

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, May 15, 2018

Members Present:

Josh Gorham
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Jill Lofald
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad
Sally Trnka

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Maggie Carlos (Denfeld)
Finnegan White (Duluth East)

➤ Chair Kirby called the regular school board meeting of May 15, 2018 to order at 6:32 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Sandstad, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote, the agenda was approved as presented – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of April 17, 2018.

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2018 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of April 18, 2018.

M-Lofald, S-Gorham, to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2018 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

May 2018

Members of the Board, this month we're recognizing the work of the Duluth Public Schools Endowment Fund. From the Board of Trustees for the Fund, please welcome Ken Schoen, Chair, and Al Chelpelnik, Vice Chair. From the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation, please welcome Holly Sampson, President, and Michelle Morris, Director of Community Philanthropy. We also invite educators who have written and received grants to come forward. The Fund was established in 1984 to gain greater visibility and support for Duluth Public Schools by supporting innovative and creative educational projects. Guided by an independent board of civic and business leaders, the Fund reviews proposals and recommends grant awards

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ranging from \$500 to \$2,000. Over the years, the Fund has awarded grants to over 300 educators and enriched our classrooms with over a half-million dollars in grants. The Fund is managed independently through the Community Foundation. Assets continue to grow through generous gifts from local businesses, organizations and individuals. We appreciate the work of the Board of Trustees and the Community Foundation in supporting the Fund. We especially honor and recognize the work of our teachers, principals and specialists in creating innovative classroom projects, applying for the grants and implementing these projects. All of you play an important role in enriching educational opportunities for Duluth students. Thank you for your dedication and support.

Public Comments
May 2018

Member Lofald read the Community Vision and Priorities for Duluth's Schools and the Eleven Tools of Civility.

Betsy West-Sherman, no address provided, spoke to the School Board about school safety.

Two Duluth East High School students, Emily and Charlie, addresses not provided, spoke to the School Board about their history day projects.

Cassandra Schick, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the importance of clerical staff.

Beth McCuskey, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about MTSS.

Stacey Hayes, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about school security.

Sharre Johnson, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the sharing of classrooms.

Riley Brett, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the dress code.

Bernie Burnham, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the upcoming retiree event, the mentor/mentee celebration, school safety and to voice her support of the clerical staff.

Tanya Jackson (teacher at Ordean East), Chloe Palmer (student), Leila Hoeschen-Ehrbright (student) addresses not provided, spoke to the School Board about restorative justice circles.

Carl Soderberg, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the importance of the clerical staff.

Linda Pelto, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the importance of the clerical staff.

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Kim LeDoux, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and current contract negotiations.

Chris Hughes, 3215 West Third Street, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and the current contract negotiations.

Kayla Carroll, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and the current contract negotiations.

Sue Bridge, 1157 Red Pine, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and the current contract negotiations.

Cindy McLeod, 6874 Bergstrand Road, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and the current contract negotiations.

Heidi Morris, 5218 Avondale Street, spoke to the School Board about the role of the clerical staff and the current contract negotiations.

Enrique Meza, address not provided, spoke to the School Board on behalf of Health In All Policies on equity and accountability.

Salam Witherspoon, address not provided, spoke to the School Board on behalf of Health In All Policies on equity and accountability.

Kevin Skwira-Brown, address not provided, spoke on behalf of the Community Based School Equity Initiative to discuss issues that the group will be looking at this summer.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

May 2018

Superintendent Gronseth stated that one communication had been received:

A note was received from Molly regarding a study that shows general lack of knowledge about the Holocaust, and her request that we evaluate our curriculum on the subject.

Superintendent's Report

May 2018

I want to start off saying thank those of you who spoke for our clerical staff. We know how much our clerical staff does for students, staff, and families and we appreciate you. We are hopeful that we will soon have an agreement. As we wait for the mediation date, please know that we value you and what you do, and your seemingly superhero powers to keep everything operating smoothly.

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It is a busy time of year as we work on wrapping up this year and plan for next year! In response to the questions and comments around safety, I want to confirm that we are updating our crisis response plans for next year. This will be an “alice-like” training. As you can imagine, training 1200 staff members and 8600 students will take some planning. Regarding the office doors, there was much discussion about a decade ago regarding the security of the buildings and the protocols for each building. As we all know there have been too many tragic events in our country. Updating safety protocols is being explored for each building and we hope to discuss this at a future school board meeting after the legislative session.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our team. Jeff Horton has accepted the position as Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Horton comes to us from St. Cloud Schools where he served as Director of Student Services. We look forward to welcoming him and his family to Duluth when he starts in July. Gail Netland, currently Curriculum Coordinator for the Red Lake School District, has accepted the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Duluth Schools. Ms. Netland will also be starting in July. We will be sending out an announcement with more information on these candidates.

The year is quickly coming to a close. It’s hard to believe this is the final school board meeting before the end of the school year! While we still have a few weeks to go, graduation is just around the corner and we want to thank everyone for an amazing school year. It is the day to day work that is done by so many people in so many roles that makes a difference in the lives of our students, their families, and our community as a whole. Thank you for everything you do.

And for our students, thank you as well. Keep on reading this summer; research shows that students who read more achieve more. It also says that time in nature does the same so enjoy our beautiful community and the many events throughout the summer. But I want you to finish strong; six days of school left!

Duluth East High School: Student Representative Finn White spoke to the School Board about the many activities going on at East including activities to support National Mental Health Awareness Month, graduation preparation, AP exams, and a global trip to Nashville for the Destination Imagination team. Upcoming events include concerts, jazz bands, mental health discussions and movie night.

Denfeld High School: Student Representative Maggie Carlos spoke to the School Board about the many activities going on at Denfeld including career day, track invitational, May Day team building activities, prom, visit and performance by Gaelynn Lea, teacher appreciation and the student walkout to support school safety. Upcoming activities include a senior walk at the elementary schools, and exams.

Education Committee Report
May 2018

Member Lofald presented the Education Committee report which was available electronically to each school board member.

Member Lofald 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.

Organization	Author / Contact	Project Title	Award Amount	Terms
Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation	Duluth Public Schools ISD 709 – Tonya Sconiers	Duluth Service Learning Collaborative	\$1,900	Funds from this grant will support the Duluth Service Learning Collaborative.
Lester Park Foundation	Various – Lester Park Elementary Teachers & Staff	Misc.	\$4,174.26	Funds from these grants will support misc. projects and initiatives at Lester Park Elementary School.

Resolution E-5-18-3540

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M-Lofald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution E-5-18-3540 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

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Member Lofald presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Response to American Indian Education Resolution of Concurrence and Non-concurrence 2017

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 124D.78 requires a school board to respond in writing within 60 days, in cases of non-concurrence, to each recommendation made by the American Indian Education Parent Committee and state its reasons for not implementing the recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth School Board submits the response to the American Indian Education Resolution of Concurrence and Non-concurrence 2017 report as attached.

Resolution E-5-18-3541

May 15, 2018

M-Lofald, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution E-5-18-3541 – Response to American Indian Education Resolution of Concurrence and Non-concurrence 2017. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Lofald, S-Oswald, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report.

Member Oswald withheld Items 1.B.2) and 1.C.2)

Member Loeffler-Kemp with Items 1.B.2) and 1.C.1)

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.B.2) Advisory Committee Update to thank Cruz Mendoza for his upcoming work to reorganize EEAC.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 1.B.2) Advisory Committee Update to mention the work being done by William Howes and his department for the work put into the integration plans and that this information is available on the ISD 709 website.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 1.C.1) MACAC National College Fair Grant to mention that both of the district's high schools were covered by grants to attend the college fair.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.C.2) Essentia Health Grant to clarify that research/work is being completed by internal school parents and not an outside group.

Discussion took place regarding this item

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Education Committee Report was approved - unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report
May 2018

Member Gorham presented the Human Resources Committee report which was available electronically to each school board member.

M-Gorham, S-Sandstad, to approve the Human Resource Committee report.

Member Lofald withheld Item 3.

Member Lofald withheld Item 3. Approval of Hourly Wage Rates for Hourly Employees to voice her concern about the proposed raises.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Lofald, S-Gorham, to Indefinitely Postpone the Increase of Hourly Wage Rates for Hourly Employees.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the same passed 4-3 as follows:
Yea: Gorham, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Lofald
Nay: Sandstad, Oswald, Trnka

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Human Resources Committee report was approved - unanimously.

Business Committee Report
May 2018

Member Trnka presented the Business Committee report which was available electronically to each school board member.

Member Trnka 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 individuals and organizations.

SCHOOL	DONOR	AMOUNT	RESTRICTION
CTE Program	Mary Lahti	In Kind	None (2007 Dodge Caravan SV)
Denfeld	Rotary Club of Duluth	\$900.00	Art
Denfeld	Rotary Club of Duluth	\$1,000.00	Speech
District-Wide	Allison Pank and Kealey Pank	In Kind	Screeners is to be used by ISD 709 nurses and staff to screen the vision of students whenever and wherever they see a need
East	Dave Rogotzke	In Kind	No
East	Twin Ports IBEW 242 - NECA LMCC	\$200.00	East Activities
East	Rotary Club of Duluth	\$1,000.00	Honorarium - Circle of Friends
Homecroft	Lifetouch	\$181.95	No
Laura MacArthur	Gregory & Sheila Fox	\$300.00	1 st grade field trip to the Playhouse
Laura MacArthur	Irving Community Assn.	\$1,000.00	5th grade Wolf Ridge field trip
Lowell	Alia Allan	In Kind	No
Myers-Wilkins	Janet Akervik	\$50.00	World Beat Drumming Drum Purchase
Ordean-East	McLaughlin, Daniel / Elizabeth	\$70.00	Robotics Club

Resolution B-5-18-3542

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M-Trnka, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution B-5-18-3542 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Trnka presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Delegate the Duties of Treasurer and Clerk

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §123B.14 specifies the duties of Board officers, including the clerk, and the treasurer;

WHEREAS, the duties of the clerk and the treasurer, as defined by Minnesota statute, incorporate operational responsibilities the regular performance of which are not practical for a Board officer;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §123B.14, Subd. 1 provides that the persons who perform the duties of the clerk and treasurer need not be members of the Board;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District 709 appoints:

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- (1) the Executive Director of Business Services to serve as Deputy Clerk, and is designated to perform the duties of the Clerk; and
- (2) the Finance Manager to serve as Deputy Treasurer, and is designated to perform the duties of the Treasurer.

The Deputy Clerk and the Deputy Treasurer are authorized to delegate tasks associated with these duties as they determine to be necessary and practical.

Resolution B-5-18-3543

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M-Trnka, S-Lofald, to approve Resolution B-5-18-3543 - Delegate the Duties of Treasurer and Clerk.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Trnka presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Release and Pledge of Collateral

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby releases the \$500,000 par value FHOR (First Home Owner Rate) note, CUSIP (Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures) number XXXXXXKG7, pledged as collateral by Harbor Pointe Credit Union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the School Board, that it accepts the pledge collateral of a \$500,000 par value FNMA (Federal National Mortgage Association) note maturing 3/29/2019, CUSIP number XXXXXXEB7 in exchange for the released collateral noted above.

Resolution B-5-18-3544

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M-Trnka, S-Gorham, to approve Resolution B-5-18-3544 - Release and Pledge of Collateral.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Trnka presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Designation of the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) SERVS Financial

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requests that School

Districts annually designate the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for the MDE External User Access Recertification System (SERVS Financial). The Identified Official with Authority is responsible for assigning job duties to the appropriate School District staff and authorizing access to MDE secure systems. This annual review and designation of the Superintendent as Identified Official with Authority is in accordance with State Access Security Standard 1.0.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Superintendent of Schools, be designated the legal authorized representative to serve as the 2018-2019 Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for MDE SERVS Financial for the School District.

Resolution B-5-18-3545

May 15, 2018

M-Trnka, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution B-5-18-3545 - Designation of the Superintendent as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) SERVS Financial. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Trnka presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Sale of Hartley Field School Property

WHEREAS, the School District owns 23.64 acres of undeveloped property adjacent to Hartley Park; and

WHEREAS, the School District has no current, or anticipated use for this property; and

WHEREAS, District Administration has entered into discussions with representatives of the City of Duluth as to the possible sale of this land to the City;

WHEREAS, the City has been approved to receive land preservation grant funds from the State of Minnesota for the purpose of acquiring this property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of ISD 709, Duluth, Minnesota, hereby authorizes the sale of real property described on EXHIBIT A attached hereto, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the School Board authorizes District Administration to negotiate a purchase agreement with the City of Duluth for the sale of the Hartley Field School Property, and the School Board Chair is authorized to execute the purchase agreement and all other documents required for closing on the property sale transaction.

EXHIBIT A – Resolution / Hartley Sale Legal Description

Lots One (1) through Ten (10), both inclusive, Block Four (4);

Lots One (1) through Six (6), both inclusive, Block Five (5);

All of Block Six (6);

Lots Thirteen (13) through Twenty-one (21), both inclusive, Block Seven (7);

Lots One (1) through Eight (8), both inclusive, Block Eight (8);

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All of Block Nine (9);
together with all vacated streets and avenues appurtenant thereto, all in HARTLEY HILLS
FOURTH ADDITION, St. Louis County, Minnesota.

Resolution B-5-18-3546

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M-Trnka, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-5-18-3546 - Authorizing the Sale of Hartley Field School Property.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Trnka, S-Gorham, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee report.

Member Oswald withheld Items 3.A. and 6.K.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.A. Review Policy 212 – School Board Member Development and Travel/Expense Reimbursement to ask that the date being reviewed be changed to reflect May 2018.

Member Oswald withheld Item 6.K. FY19 Budget Update to discuss the LTFM Ten-Year Plan.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Business Committee report was approved – unanimously.

Other
May 2018

M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

➤ Chair Kirby adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of May 15, 2018 at 9:33 p.m.