

School Board Minutes  
Special Meeting  
Thursday, October 3, 2024

The Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Lemke at 6:00 pm, Thursday, October 3, 2024 in the District Board Room 209. Board members present: Gohman, Lemke, Levin, Jager, Wolf and Wright. Tonder was absent. Others in attendance were: Superintendent Daniel Ludvigson, Tammy Cebulla, Barton Rud, Mitchell Ganske, Brad Evenson, Jenny Thelen, Cindy Dalton, Bonnie Middendorf.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

It was moved by Levin and seconded by Wright to adopt the agenda. Discussion from Gohman was heard as to the reason this meeting was even being held. Upon roll call vote the following voted yes: Jager, Levin, Lemke, Wright, the following voted no: Wolf and Gohman. Motion carried

Superintendent Ludvigson requested the floor. Requests that the board follows its policy 203.9 school board action on resolutions. It is my duty and professional responsibility to advise the board against taking action in which it puts itself at liability. To the best of my understanding from the emails I have received and my conversations with Pemberton, we do not have official school legal counsel and the talk of an interim Superintendent when you have a Superintendent is a sensitive matter on the best of occasions and to engage in the contracts and different things that would have to be involved requires counsel that we presently do not have and we are currently getting bids for. I also ask the board to follow its policy 209 which states "work through and not around the Superintendent" as well as policy 202 which outlines the duties of the board as well as various statutes I have here if you so want me to cite them. I simply ask the board to not put the community in danger by acting recklessly without counsel from a professional educated on the consequences of these choices.

Lemke stated we still do have legal counsel and stated that any motion that comes forward tonight has been fully approved and vetted by our legal team.

Motion by Levin to place Superintendent Ludvigson on special assignment duty effective immediately through June 30, 2025 with full pay and benefits under the Superintendent agreement between Daniel Ludvigson and Independent School District 2753 and to approve terms of special assignment duty. Mr. Ludvigson asked for a point of question after the motion was made and before there was a second and he got no response from any of the board. Motion seconded by Lemke. Gohman requested a point of information for the reason why the board chair is doing this, as we have yet to hear any reasons for any of this. The board chair responded that by answering member Gohman's questions it opens the school district up for further litigation. Upon a roll vote the following voted yes: Levin, Lemke, Jager and Wright and the following voted no: Gohman and Wolf. Motion carried on a 4-2 vote.

Motion by Levin to appoint interim Superintendent Doug Froke effective immediately through June 30, 2025 and approve interim agreement thru June 30, 2025. Mr. Ludvigson questioned the process as to the fact of a posting requirement, no interviews were conducted, involvement from the public and those kinds of things to comply. Lemke responded that the process has been fully vetted by our legal team. Motion seconded by Jager. Upon roll call vote the following voted yes: Levin, Lemke, Jager, Wright and the following voted no: Gohman and Wolf. Motion carried on a 4-2 vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm by Chairman Lemke.

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Tanja Levin, Clerk