

**OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2909  
MONDAY, JULY 8, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

**ROCK RIDGE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1405 PROGRESS PARKWAY, VIRGINIA, MN 55792  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**Members Present:**

Bill Addy                      Polly Sorcan  
Brandi Lautigar              John Uhan  
Tim Riordan                    Lisa Westby

**Other Staff Present:**

Dr. Noel Schmidt, Superintendent  
Andrea Lintula, Business Manager

**Members Absent:**

Nicole Culbert-Dahl

- I. Chair ADDY called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. **APPROVE AGENDA:**
- A. Motion to **approve the agenda** made by UHAN, seconded by RIORDAN.
  - B. ADDY deleted 9.8 *Consider approval of grant requests to be paid for by the 2024 Rock Ridge Education Fund* and 9.9 *Consider approval of grant requests to be paid for by the 2024 Wolverine Fund* as these two items were approved at a previous meeting.
  - C. RIORDAN added a request from Laura Tassoni, on behalf of her son Anthony Tassoni, for donation of the steel plate located inside the football stadium in Eveleth to the Consent Agenda Item 4.10.
  - D. SORCAN motioned to **hold a Closed Session before the start of the meeting to discuss the proposed principals contract and the proposal from the City of Eveleth regarding Eveleth school properties**, seconded by WESTBY. Motion failed 2-4 with RIORDAN, LAUTIGAR, UHAN, and ADDY voting NO.
  - E. SORCAN asked for an update regarding the Channel 12 board during the Superintendent's Report as well as information about program additions and deletions and staff assignments for the upcoming school year.
  - F. Motion to **approve** passed unanimously.
- III. **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND VISITOR INPUT: NONE.**
- IV. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
- A. Motion to **approve the Consent Agenda** made by RIORDAN, seconded by UHAN.
    - 1. WESTBY pulled for discussion 4.7 *Approval of out-of-state travel for Dr. Noel Schmidt to attend Gallup Global Strengths Coach Conference/Workshop/Training in Omaha, August 12-16, 2024 as per the Superintendent contract.*
    - 2. SORCAN pulled for discussion 4.3 *Approval of hire of Stephanie Jaspersen-Aagenes for the Special Education Director position with a salary as per the Rock Ridge Principals Association contract effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026* and 4.6 *Acceptance of resignation for the purpose of retirement of Deb Meissner from the Interventionist/STEAM position effective January 14, 2025.*
    - 3. Following discussion, motion to **approve** passed 5-1 with SORCAN voting NO.
      - a. Approval of June 24, 2024 meeting minutes.
      - b. Approval of hire of Tristan Kuoppala for the Custodian/Grounds/GM/Driver position at a rate of \$24.25/hour effective June 24, 2024.
      - c. Approval of hire of Stephanie Jaspersen-Aagenes for the Special Education Director position with a salary as per the Rock Ridge Principals Association contract effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026 (48 weeks - \$136,818.15

for 2024-25 / 48 weeks – salary as per Rock Ridge Principals Association contract for 2025-26).

- d. Approval of hire of Drew Aho for the Long-Term Substitute Teacher position (NSE) with a salary of \$50,163 (BA Step B, prorated) effective August 27, 2024 through December 1, 2024.
- e. Approval of the following corrections: Chris Chad was hired as Co-Director of the One Act Play at \$1,599. Correct stipend for the 2024-2025 school year is \$2,460. Jeremy Liimatta was hired as the Co-Director of One Act Play with a stipend of \$1,599. Correct stipend for the 2024-2025 school year is \$2,460. Jeremy was also hired as the Co-Director of the Spring Play at \$1,639. Correction - Spring Play Director with a stipend of \$3,278 for the 2024-2025 school year.
- f. Acceptance of resignation for the purpose of retirement of Deb Meissner from the Interventionist/STEAM position effective January 14, 2025.
- g. Approval of out-of-state travel for Dr. Noel Schmidt to attend Gallup Global Strengths Coach Conference/Workshop/Training in Omaha, August 12-16, 2024 as per the Superintendent contract.
- h. Acceptance and appreciation of a donation from Allison Kreibich in the amount of \$4,500 for the #RockRidgeRising Campaign - Varsity Baseball scoreboard.
- i. Acceptance and appreciation of a donation from State Farm in the amount of \$4,500 for the #RockRidgeRising Campaign - Varsity Baseball scoreboard.
- j. Approval of request from Laura Tassoni, on behalf of her son Anthony Tassoni, for donation of the steel plate located inside the football stadium in Eveleth.

V. **STAFF REQUEST:** Motion to approve **rescinding the resignation of Daniel Melby from the Secondary Music Teacher position (board approved on June 10, 2024) and grant him an unpaid leave of absence for the 2024-2025 school year** failed due to lack of support.

VI. **REPORTS:**

- A. Supt. Schmidt provided an update on the S.M.A.R.T. program for the 2024-25 school year. S.M.A.R.T. teacher Maxine Perko spoke on behalf of her position and the program. Supt. Schmidt stated that because staff are out of the buildings for summer, new members for the Channel 12 board have not been found yet. A handout was provided showing courses at RRHS that will not be offered for the 2024-25 school year for reasons of not enough student interest or staff choice and new courses that are being offered this school year. Finally, the upcoming school board election was mentioned and the filing period for anyone interested in running for one of the three available seats opens July 30 and closes August 13. Filing will take place at the Rock Ridge Administration Building.
- B. Motion to **approve the payment of the bills** made by RIORDAN, seconded by UHAN. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. **POLICIES – FINAL READING:**

- A. Motion to **approve the final reading of 533 Wellness** made by UHAN, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Motion to **approve the final reading of 606.5 Library Materials** made UHAN, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed 5-1 with SORCAN voting NO.
- C. Motion to **approve the final reading of 606.5 Form - Formal Request for Reconsideration of Specific Library Collection Material** made by UHAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed 5-1 with SORCAN voting NO.
- D. Motion to **approve the final reading of 506 Student Discipline, 507 Corporal Punishment and Prone Restraint, 507.5 School Resource Officers, and 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy** made by UHAN, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. **POLICIES UP FOR REVIEW – FINAL READING:**

- A. Motion to **approve the final reading of 101.1 Name of the School District, 201 Legal Status of the School Board, 202 School Board Officers, 203 Operation of the School Board - Governing Rules, 203.1 School Board Procedures; Rules of Order, 203.6 Consent Agendas, 212 School Board Member Development, 214 Out-Of-State Travel By School Board Members, 306 Administrator Code of Ethics, 405 Veteran's Preference, 407 Employee Right To Know - Exposure to Hazardous Substances, 409 Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions, and Creations, 412 Expense Reimbursement, 421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed unanimously

IX. **ADMINISTRATION:**

- A. Motion to **approve the Eveleth School Properties and Request from the City of Eveleth** made by WESTBY, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed 4-2 with ADDY and UHAN voting NO.
- B. Motion to **approve the Facilities Use Agreement between the City of Eveleth and ISD 2909 for the 2024-2025 school year** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Motion to **approve the Facilities Use Contract between Minnesota North College Mesabi Campus and ISD 2909 effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025** made by LAUTIGAR, seconded by UHAN. Motion unanimously.
- D. Motion to **approve the 3-year proposal for auditing services from Brady Martz for FY 24-26** made by RIORDAN, seconded by WESTBY. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Motion to **approve the District LTFM Plan** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed 5-0-1 with SORCAN abstaining.
- F. Motion to **approve the Agreement between ISD 2909 and the Rock Ridge Principals Association effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025** made by LAUTIGAR, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed 5-1 with SORCAN voting NO.
- G. Motion to **approve the Consultant Agreement between Costin Group Minnesota, Inc. and ISD 2909 effective from March 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026** made by RIORDAN, seconded by UHAN. Motion passed unanimously.

X. **MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS** were made.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

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CHAIR – BILL ADDY

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CLERK – BRANDI LAUTIGAR