

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
November 6, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Al Dahlgren, Zach Dorholt, Shannon Haws, Monica Segura-Schwartz, Heather Weems.

I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting and Work Session agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Haws, Monica Segura-Schwartz, Weems. Motion carried.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to:

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Zachary Woltmann, Tier 3 Grade 2 Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (166 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$44,094.09.

Kimberly Johnson, Tier 1 SPED DD Teacher, Journey and Roosevelt Education Center, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 4 (179 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$51,425.25.

Suzanne Trutwin, Tier 3 Licensed School Nurse, Westwood Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (174 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$60,306.52.

Rehire

Daniel Burrer, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Grade 2 Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective October 8, 2024 through December 20, 2024, Lane BA, Pay Level 7 (49.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$14,641.30.

Sumaiya Raka-Bartos, Tier 1 Long Call Substitute SPED ABS Teacher, South Junior High School, effective August 26, 2024 through October 16, 2024, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (36 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$9,562.57.

Sumaiya Raka-Bartos, Tier 1 Long Call Substitute Art Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective October 21, 2024 through January 15, 2025, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (55.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$14,742.30.

Stephanie Reynolds, Tier 3 Grade 5 Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 4 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$53,149.

Reassignment

Chad Emery, SPED EBD Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 11 (158 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$69,473.03.

Extended Contract

Isaiah Athey, SPED DAPE Teacher, Talahi Community School, effective October 14, 2024 through January 20, 2025, Lane MA, Pay Level 7 (.10 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Athey's salary for this assignment will be \$2,285.21.

Amy Hammond, Nurse, Talahi Community School, effective September 25, 2024 through November 8, 2024, Lane MA, Pay Level 7 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Hammond's salary for this assignment will be \$4,384.63.

Sarah Degree, Nurse, North Junior High School, effective October 1, 2024 through November 8, 2024, Lane MA, Pay Level 5 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Degree's salary for this assignment will be \$3,447.02.

Leave of Absence

Felicia Noetzelman, Licensed School Nurse, Tech High School, effective February 28, 2025 through August 31, 2025.

Adam Moudry, EL Teacher, Tech High School, effective December 2, 2024 through March 10, 2025.

Edward Wendt Jr., Band Teacher, North Junior High School, effective December 16, 2024 through January 6, 2025.

Mikayla Omann, Mathematics Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective February 3, 2025 through May 5, 2025.

Resignation

Zoe Cave, Grade 4 Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, effective September 20, 2024.

Madison Albertson, Art Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective October 4, 2024.

Gregory Meixell, Grade 2 Teacher, Westwood Community School, effective November 27, 2024.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Eric Sigh, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Journey, effective October 3, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Imtiaz Qaimkhani, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective October 24, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Fatoumata Kaba, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective November 11, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Fanta Soumah, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective October 21, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Hubi Talhe, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective October 25, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Katherine Sobania, Kitchen Helper Float, District Wide, effective October 24, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Sara Hanisch, Licensed Practice Nurse, District Wide, effective October 21, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$24.60.

Valencia Pennington, Clerical Class III (12-Month), Quarryview Education Center, effective October 14, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$20.33.

Selina Kremer, Clerical Class II (12-Month), Quarryview Education Center, effective October 15, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$19.29.

Brandon Barranger, Warehouse Assistant, District Services Building, effective October 14, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Jameel Williams, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective October 15, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Takyla Weeks, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective October 14, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Tasheena Thompson, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Journey and Roosevelt Education Center, effective October 10, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Marcus Lewis, Supervisor of Custodial and Maintenance Services, District Administration Office, effective October 14, 2024, at an annual salary of \$59,478.26.

Betty Andrade Cumbe, Student Support Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective October 10, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Ayan Omar, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective October 3, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Heather Broda, American Indian Cultural Liaison, District Administration Office, effective October 3, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$25.50.

Shukri Subane, Custodian, Kennedy Community School, effective October 14, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Rehire

Janice Holland, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective October 31, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Charmine Anderson, Kitchen Helper, South Junior High School, effective October 21, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Allyson Franz, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective November 7, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Leave of Absence

Nancy Kalla, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective October 21, 2024 through November 18, 2024.

Resignation

Pamela Wentworth, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective October 9, 2024.

Shannon Holroyd, Kitchen Helper, Madison Elementary School, effective November 8, 2024.

Cheryl Nierenhausen, Licensed Practical Nurse, Roosevelt Education Center, effective October 28, 2024.

Danielle Kremer, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective October 8, 2024.

Richard Carlson, Family Advocate Specialist, Quarryview Education Center, effective September 5, 2024.

Awale Dirie, Van Driver, District Services Building, effective November 5, 2024.

Alex Janey, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective October 22, 2024.

Ahmed Ali, Van Driver, District Services Building, effective October 11, 2024.

Safia Ali, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective October 30, 2024.

Michelle Brown, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective October 10, 2024.

Joseph Bigelow, Visual Communication Specialist, District Administration Office, effective October 14, 2024.

Jourdan Coliman, Immersion and World Language Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective October 16, 2024.

Holiday Rhodes, Kitchen Helper, Tech High School, effective October 4, 2024.

Eric Sigh, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Journey, effective October 3, 2024.

Termination

Donovan Ingram, Community Security Officer, Tech High School, effective October 15, 2024.

Correction

Adar Mohamud, Custodian, Talahi Community School, last day of service September 26, 2024. This is a correction to the October 2, 2024 consent agenda where this item was listed with a last day of service of September 30, 2024.

Approve the Monthly Financial Report for September 2024.

Approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report for September 2024.

The Administration recommends the Board of Education authorize a Call for Bids for the Roof Replacement Project at North Junior High School to be opened on Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time.

Approve the McKinley Addition and Renovation Change Order with Gene Lange & Sons Excavating in the amount of +\$5,189.58.

Approve the Apollo Theater Improvements Change Orders with Design Electric in the amount of +\$17,469.60, and Design Electric in the amount of +\$44,650.19, for a Grand Total Amount of +\$62,120.51.

Approve the Apollo LTFM Improvements Change Order with MCI, Inc. in the amount of +\$48,220.00.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Haws, Monica Segura-Schwartz, Weems. Motion carried.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. 2024-2025 Inclement Weather Protocols

Joel Heitkamp, Executive Director of Operations, provided an overview of the 2024-2025 Inclement Weather Protocols.

Guiding principles in school closures:

- St. Cloud Metro Partnership – The Sartell-St. Stephen, Sauk Rapids-Rice and St. Cloud Area School Districts have agreed to make school closure decisions together. Individual school districts each have their own plans for at-home learning and plans for make-up days based on their policies and resources.
- Students, families, and staff safety are our priority when making decisions about school closures.
- Regular attendance and access to education.
- Predictable decision-making for cold weather and inclement weather closures.

- Timely decision-making and information sharing.

Families are notified through email, phone, the district website, and all local media and social media. To help avoid missing a phone call, it is recommended to download the School Messenger App and then you will receive every notification. We also remind families each fall to look in Skyward to make sure their information is accurate in case they have a new phone number. We also have our messages set up in three languages – English, Spanish and Somali. Everyone will receive the message in English, and if a family has identified a second language, they would receive a second message in their home language. Mr. Heitkamp also stated we are in the process of putting together a one-page sheet with all the information shared tonight so it is readily available. We can also communicate this information through building principals, the district newsletter, and building newsletters.

IV. REPORTS

A. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

Scott Andreasen, Chair of the Board Development, Policy, and Governance Committee, noted the committee met on October 23, 2024, and reviewed Policy 606 and 606.5 with a recommendation to move forward with three readings beginning in tonight's work session. Board member Segura-Schwartz asked if the committee discussed the proposed upcoming Board Retreat. Superintendent Putnam noted she has been reviewing it in her recent Board member one on one sessions and it will also be discussed at next week's committee meeting on November 13, 2024.

Al Dahlgren, Chair of the Board Finance and Audit Committee, noted the committee met on October 31, 2024 and discussed two items: (1) Apollo Referendum Update and (2) Combining polling places.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Chair Haws noted November 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting topics will include:

- Tech High School Presentation
- Audit Report
- New High School Course Proposals
- Apollo High School Facilities Bond Referendum
- 2025 Board of Education Legislative Platform
- Set Date and Agenda for a Board Retreat
- Policy Readings

VI. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Board meeting.

All Board members stated “aye”. The Board meeting concluded at 6:49 p.m.

The Board then moved to the Work Session, which included discussion of the following items:

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION

A. “Building Brighter Futures: A Vision for Future-Ready Student Success” Apollo High School Facilities Bond Referendum

Superintendent Laurie Putnam and Apollo High School Principal Justin Skaalerud provided an in-depth presentation of the Apollo High School Facilities Bond Referendum.

Highlights included:

- Safety and security needs at Apollo High School
- Updated learning facilities to provide rigorous access to state standards
- Accelerated learning provides avenues to success
- Quality bilingual education is a pathway to multilingualism
- Individualized learning is a priority
- Access to career pathways provides real-world meaning
- Career preparation and high school success in 742
- Boundless opportunities through Apollo and Tech Advanced Pathways
- Future-ready students need knowledge, workforce skills, character building and flexible learning environments.
- We are a fiscally responsible school district with a history of balanced budgets
- History of Apollo facilities referendums

Administration’s recommendation for the Facilities Referendum:

- Question 1 – Provide necessary updates to Apollo High School including a controlled entrance and flexible learning spaces, totaling \$50 Million.
- Question 2 – Build an ISD 742 Indoor Multipurpose Facility on the Apollo grounds to host a variety of physical activities, totaling \$15 Million. This facility will be available for public use and rental.
- The total for both Question 1 and Question 2 is \$65 Million.
- The annual tax impact for a \$250,000 home is \$39.96 annually.

- Administration recommends April 8, 2025 as the election date with a completion date by Summer 2028.

Board discussion included:

- Title IX question about a baseball field in addition to two softball fields. Board member Weems suggested the City of St. Cloud needs to build a turf field to accommodate this option.
- Are collaboration spaces beneficial? Assistant Superintendent Jason Harris stated that he witnesses students collaborating and talking on a regular basis. These are great opportunities to teach real life skills.
- Is the \$15 million for Question 2 just for the facility construction, or does it include funding to run and program the facility? We are not looking to make money but to cover the costs associated with the facility. Some costs could be included in LTFM funds. Suggestion to include a turf rental.
- How long would the annual \$39 be collected? There would be a 20-year school bond with some drop-offs.

Superintendent Putnam shared the next step is for the Board to vote on the resolution at the next board meeting on November 20, 2024.

B. 2025 Board of Education Legislative Platform

Board member Zach Dorholt presented a draft of the 2025 Board of Education Legislative Platform. Board member discussion included making some changes. Board member Dorholt will bring it back for approval at the November 20, 2024 Board meeting.

C. Schools Update

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, highlighted Lincoln and Talahi, two schools serving one community. Lincoln's safety focus included refined dismissal procedures to restructure the bus chute for buses and students. Talahi's morning announcements led by students is a great time to display belonging with a school pledge and shout outs. Lincoln student jobs build responsibility and pride. Collaboration was evident during Talahi's connection conferences with a red carpet welcome and Lincoln's tiered reading strategies and monitoring. The pillar of high expectations and high supports included Talahi students earning golden awards for respect, responsibility, and safety. Lincoln held math talks in preparation for math lessons.

Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, highlighted staff collaborating on professional learning opportunities focused on building community and servicing our students and families. We created a sense of belonging for students having the opportunity to vote in the 2024 MN K-12 mock elections, having their voice heard and exercising their civic duty with their peers and community. We held a Future 100 event collaborating with community partners, higher education, military, and the local workforce to support high school seniors in creating an action plan for their future. Over 200 students filled out college applications. High expectations and high support are built with our students, coaching staff and encouraging our student athletes by wrapping up a great fall season with a lot of great things taking place. Our students are taking advantage of all the opportunities we have available.

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, also highlighted the Future 100 event and the opportunity to support students as they filled out college applications. Our Safety highlight is providing Reframing Behaviors and De-escalation Strategies for all new staff. Belonging included Katherine Johnson Education Center welcoming students in costume to brighten their day. Collaboration included partnering with SCSU to offer Ethics training for mental health staff as part of their licensure requirements. High expectations featured our Community Accountability and Prevention (CAAP) program which provides social, emotional, and academic intervention for students in Grades 6-11.

Board member Segura-Schwartz asked how each department is encouraging belonging of staff. Ms. Avenson noted one of the SPED team goals is retention of staff to help new staff learn all the pieces and nuances to help them feel supported. Ms. Hansen and Dr. Harris shared their work with principals and within each building's continuous improvement plan allows the focus on Superintendent Putnam's vision of these four pillars we are highlighting each month.

D. Proposed Revised Board Policy 606 – Textbooks and Instructional Materials (First Reading)

Gary Ganje, Executive Director of Special Projects, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 606 – Textbooks and Instructional Materials for a first reading. There were suggested changes. This policy will be on the November 20, 2024 board agenda for a second reading.

E. Proposed New Board Policy 606.5 – Library Materials (First Reading)

Gary Ganje, Executive Director of Special Projects, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 606.5 - Library Materials for a first reading. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the November 20, 2024 board agenda for a second reading.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE WORK SESSION

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Work Session. All Board members stated “aye”.

The Work Session ended at 9:08 p.m.

Zach Dorholt, Clerk

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.