

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 283

February 13, 2024 at 6:30 PM Regular Board Meeting MINUTES

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, February 13, 2024, in the Central Community Center - District Office, 6300 Walker Street, Room 21, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Present: Colin Cox, Virginia Mancini, Sarah Davis, Celia Anderson, Taylor Williams, Abdihakim Ibrahim and Interim Superintendent Dr. Maguire. Director Anne Casey was absent. Also present were members of the Cabinet.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Colin Cox called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Community Center - District Office.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair 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 Ibrahim, seconded by Davis, to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

OPEN FORUM

There were two Open Forum participants.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Maguire started her report by reading the St. Louis Park Schools mission statement. She went on to state the month of February is school board recognition month and shared appreciation for board members' tireless dedication and commitment to education, our schools, and families.

Additionally, she noted the Girls Nordic Ski team brought home the Section 6 title and the Girls Alpine Ski team earned 6th place (of 20) at their Sections race. She also mentioned that during a recent rehearsal of Finding Nemo Jr., Ramona Mavis, who will be graduating this spring, visited the cast to share about her limb difference. She talked about what it was like to grow up with a disability and how kids can interact with people who look different than them. The topic was related to Nemo's fin. It was a great opportunity for students to learn more about disabilities and kindness.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

FY2023 Audit

Jim Eichten, MMKR Auditor, provided an overview of the FY2023 audit report and answered questions from the School Board. Chair Cox accepted the audit report on behalf of the School Board.

Construction Update

Jim Langevin, Facilities, and Dillion Theusch, Knutson Construction, provided a construction update for renovations taking place at the high school and middle school. Also included in the presentation was information on research that is being done at Aquila elementary for the possibility of expanding classroom space to better accommodate students.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Williams, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

ACTION AGENDA

School Board members discussed and acknowledged the additional responsibilities that Anne Casey absorbed during the time of superintendent transition in Fall 2023 in her role as chairperson. At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Davis, seconded by Mancini, to approve the Stipend for Additional Meeting Times Beyond Posted Meetings for Anne Casey. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, *Motion by Ibrahim, seconded by Cox, to approve the 2023-25 labor agreement for SPARK paraeducators as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSMITTALS

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 8:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 28, at 5:00 p.m. in the Central Community Center - District Office, Room 21.

Submitted by
Barb Mumm,
Temporary Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed: Chair _____ Clerk _____

Date _____ Date _____