

## 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, July 16, 2019

### Members Present:

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

### Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent  
Cathy Erickson, CFO  
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

### Student Representatives:

Emma Natale (Denfeld)  
Vanessa Farrell (East)

### Members Absent:

Sally Trnka

➤ Chair Loeffler-Kemp called the Regular School Board meeting of July 16, 2019 to order at 6:32 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

**M-Gorham, S-Kirby, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote, the agenda was approved as presented – 6-0.**

Chair Loeffler-Kemp asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of June 18, 2019.

**M-Lofald, S-Kirby, to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2019 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Loeffler-Kemp asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of July 8, 2019.

**M-Kirby, S-Gorham, to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

## School and Community Recognition

July 2019

This month the Duluth School Board recognizes and honors those who establish and maintain local post-secondary scholarship opportunities. Through the generosity of Duluth citizens and organizations, our students are fortunate to have access to millions of dollars in local scholarships.

Some are created in memory of distinguished Duluthians. A few examples include:

- Robert Berquist, a renowned architect instrumental in many Duluth projects
- Medal of Honor recipient and Denfeld Alum Mike Colalillo
- The Reverend Arthur Foy III
- Teacher Linda Soderstrom
- Coach Joseph W. Mrkonich
- The Steve Rolland Youth Peacemaker Award
- Robert B. and Sophia Whiteside
- Lifelong Duluth resident and Duluth East graduate Greg Irons
- The Marshall H. and Nellie Alworth Scholarship, created by Duluth Central Alum Marshall W. Alworth

Many scholarships come from local organizations. Examples include:

- The Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Board
- Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth
- Historic Central High School Museum Committee
- Local American Legion Posts
- Harbortown Rotary
- Duluth Masonic Lodges
- Duluth Building and Construction Trades Council
- Essentia Health Auxiliary
- St. Luke's Volunteer Service Guild
- Duluth Preservation Alliance
- Duluth credit unions
- Duluth Lions Club
- Denfeld, Duluth Central and Duluth East High School Alumni
- The Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation manages over 60 scholarships available to area students
- Northland Scholarship Services coordinates over a dozen Greater Denfeld scholarships

These are, as mentioned, only a few examples. There are many more.

We extend our gratitude to all those in our community who organize, support and present these amazing opportunities for Duluth students. We congratulate all students who worked hard to earn these scholarships, and the teachers, families and staff who supported them in their effort.

### **Public Comments**

**July 2019**

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

Kevin Skwira-Brown, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the budget.

**Communications, Petitions, Etc.**

**July 2019**

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Superintendent Gronseth stated that no communications had been received.

**Superintendent's Report**

**July 2019**

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First a note about tonight's school board meeting streaming broadcast. Due to a technical change involving YouTube's G-Suite for Education, the Duluth Public Schools YouTube channel is temporarily suspended and we are unable to provide a live feed of tonight's Regular School Board meeting. We are working with YouTube and hope to resume live school board meeting feeds in August.

For people who are new to our community or new to Duluth Schools, we have an online enrollment process available on our website. Or if you prefer, you can come to the Assistant Superintendent's office here in the District office. Either way we are excited to welcome you to Duluth Schools and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

I know our maintenance crew is hard at work getting our schools ready for the coming school year. I've seen floors being scrubbed, waxed and a lot of other projects being done. I want to thank them for everything they do; they make sure all of our schools are looking their best!

We are also hiring staff for the coming year. There are many opportunities still available! Check our website if you are interested in working in schools in a variety of roles such as teachers, paraprofessionals, clerical, bus drivers, food service, and maintenance. There are many opportunities to consider.

I want to share another reminder that Summer Meals are available:

June 11 - August 23, 2019:

- Breakfast: 8:00AM to 10:30AM
- Lunch: 11:30AM - 1:00PM

ISD 709 summer meal locations:

- Myers-Wilkins Elementary, 1027 N 8th Avenue East
- Piedmont Elementary, 2827 Chambersburg Avenue
- Laura MacArthur Elementary, 720 North Central Avenue
- Lincoln Park Middle School, 3215 West 3rd Street
- Stowe Elementary, 715 - 101st Avenue West
- Lowell Elementary, 2000 Rice Lake Road

And now for the summer reports from our student representatives:

Emma Natale, Student Representative from Denfeld, reported to the Board that things are a little quieter now that it is summer. Captains’ practices have started and there will be an upcoming robotics tournament.

Vanessa Farrell, Student Representative from Duluth East, reported to the Board that things are also quieter at the school. Jump Start will be happening soon and involves the freshman students coming in for school tours and meeting representatives of the various clubs and activities available at the school.

**Education Committee Report**

**July 2019**

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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.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Author / Contact</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Terms</b>
Minnesota Department of Education	Katie Danielson, Families in Transition Program Coordinator	McKinney Vento Homeless Children and Youth Education Grant - Official Grant Award Amendment	\$40,000	Funds will extend the McKinney Vento Homeless Children and Youth Education Grant until June 30, 2020.
Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation	Shawn Roed, Duluth East High School	Coach Development Program	\$2,000	Funds will be used to support the purchase of 3Dimensional Coaching, a training program and certification to increase our capacity to effectively coach the 21st century athlete.

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Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation - Business Leaders Fund	Jeff Horton, Assistant Superintendent	Tool for Equity Accountability	\$10,000	Funds will be used to provide professional development for continuous improvement teams on the Tool for Equity Accountability.
Minnesota Department of Education	Pam Bowe, Child Nutrition	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program School Year 2019-2020	\$13,770	Funds will be used to support the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program at Stowe Elementary School.

Resolution E-7-19-3661

July 16, 2019

**M-Lofald, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution E-7-19-3661 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

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

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.D.1)  
 Member Sandstad withheld Item 1.D.1)  
 Member Lofald withheld Item 1.C.1)  
 Member Sandstad withheld Item 1.C.2)

Member Oswald withheld 1.D.1) 5085R-Family and Student Handbook to inquire if the copy attached was a draft or the final version as the attachment states ‘Draft’.

Member Sandstad withheld 1.D.1) 5085R-Family and Student Handbook to inquire who was involved in the discussions on the change to the dress code.

Discussion took place on this item.

Member Lofald withheld Item 1.C.1) 2018-19 Annual Bullying Report and Discussion on Behavior/Resolutions Reporting to School Board to thank Ron Lake for all his work in compiling this information and to review some report highlights.

Member Sandstad withheld Item 1.C.2) 2018-19 Out of School Suspension (OSS) Report to discuss the areas where the District is making progress and the areas that need to continue to be addressed.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

**Upon a vote, the remainder of the Education Committee Report was approved – 6-0.**

**Human Resources Committee Report**  
**July 2019**

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

Member Kirby presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Employment of a School Board Member by the District

WHEREAS, the School Board member(s) below are/will be employed by the Duluth Public Schools during their service as a School Board member; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 123B.195 Board Member's Right to Employment requires that the member receive a majority approval by the School Board to be initially employed or to continue in employment at a meeting at which all board members are present; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 123B.195 Board Member's right to Employment states that the employment relationship will not exceed \$8,000 in a fiscal year, excluding compensation for being a School Board member, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board authorize the employment of the following School Board members as listed, not to exceed \$8,000 in a fiscal year.

<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>TIME FRAME</u>
Jill Lofald	July 2019 - June 2020
Alanna Oswald	July 2019 - June 2020

HR-7-19-3360

July 16, 2019

**M-Kirby, S-Gorham, to Definitely Postpone Resolution HR-7-19-3360 Approval of Employment of a School board Member by the District until the August 2019 Board meeting when all Board members can be present. Upon a vote, the same was approved - 6-0.**

**M-Kirby, S-Lofald, to approve the remainder of the Human Resource Committee report. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**Business Committee Report**  
**July 2019**

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

Member Oswald 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	COMMENTS
Area Learning Center	Narcotics Anonymous	\$30.00	ALC Students	Use of the gym (monthly donation)
Congdon	Congdon Park PTA	\$15,264.00	Cafeteria tables	
Congdon	Congdon Park PTA	\$6,158.00	Field trips and bus costs	
Curriculum	Barnes and Noble	In Kind	E-Squared	Robotics Starter Set by Tinker Bots
Denfeld	Jason Vizanko	In Kind	Automotive Class	2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee
Denfeld	Sherri Plesko	In Kind	Automotive Class	2002 Buick Century
Denfeld	Judy Miner	In Kind	Automotive Class	2011 Ford Escape
Denfeld	Robert Gagne	In Kind	Automotive Class	2004 Malibu Maxx
Denfeld	Terrance Sedey	In Kind	Automotive Class	2005 Buick Century
Headstart	Jane Killough	\$50.00	None	
Laura MacArthur	Anonymous	\$265.00	None	
Laura MacArthur	Anonymous	\$50.00	Wolf Ridge	\$50.00 for student for 5th grade Wolf Ridge trip
Laura MacArthur	Anonymous	\$350.00	General use	
Lester Park	LP Foundation	In Kind	Lester Park School Playground	New Playground Spinner
Lester Park	Lester Park PTA	\$1,900.00	\$100 for each classroom	Field trip bus expenses
Lincoln Park	Jillian Marholz	In Kind	None	Misc school supplies
Lowell	Tom Malone & Students/Harbor City School	In Kind	None	They provided entertainment and square-dancing during Lowell's Grandparent's Day
Lowell	PTA, Jessica Betts/Treasurer	\$\$ Unknown	Field trips	Lowell's PTA covered several class field trip charges, some admission, some busing

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Myers-Wilkins	Anonymous	\$3,400.00	Unpaid lunch balances at Myers-Wilkins	Donor would like to remain anonymous
Myers-Wilkins	Duluth Mayor's Office	\$100.00	World Beat Drumming	Drummers performed at Mayor's State of the City Address
Myers-Wilkins	Box Tops for Education	\$137.30	None	
Ordean-East	Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics	\$1,500.00	Robotics Club supplies	
Special Services - ASD	Autism Association	\$2,100.00		Chromebooks for use in classrooms
Stowe	Old Chicago Pizza	In Kind	For staff	Old Chicago Pizza selected 2 staff members receive "Pizza for a Year" and also some great coupons for all
Stowe	HarborTown Rotary	\$1,000.00	Use for Playscape at Stowe	

Resolution B-7-19-3662

July 16, 2019

**M-Oswald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-7-19-3662 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Member Oswald presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Authorized Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

<b>District Building</b>	<b>Banking Institution</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Addition of Authorized Signer</b>	<b>Removal of Authorized Signer</b>
East	Northshore Northshore DTCU	XXXXXX9 XXXXXX2 XXXX6		Barbara Switzer
Merritt Creek Academy	HPCU	XXXX0		Denise Clairmont
Rockridge Academy	HPCU	XXXX1		Denise Clairmont
Lincoln Park	Park State Bank	XXXXXX0 XXXXXX5 XXXXX9 XXXXXX5		Brenda Vathauer

Resolution B-7-19-3663

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**M-Oswald, S-Lofald, to approve Resolution B-7-19-3663 – Authorized Bank Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Member Oswald presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Approving Ten-Year Capital Facilities Plan – FY2021 Update

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that the Ten-Year Capital Facilities Plan – FY21 Update, is approved.

Resolution B-7-19-3664

July 16, 2019

**M-Oswald, S-Kirby, to approve Resolution B-7-19-3664 – Approving Ten-Year Capital Facilities Plan – FY2021 Update. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

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

Member Sandstad withheld Item 2.C.  
Chair Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 5.C.1)

Member Sandstad withheld Item 2.C. Budget Revisions to reiterate that the budget process this year was more thorough than it has been in the past, however, it can still be improved.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Chair Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 5.C.1) Hogle Bus Company (Financing by Santander Bank, N.A.) to remind everyone that Steve Johnson, Transportation Manager, will update the Board about the what is going on in the Transportation department at the August Board meeting.

**Upon a vote, the remainder of the Business Committee report was approved – 6-0.**

**Special Resolutions**

**July 2019**

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Member Gorham presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Authorizing School Board Members' Attendance at the MSBA Summer Seminar

RESOLVED, That Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, pay costs incurred, as per District policy, for school board members to attend the MSBA 2019 Summer Seminar.

Resolution SP-7-19-3665

July 16, 2019

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**M-Gorham, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution SP-7-19-3665 – Authorizing School Board Members' Attendance at the MSBA Summer Seminar. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**Other**  
**July 2019**  
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Member Sandstad asked Chair Loeffler Kemp for a status on the meta committee.

Chair Loeffler-Kemp thanked staff who continue to work this summer and to remind everyone to enjoy the summer season.

**M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

➤ Chair Loeffler-Kemp adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of July 16, 2019 at 8:02 p.m.