

## **Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting**

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at the Historic Old Central High School, 215 North First Avenue East, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, on

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

### **Members Present:**

Annie Harala  
Art Johnston  
David Kirby  
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp  
Alanna Oswald  
Harry Welty

### **Others Present:**

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent  
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk  
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

### **Student Representatives:**

Spencer Fredrickson  
Johanna Uden

### **Absent:**

Nora Sandstad

➤ Chair Harala called the regular school board meeting of October 18, 2016 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

### **M-Kirby, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the agenda as presented.**

Chair Harala asked school board members if there was any discussion on the agenda.

### **M-Oswald, S-Welty, motioned to amend the agenda to delete item 5C – Resolution B-10-16-3402 - Board Request for a Meeting from the Business Committee report.**

Discussion took place regarding this item.

### **Upon a vote, the motion to the amend the agenda was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Harala asked school board members if there was any discussion on the remainder of the agenda.

### **Upon a vote, the amended agenda was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of September 20, 2016.

### **M-Oswald, S-Kirby, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**School and Community Recognition**  
**October 2016**

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Members of the Board, this month I'm pleased to present Pam Rees and Becky Crane for recognition. Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton has appointed Becky Crane as *Special Education Coordinator Representative* of the Governor's Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Intervention. Becky is an Early Childhood Teacher on Special Assignment for ISD 709. The Council addresses methods for implementing a statewide system of comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary interagency programs of early intervention services for young children with disabilities and their families. Pam Rees, Duluth Head Start Administrator, has been appointed to the *Early Learning Council* by Governor Dayton. The Council makes recommendations to the Governor and Children's Cabinet, including proposed legislation on how to effectively create a high-quality early childhood system in Minnesota to ensure all children arrive at kindergarten school-ready. Pam and Becky, the appointments are a clear reflection of your expertise, dedication to your field, and willingness to serve students not only in Duluth but throughout Minnesota. Congratulations!

**Public Comments**  
**October 2016**

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Member Loeffler-Kemp read the community vision statement.

Lynn Kuehnow, address not given, spoke to the School Board about the lack of pay raises for monitors at the schools and the possibility of a pay raise for the superintendent.

Bernie Burnham, 4130 West Fourth Street, spoke to the School Board about the great things going on in the district such as staff development day, and what positive things are happening in the classrooms.

Brian Jungman, 418 Minneapolis Avenue, spoke to the School Board about happenings at Denfeld such as the upcoming musical, the band actively recruiting new members; the school paper has started an online feature, and the Hunter Pride group working hard to promote positive things at Denfeld.

Sandy Chesley, 6129 Sunset Road, thanked the School Board for their support. The new textbooks and equipment for the PhyEd courses are up and running and being well used.

**Communications, Petitions, Etc.**  
**October 2016**

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Superintendent Gronseth stated no communications had been received.

**Superintendent's Report**  
**October 2016**

As a community, we value creating welcoming environments where the uniqueness of each person is honored and valued, recognizing that we all come from many different circumstances and cultures. A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. October is National Bullying prevention Awareness Month. Just about everyone has a story to tell about bullying behaviors - for some it's a personal experience, for others it's about how bullying has affected a friend or loved one. Regardless of where it happens - in schools, the workplace, in the community - we all have a responsibility to know what bullying is and to know what to do to prevent, prepare, respond and recover. So often our students can lead the way--for example, on Sunday students from East High School held their third annual Path to Peace Walk to raise awareness for bullying prevention. It is wonderful to see students taking the lead on important topics and really serving as role models for everyone. Thank you to the students and staff who organized this event; keep up the good work! Last Spring, the Federal Government passed a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act-- formerly known as "No Child Left Behind", it is now referred to as ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) and earlier this month the Minnesota Department of Education hosted a regional meeting about ESSA right here in Duluth at Denfeld High School. They shared information about the plan to develop what this will mean for the state of MN. They were also here to gather input on what people would like to see reflected in the plan. They are holding other events across the state and work has already begun on developing a plan. They hope to have a finished plan by this Spring. And just a reminder--this is a short week for students. This is MEA week. That stands for Minnesota Educator Academy and it is a conference hosted by Education Minnesota. There are teachers from all over the state that attend this conference. Students do not have school on Thursday or Friday. The district offices are open on Thursday but will be closed on Friday. And now it's time for our student reports.

East High: Student Representative Spencer Fredrickson shared the students' excitement about the long MEA weekend. The month of October is 'East for Peace' month to address bullying. The students held a peace walk in downtown at Duluth with about 100-200 students participating. Students are looking forward to an upcoming fun run while wearing costumes to bring awareness to mental health. Juniors are gearing up for the ACT test and an upcoming theatre production of Cinderella, which will be running the end of October. The girls' tennis team upset Elk River to get a spot at state!

Denfeld High: Student Representative Johanna Uden shared information regarding the Homecoming, Spirit Days, and the coronation and pep rally fun that was had at the beginning of October. The state winning basketball team from 1947 was inducted into the Hunter Hall of Fame and presented the students with the net from the winning game. A respect retreat was held with freshman going to Laura MacArthur and spending the whole day teaching the elementary students about respect. Sixty students were recently inducted in the National Honor Society. Design Center opening soon!

**Education Committee Report**  
**October 2016**

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Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a school district to accept grants by resolution expressed in the terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the grant in accordance with the donor’s terms is in the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools does accept the below-described grants from said organizations in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to these organizations.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Author / Contact</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Terms</b>
Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation	Tom Albright	Kids Voting Duluth	\$1,500	Funds from this grant award will be used to support Kids Voting Duluth, a non-partisan effort to facilitate education about government and civic engagement through mock elections. Specifically, funds will be used to cover costs of ballot printing, informational flyers for parents, and promotional materials for schools and community centers.
Minnesota Department of Education	Bradley Vieths	Career and Technical Education	\$2,500	Funds from this grant award will be used to provide participant planning for program implementation to develop and expand high quality experiential learning and career development programs to Pre-k through Grade 12 students with the local districts via the Carl D Perkins consortium in Minnesota.
Verizon	Jennifer Pederson	Making STEM Accessible to All	\$20,000	Funds from this grant award will be used to raise awareness, improve education and learning experience for students with hands-on activities that will increase interest and enthusiasm, knowledge and skills, in STEM fields.

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**M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Oswald, to approve Resolution E-10-16-3398 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 5-0.**

**M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Oswald, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report. Upon a vote on the Education Committee Report, the same was approved – 5-0.**

**Human Resources Committee Report**  
**October 2016**

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Member Kirby presented the Human Resources Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

**M-Kirby, S-Oswald, motion to support offering a contract to the Superintendent and to table the contract discussions and negotiations until after the evaluation of the Superintendent has been performed.**

Chair Harala asked for a point of information to clarify the wording of the motion; would the Board continue to offer a contract to the Superintendent but table the contract discussion until after the evaluation? Member Kirby verified that was indeed what he was requesting in the motion.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Oswald requested a point of information to clarify if the report had to be passed first before a motion could be considered. Chair Harala explained that it has happened both ways but Member Kirby has made a motion to table and that we can have discussion about it and continue the report after that.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

**Upon a vote, the motion was approved – 6-0.**

**M-Kirby, S-Welty, to approve the remainder of the Human Resource Committee report. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**Business Committee Report**  
**October 2016**

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Member Kirby presented the Business Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Kirby presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a school district to accept donations by resolution expressed in the terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the donations in accordance with the donor’s terms is in the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools does accept the below-described donations from said organizations in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to these organizations.

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RESTRICTION</b>
Denfeld	Wells Fargo Philanthropy Operations	\$1,000.00	Career Center
Denfeld	Tim Utt	\$270.00	Softball
Denfeld	James Olcott	In kind	CTE program
East	Virginia Kay Goodman	In kind	Drama Dept.
East	Saturn Systems	\$3,000.00	Robotics
East	Historic Central Museum	\$500.00	Food for Thought Restaurant
East	Advisor Net Financial	\$1,000.00	Football
East	Jamar Co.	\$150.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Anne Bunten Fisher	\$50.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Lakewalk Surgery	\$200.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	CYR's Power Equipment	\$100.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	River Road Storage	\$100.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Hannah Johnson Fabrics	\$100.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Kathrynn M. Dryke	\$200.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	J. Skylark Co.	\$50.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Nathaniel Brown	\$50.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Center for Muscle & Joint Therapy	\$50.00	Student Council Exec. Board
East	Susan and Charles Bosell	\$50.00	Student Council Exec. Board
Homecroft	Maurices	In kind	No
Lakewood	Maurices	In kind	No
Lester Park	Maurices	In kind	No
Lowell	Maurices	In kind	No
Myers-Wilkins	LIFE 97.3 Radio	In kind	No
Myers-Wilkins	Miller Hill Subaru	In kind	No
Myers-Wilkins	Maurices	In kind	No
Myers-Wilkins	Theresa and Michael Akervik	\$30.00	Media Center
Myers-Wilkins	Maurices	\$25.00	No
Myers-Wilkins	Theresa and Michael Akervik	\$50.00	Art Lab
Piedmont	Maurices	In kind	No
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,975.00</b>	

**M-Kirby, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-10-16-3400 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Member Kirby presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
Authorized Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

<b>District Building</b>	<b>Banking Institution</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Addition of Authorized Signer</b>	<b>Removal of Authorized Signer</b>
East HS	Northshore	XXXXXX9	John Flaa	
East HS	Northshore	XXXXXX2	John Flaa	
East HS	DTCU	XXXX6	John Flaa	

Resolution B-10-16-3401

October 18, 2016

**M-Kirby, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-10-16-3401– Authorized Bank Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**RESOLUTION**  
Authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement with the  
State of Minnesota/Perpich Center for Arts Education

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that the Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Minnesota/Perpich Center for Arts Education and ISD 709 attached hereto is hereby approved.

B-10-16-3403

October 18, 2016

**M-Kirby, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-10-16-3403– Authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota/Perpich Center for Arts Education. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**M-Kirby, S-Welty, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee report.**

Member Oswald withheld Items 3.A., 3.B., and 3.G .

Member Johnston requested a separate vote on Item 4 in its entirety, and withheld Item 6.C.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.A. New Policy 707 – Transportation of Public School Students regarding a section of paragraph IV.B. to remove the word privilege and the possibility to re-word that section, and update the language regarding the Traffic Hazard Safety Committee to use the updated name.

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Discussion took place regarding these items.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.B. – Regulation for Policy 707 – Transportation for Public School Students to discuss 1.D. to discuss the walking distance criteria, maps, and principal involvement.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3G – Regulation 710 Extracurricular Transportation to discuss section I.B. and I.C. regarding the 130 miles requirement and I.E. regarding transportation not being provided for regular practice sessions on the school's designated practice area and any resulting hardship for people without transportation for off-site practice. Member Oswald requested a clause or appeal process be added to address hardships. Also brought up was the fact that items II.B., II.C. and II.D. did not have dollar amounts.

Discussion took place regarding these items.

Member Johnston requested to also withhold Item 1.F. APU Projections; this was granted by the Board Chair.

**A separate vote was held for Item 4. Contracts, Change Orders and Leases. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.C. Other Contracts to discuss the fact that the Woodland Hills contract was no longer listed under Other Contracts.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.F.APU Projections to voice his continued concern regarding the decreased enrollment numbers.

**Upon a vote on the remainder of the Business Committee, the same was approved – 5-1.**

**Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Oswald, Welty**

**Nay: Johnston**

### **SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

Board Member Attendance at 2017 MSBA Leadership Conference

RESOLVED, That Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, pay costs incurred, as per District policy, for school board members to attend the Minnesota School Boards Association 2017 Leadership Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on January 11-13, 2017.

Resolution SP-10-16-3399

October 18, 2016

**M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Welty, to approve the Special Resolution Board Member Attendance at 2017 MSBA Leadership Conference. Upon a vote, the same was approved - 6-0.**

➤ Chair Harala adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of October 18, 2016 at 8:26 p.m.