

**OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2909
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023, 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 Tim Riordan
Nicole Culbert-Dahl John Uhan

Brandi Lautigar Lisa Westby

Members Absent:

Pollyann Sorcan

Other Staff Present:

Dr. Noel Schmidt, Superintendent
Willie Spelts, School to Work
Engagement/Fundraising Coordinator
Sheena Stefanich, Parkview Principal
Scott Manni, North Star Principal

- I. Chair ADDY called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. **APPROVE AGENDA:**
Motion to **approve the agenda** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR.
- A. ADDY removed *4.6 Approval of hire of Jennifer Rebholz for the Paraprofessional position at a rate of \$18.47/hour effective October 9, 2023* due to candidate declining position.
- B. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND VISITOR INPUT:** Cassandra Hainey – Policy 520 Student Surveys, Samantha Pappenfuss-Krage – Policy 520 Student Surveys, Matt Krage – Policy 520 Student Surveys, John Uhan – Visitor Input (reminding and encouraging everyone to come to school board meetings to speak or ask questions).
- IV. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
Motion to **approve the Consent Agenda as amended** made by CULBERT-DAHL, seconded by UHAN. Motion passed unanimously.
- A. Approval of September 25, 2023 regular meeting minutes.
- B. Approval of hire of Ellen Perrault for the Paraprofessional (NSE) position at a rate of \$18.47/hour effective September 5, 2023.
- C. Approval of hire of Janice Pedersen for the Early Childhood Aide position at a rate of \$16.65/hour effective October 2, 2023 through May 17, 2024.
- D. Approval of hire of Joseph Drobnick for the Custodian/General Maintenance/Grounds/Driver position at a rate of \$24.25/hour effective October 3, 2023.
- E. Approval of hire of Jasmine Dragon for the Paraprofessional position at a rate of \$18.47/hour effective October 6, 2023.
- F. Approval of hire of Parker Lalonde for the Technology Support Level I position at a rate of \$21.72/hour effective October 9, 2023.
- G. Approval of hire of DeEtta Annala for the Early Childhood Aide (LES) position at a rate of \$16.65/hour effective October 13, 2023.
- H. Approval of transfer of Amanda Wenneson, Paraprofessional, Laurentian to North Star Elementary effective October 6, 2023.
- I. Approval of transfer of Ellen Perrault, Paraprofessional, from North Star to Laurentian Elementary effective October 9, 2023.
- J. Acceptance of resignation of Ashley Anderson from the Paraprofessional position effective September 22, 2023.
- K. Acceptance of resignation of Andrew Tikkanen from the LEO's Club Assistant Advisor position effective October 3, 2023.
- L. Acceptance of resignation of Kirsten Dahl from the Paraprofessional position effective October 13, 2023.

- M. Approval of reduction of schedule for Katie Niskanen, Paraprofessional, to working only Mondays and Tuesdays effective September 25, 2023.

V. **REPORTS:**

- A. Motion to **approve the payment of the bills** made by UHAN, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Principal Sheena Stefanich provided an update on the events going on at Parkview Elementary.
- C. Supt. Schmidt provided information about class sizes of each grade level at each elementary as well as class sizes for First Semester classes at RRHS. He discussed the Gilbert School Campus and that an interested party recently walked through the building and then decided to pass. He also mentioned the Do-Bid Auction that is now live for bidding on excess school items. Supt. Schmidt provided insight to the purchase of social skills and emotional regulation materials. Director Westby had asked at a previous meeting who the materials were intended for. Dr. Schmidt said the curriculum was purchased by Rock Ridge special education teachers to meet their students' needs. He discussed that research was done in an anatomy table similar to the *Anatomage Table* that the board approved for purchase. This lesser expensive model is made in Russia and there were some foreseeable issues with communications, software updates, and repairs/parts. Finally, he acknowledged the "thank you" letter from the Iron Range Rotary for a donation of a Rock Ridge gift basket used as an auction item at the recent Chili Cook-Off.

VI. **POLICIES - SECOND READING:**

- A. Motion to **approve the second reading of 504 Student Dress and Appearance** made by UHAN, seconded by CULBERT-DAHL. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Motion to **approve the second reading of 515 Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records** made UHAN, seconded by WESTBY. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Motion to **change the wording of 520 Student Surveys back to MSBA Model Policy** made by LAUTIGAR, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed 4-2 with CULBERT-DAHL and WESTBY voting NO.

VII. **ADMINISTRATION:**

- A. Motion to **approve the quote for the "Rock Ridge Ninja Experience" to be constructed in the new North Star Elementary School** made by UHAN, seconded by CULBERT-DAHL. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Motion to approve the **Facilities Use Agreement 2022-2023 for the Tennis For All facilities in the amount of \$9,600** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Director UHAN was nominated by the board to join the advisory group for the City of Eveleth.
- D. Motion to **approve the request from the City of Gilbert for decorative lights outside of Nelle Shean as well as the remaining historical markers** made by ADDY, seconded by CULBERT-DAHL. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Motion to **approve the request from the Virginia Area Historical Society for items listed in request (Benjamin Franklin picture, 1942 City of Virginia map, Canterbury Tales 16 foot picture, King Lear print, "Civil Way Party" Battle, 1908 L. Bliss, First Place trophy/picture, and "A Gloomy Day" by Yoshida)** made by LAUTI, seconded by RIORDAN. Motion passed unanimously.
- F. Motion to **approve the request from the Virginia Area Historical Society to obtain for the historical society the business documents that are left over in the Gilbert school vault** made by WESTBY, seconded by UHAN. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. **MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS** were made.

- IX. Motion to **go into Closed Session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) to engage in discussions with the School Board's legal counsel about pending or**

threatened litigation related to the property at 1404 Progress Pkwy, Eveleth, MN 55734. The Board of Directors seeks legal advice on its options related to acquiring this property, the District Attorney's analysis of the same, and the District's options for responding to potential claims made by WESTBY, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Motion passed unanimously. Regular meeting closed at 7:05 P.M. Closed Session started at 7:08 P.M.

- X. Motion to **come out of Closed Session** made by RIORDAN, seconded by LAUTIGAR. Regular meeting resumed at 7:53 P.M.
- XI. Motion to **approve the Resolution Authorizing and Directing The Acquisition of Certain Real Property For Use As A School Facility Through the Exercise of Eminent Domain** made by UHAN, seconded by CULBERT-DAHL. Roll call vote. Motion passed 5-1 with WESTBY voting NO.
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

CHAIR - BILL ADDY

CLERK – BRANDI LAUTIGAR