to remove Item D (Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations) from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Board member Andreasen to remove Items E (Bid Award – North Junior High LTFM Improvements) and F (Bid Award – South Junior High LTFM Improvements) from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Dorholt to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C and G.

Approve the minutes from board meetings on January 6, 2025, January 8, 2025, and January 22, 2025.

Approval of Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$2,198,685.55.

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

New Hire

Salomino Bywaters, Tier 1 SPED EBD Long Call Substitute Teacher, Apollo High School, effective October 9, 2024 through November 15, 2024, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (27 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$7,171.93.

Tanner Armstrong, Tier 1 SPED EBD Teacher, Tech High School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$49,141.

Rehire

Salomino Bywaters, Tier 1 SPED LD Long Call Substitute Teacher, Apollo High School, effective November 26, 2024 through December 10, 2024, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (10.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$2,789.08.

Extended Contract

Cira Hunstad, SPED Psychologist, Westwood Elementary School, effective January 21, 2025 through February 28, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Hunstad's salary for this assignment will be \$2,559.08.

Jaclyn Salisbury, SPED Psychologist, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 21, 2025 through February 28, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Salisbury's salary for this assignment will be \$1,279.54.

Tyson Zitzow, SPED Psychologist, North Junior High School, effective January 21, 2025 through February 28, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Zitzow's salary for this assignment will be \$1,465.33.

Patrick Russell, SPED Psychologist, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective January 21, 2025 through February 28, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Russell's salary for this assignment will be \$1,465.33.

Lynn Wells, SPED Early Childhood Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective November 27, 2024 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 11 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Well's salary for this assignment will be \$9,606.74.

Kelly DeWeese, Occupational Therapist, Quarryview Education Center, effective January 21, 2025 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. DeWeese's salary for this assignment will be \$7,719.89.

Lindsey John, Physical Therapist, District Wide, effective January 21, 2025 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. John's salary for this assignment will be \$3,859.95.

Lisa Gapinski, Physical Therapist, District Wide, effective January 21, 2025 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Gapinski's salary for this assignment will be \$4,420.41.

Leave of Absence

Hayley Erdman, SPED EBD Teacher, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective April 1, 2025 through May 16, 2025.

Jorden Bell, Reading Intervention Teacher, North Junior High School, effective April 21, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

Megan Ramsey, Chemical Dependency Counselor, Tech High School, effective January 13, 2025 through January 24, 2025.

Shane Broermann, Social Studies Teacher, McKinley-ALC, Intermittent leave, effective September 5, 2024 through September 4, 2025.

Donald Chapman, EL Teacher, Madison Elementary School, Intermittent leave, effective January 15, 2025 through January 14, 2026.

Lynn Keenan, Language Arts Teacher, McKinley-ALC, Intermittent leave, effective September 12, 2024 through September 11, 2025.

Resignation

Cassidy McGaughey, Art Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective June 2, 2025.

Melissa Bach, Science Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective June 2, 2025. Ms. Bach was previously on a leave of absence.

Retirement

Nicole Palm, Early Childhood Family Education Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective June 2, 2025, after 36 years of service in District 742.

Susan Sperstad, Grade 3 Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 17 years of service in District 742.

Sandra Shettel, Counselor, Oak Hill Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 5 years of service in District 742.

Todd Sanford, Science Teacher, North Junior High School, effective June 2, 2025, after 11 years of service in District 742.

Lynda Senger, Grade 5 Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 25 years of service in District 742.

Julia Schuldt-Martinez, EL Teacher, Apollo High School, effective June 2, 2025, after 27 years of service in District 742.

Daniel Schaefer, Science Teacher and Soccer Coach, Kennedy Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 26 years of service in District 742.

Patrick Russell, SPED Psychologist, Discovery Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 24 years of service in District 742.

Roselyn Pavel, Early Childhood SPED Evaluation Teacher, Madison Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 2 years of service in District 742.

Tammy Mate-Peterson, Grade 4 Spanish Immersion Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 13 years of service in District 742.

Karen Mastin, SPED Speech Language Pathologist, Discovery Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 31 years of service in District 742.

Julie Krebs, Kindergarten Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 34 years of service in District 742.

Mary Hackey, SPED LD Teacher, SCSU C02 Program, effective June 2, 2025, after 26 years of service in District 742.

Susan Gross, Grade 2 Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 11 years of service in District 742.

Ann Gromberg, Kindergarten Teacher, Discovery Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 33 years of service in District 742. Ms. Gromberg was previously on a leave of absence.

Andria Christenson, EL Teacher, North Junior High School, effective June 2, 2025, after 24 years of service in District 742. Ms. Christenson was previously on a leave of absence.

Brent Benson, SPED DD Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective June 2, 2025, after 3 years of service in District 742.

Julie Barkley, Elementary Grade Level Lead, District Wide, effective June 2, 2025, after 35 years of service in District 742.

Jill Adelman-Weis, Kindergarten Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 37 years of service in District 742.

Mary Adelman, Grade 2 Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025, after 26 years of service in District 742.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Daniel Modi, Boys' Basketball Coach, North Junior High School, effective January 6, 2025, with an annual stipend of \$1,419.

Liliana Murray, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective February 12, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Charles Hamel, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective February 12, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Rehire

Christel Ross, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective February 12, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Ahmed Noor, Student Support Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective February 6, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Dol Abdulahi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center and Talahi Community School, effective February 6, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Jacob Deters, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective February 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Leave of Absence

Steve Hehn, Custodian, Lincoln Elementary School, effective February 27, 2025 through April 28, 2025.

Resignation

Aminata Kaba, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective February 21, 2025.

Faisa Suleyman, Custodian, Apollo High School, effective February 24, 2025.

Edna Rodriguez, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective February 7, 2025.

Terry James, Custodian, District Services Building, effective January 21, 2025.

Fatoumata Kaba, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective February 18, 2025.

Ella Lumpkin, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective February 18, 2025.

Sara Barnes, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective February 28, 2025.

Susan Silber, Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective January 28, 2025.

Stephanie Cox, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Roosevelt Education Center, effective January 30, 2025.

Asma Said, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective January 31, 2025. Ms. Said was previously on a leave of absence.

Amina Babic-Martinez, Level IV Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective February 7, 2025.

Termination

Yusuf Omar, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective February 6, 2025.

Michelle Keller, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective January 6, 2025.

Takyla Weeks, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 21, 2025.

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 522 – Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedure (*Change in Law*).

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

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Fenton to approve Consent Agenda Item D (Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations). Board member Copeland recused herself from this agenda item.

1. Donations to Apollo High School:

- \$1,000 from Kiwanis Club of St. Cloud, Inc to the Scholarship program on behalf of the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club Scholarship Fund
 - 1,000 toothbrushes, toothpastes, and floss picks from St. Cloud Family Dental to Eagle Resources (WeACT) for student use
 - 100 pairs of socks, 21 pairs of men’s underwear, 8 winter hats, and 2 winter coats from American Legion Auxiliary Unit 428 to Eagle Resources (WeACT) for student use
 - \$1,500 from Optimist Club of St. Cloud to the Scholarship program on behalf of the 2025 Optimist Club Scholarship Fund
2. Donation to Discovery Community School:
 - 4 cases of soda from Bernick’s for an event night
 3. Donation to Kennedy Community School:
 - \$275 from District 742 LEAF for Sensory Bin Fillers
 4. Donation to Madison Elementary School:
 - \$105.60 from Box Tops for Education for general use
 5. Donations to South Junior High School:
 - Violin and folding music stand from John Anderson for the Orchestra Program
 - \$200 from Donald and Lydia Wade for the VEX Robotics Beta Team
 6. Donations to Talahi Community School:
 - \$967.34 from Cash Wise to provide snacks for kindergarten students
 - \$844.32 from United Way to purchase Right to Read materials and books for families
 - \$201.45 from Shutterfly commission check for fall pictures
 7. Donation to Tech High School:
 - \$1,500 from Ryan Alex for Senior Scholarships on behalf of the Norm and Margaret Lindahl Memorial Scholarship Fund
 8. Donations to District 742:
 - \$2,000 from Clearwater Lions Club for Crush Wrestling
 - \$200 from T&R Meat Processing for Crush wrestling t-shirts
 - Adult tricycle from The Bikeguys for the DAPE Program
 - \$350 from Bell Bank for Girls’ Crush Hockey bus costs

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws. Abstained: Copeland. Motion passed 4-0.

Board member Andreasen requested more information about Consent Agenda Items E (Bid Award – North Junior High LTFM Improvements) and F (Bid Award – South Junior

High LTFM Improvements) as there hasn't been a recent Board Finance Meeting to review them.

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, noted these two items are summer LTFM projects at North and South. The majority is converting existing restrooms to single user restrooms and replacing the movable wall in both gyms, and panel board and window replacements which is only at North. All of these items are aligned with the LTFM plan that the Board approved last July 2024.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve Consent Agenda Items E and F.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws. Motion carried.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Clearview School Presentation

Principal Ann Jurewicz provided an overview of Clearview Elementary School including the Continuous Improvement Plan objectives and four pillars of Safety, Sense of Belonging, Collaboration, and Excellence.

Collaboration - New beginnings and new relationships and honoring our school's strengths of Instructional Leadership Team, District Leaders, GLAs and community connections with our PTA for Veteran's Day, St. John's Outdoor University, and the Forest Project.

Safety and Sense of Belonging – Activities include staff and community celebrations that foster a safe and welcoming school climate and culture to strengthen and expand family engagement and partnerships to support student success. CIP indicators highlight 82% feel supported with student behavior and 87% feel a part of the community.

Excellence: High Expectations and High Supports – Academic rigor with fun in literacy, math, and science. Teachers collaborate using the adapted curriculum, data, and reflection to increase student learning. Cognitive benefits of biliteracy include effective communication, social intelligence, and help controlling attention and manage behavior. Excellence and innovation include MakerSpace, AI training, Modern Classroom, and student-centered quality instruction.

B. MDE Review and Comment Summary

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, provided an overview of the Review and Comment document for the April 8, 2025 referendum which is required to be submitted to the MDE Commissioner of Education. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 123B.71, the School Board must discuss the

Commissioner's review and comment at a public meeting prior to the date of the bond referendum election.

C. American Indian Education Update

Ayan Omar, Director of Equity Services, Kip Perkins, Coordinator of American Indian Education, and Heather Broda, American Indian Education Cultural Liaison, provided an update on American Indian Education in District 742.

There are 275 American Indian students in the district with 154 in elementary and 121 in secondary who each have an individualized learning plan with a cultural identity goal. Elementary programming includes reading with Kip and Heather, weekly lunch groups and 1:1 check in/check out with Heather. Secondary programming includes college visits, weekly beading circles, and the district hosting upcoming financial aid assistance for MN Indian Scholarships, Tribal Scholarships, and American Indian Tuition Waiver Schools. Sixty percent of our American Indian students graduated in 2024, and we have 23 seniors in this year's graduating class. Coming to St. Cloud in April is a Construct Tomorrow Career Fair to bring awareness to high school students about the amazing post-secondary opportunities in the construction and building trades industries.

Community events include Indigenous Peoples Day, an annual Powwow, Native American drumming/singing and storytelling. Opportunities for educators include Native Studies Summer Workshop for Educators hosted by different reservations each year and Minnesota Indian Education Association (MIEA) Conference with NAPAC. Teachers in Minnesota must now complete a re-licensure requirement focused on American Indian history and culture.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Native American Parent Advisory Committee (NAPAC) Compliance Documentation

Ayan Omar, Director of Equity Services, noted districts that report an American Indian student count of 20 or more to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) are eligible to participate in the American Indian Education Aid Program. This program uses state reported American Indian student counts along with a per pupil funding formula to determine aid award estimates. MDE requires the Native American Parent Advisory Committee (NAPAC) and the district to closely collaborate each spring on the annual compliance also known as the Vote of Concurrence or Non-Concurrence. Annual compliance is a mid-year reflection point for NAPAC and has its own unique requirements within the state statutes.

Ms. Omar introduced NAPAC's Chair Rosemary Wacker who explained the parent advisory committee has transitioned from the committee's former name of American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) to Native American Parent Advisory

Committee (NAPAC) since most prefer to identify themselves as Native Americans. They noticed this transition by other school districts at last year's MIEA Conference.

Ms. Wacker shared the parents on NAPAC entered a vote of non-concurrence and for the Board to continue with the recommendations presented last year. She also recognized all the great work that is being done for American Indian students.

B. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 525 – Violence Prevention (Applicable to Students and Staff) - (Second Reading)

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, noted she reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 525 – Violence Prevention (Applicable to Students and Staff) in depth at the February 5, 2025 board meeting. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the consent agenda at the March 12, 2025 Board of Education Meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

C. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 535 – Service Animals in Schools (Second Reading)

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, noted she reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 535 – Service Animals in Schools in depth at the February 5, 2025 board meeting. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the consent agenda at the March 12, 2025 Board of Education Meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

D. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of Spring Golf Co-op

Dr. Jason Harris, along with Apollo Activities Director Karl Heine, provided an overview for a request for a new Spring Crush Golf Co-op with St. Cloud Christian School and Holdingford School.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the new Spring Crush Golf Co-op with St. Cloud Christian School and Holdingford School.

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

VI. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Laurie Putnam provided an update on the Apollo Referendum which included meeting with internal district staff, community groups, families, civic groups, and higher education institutions, for a total of 85 presentations. Many thanks to Apollo Principal Justin Skaalerud along with Gary Ganje, Executive Director of Special Projects, and Tami Deland, Director of Community Engagement and

Communications, for supporting Dr. Putnam and Mr. Skaalerud in their attendance at these meetings. Early voting begins here at the District Office on Friday, February 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will continue until April 7, prior to the General Election on April 8.

B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

1. Diana Fenton, Chair of the Achievement, Integration and Equity Committee, noted the committee met today and reviewed the American Indian Education Program which was presented at tonight's Board meeting.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Haws noted the March 12, 2025 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Clearview Fields Partnership
- Annual Staffing Timelines
- Say Something Presentation
- Schools Update
- Policy Readings

IX. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

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

All Board members stated "aye". The Board meeting concluded at 7:48 p.m.

Zach Dorholt, Clerk Pro Tem

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