

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
March 19, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 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, Al Dahlgren, Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws. Absent: Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth) and Heather Weems.

I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Moved by Fenton, seconded by Dorholt to approve the Board Meeting agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws. Motion carried.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Fenton to:

Approve the minutes from Board meetings on February 5, 2025 and February 19, 2025.

Approval of Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$4,408,687.76.

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

McKenna Brannen, Tier 3 Long Call Substitute Interventionist, Lincoln Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025 through January 31, 2025, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (21 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$5,578.17.

Sarah Jensen, Tier 1 ABE Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA+10, Pay Level 3 (102.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$21,048.50.

Jakob Erickson-Thoemke, Tier 1 Early Childhood Teacher, Quarryview Education Center and Oak Hill Community School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$40,592.80.

Oscar Ascencio, Tier 1 Grade 5 Spanish Immersion Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$59,497.

Sabina Yasmin, Tier 1 STEM Integrationist, Talahi Community School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$59,497.

Extended Contract

Amy Hammond, Nurse, Kennedy Community School, effective February 19, 2025 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 7 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Hammond's salary for this assignment will be \$5,090.62.

Lisa Doucet, Nurse, Madison Elementary School, effective February 26, 2025 through March 31, 2025, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Doucet's salary for this assignment will be \$1,247.72.

Leave of Absence

Nataliya Heinks, EL Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective March 25, 2025 through April 4, 2025.

Alexis Osterberg, SPED EBD Teacher, North Junior High School, effective February 11, 2025 through February 21, 2025.

Sabina Yasmin, STEM Integrationist, Talahi Community School, effective March 14, 2025 through March 24, 2025.

Resignation

Laura Steabner, Director of Elementary Education, District Administration Office, effective June 30, 2025.

Kimberly Tran, SPED DD Teacher, Talahi Community School, effective March 10, 2025. Ms. Tran was previously on a leave of absence.

Dani Sibley, Grade 4 Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective June 2, 2025. Ms. Sibley was previously on a leave of absence.

Retirement

Gary Ganje, Executive Director of Special Projects, District Administration Office, effective June 30, 2025, after 40 years of service in District 742.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Edinah Makori, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective March 17, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Zaira Parsons, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective March 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Milan Rhodes, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective March 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Ladian Rios, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective March 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Rehire

Mary Freeberg-Wilson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective March 13, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Leave of Absence

Jacob Scherbing, Behavior Resource Specialist, Talahi Community School, (Intermittent), effective March 11, 2025 through N/A.

Sadio Doll, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective February 3, 2025 through March 7, 2025.

Resignation

Carl Jansen, Assistant Engineer, Apollo High School, effective March 31, 2025. Mr. Jansen was previously on a leave of absence.

Morgan Steven, Custodian, Clearview Elementary School, effective March 21, 2025.

Brooklyn Dietman, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective March 14, 2025.

Sadio Doll, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective March 10, 2025. Ms. Doll was previously on a leave of absence.

Fanny Escobar, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective February 24, 2025.

Anthony Robinet, Custodian, McKinley-ALC, effective February 28, 2025.

Retirement

Josephine Wicker, Clerical Class III (10-Month), Clearview Elementary School, effective June 6, 2025 after 26 years of service in District 742.

Termination

Deandre Brown, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective February 26, 2025.

Ugbad Abdulahi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective February 28, 2025.

1. Donations to Apollo High School:
 - \$30 from Thomas and Susan Dominik for the Band Program
 - \$25 from J.K. Larson for the Apollo Connection Scholarship in memory of Ginger Hinkemeyer
2. Donation to Discovery Community School:
 - \$400 from Patsy Magelssen for staff use for items in classrooms
3. Donations to North Junior High School:
 - Board games from University Games for After School Club
 - 250 gift cards for free sandwich or 8 piece nuggets from Chick-Fil-A for A Honor Roll
 - 100 BOGO certificates from Cherry Berry for Honor Roll Students
4. Donations to Tech High School:
 - \$2,165.15 from Tech Boys Basketball Booster Club towards the Shooting Machine
 - \$1,000 from Connexus Energy on behalf of the Connexus Energy Scholarship
 - \$1,000 from Ashley Schindele on behalf of the Kruchdele Family Scholarship
 - \$1,000 from Courtney Paulson on behalf of the Paulson Family Knowledge Bowl Scholarship
5. Donation to Westwood Elementary School:
 - \$100 from Horace Mann for a conference meal

6. Donations to District 742:

- \$9,000 from District 742 LEAF for Adopt-A-Classroom supplies
- \$150 from Kwik Trip for the Scheel's Care Closet for a Pickleball Tournament
- Panera Bread Bagels, Spread and Coffee from Performance Film for the Wellness Project
- \$500 from Father Anthony Kroll for the Superintendent's Cabinet Scholarship
- Shoes, pants, coats, snowpants, sweatshirts, t-shirts, winter hats and glove sets, and miscellaneous winter hats and gloves from Scheels for the Scheels Care Closet

Award the contract for audit services for fiscal years June 30, 2025 through June 30, 2029 to BerganKDV in the amount of \$229,000.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws. Motion carried.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Local Education and Activities Foundation (LEAF) Report

Diane Moeller, 2024 LEAF President, provided an overview of the 2024 Annual Report. The mission of District 742 Local Education & Activities Foundation is an independent 501 © (3) nonprofit organization whose purpose is to secure and channel private funds to support and enhance excellence and opportunity in a comprehensive District 742 public educational program.

- LEAF surpassed the \$3 million mark in total grants since 1997 with \$297,536 total grants given in 2024.
- Grants provided after school activities support, academics classroom support, Adopt a Classroom, PAKRAT/PACKAT, language immersion, homeless student services, scholarships, Music Matters, and activities participation.
- 2024 revenue of \$501,922.02 comes from public support, investment income, and event income.

LEAF is very grateful to their donors, volunteers, and supporters which allow them to impact District 742 students from their first day of school until the day they graduate.

B. System Wide Literacy Progress and Next Steps

Laura Steabner, Director of Elementary Education, and Hillary Johnson, Director of Secondary Education, provided an overview of the progress and next steps of the system wide literacy program in the district as well as updates related to the implementation of READ Act Legislation.

Updates included:

- Training – Phase 2 Teacher training delayed until 2026.
- Curriculum – MDE/CAREI continues to review elementary literacy curriculums with the timeline delayed slightly.
- Intervention – MDE review of K-12 Interventions set to be provided to districts in November 2025.
- Parent Notification – Regional Literacy Leads working to develop templates and exemplars as models for districts.
- Screening – List of approved screening tools for grades 4-12 slated to be shared in early 2025, still awaiting an update.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Appoint Board Members to Award Diplomas at Apollo and Tech Commencements

Chair Shannon Haws announced the Apollo and Tech High School Commencements will be on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at the Rivers Edge Convention Center. Board members Andreasen and Dorholt will cover Apollo, and Haws and Weems will cover Tech, with Board member Dahlgren being a backup if needed.

B. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 707 – Transportation of Public School Students - (*Second Reading*)

Shannon Avenson, Assistant Superintendent of E-12 Educational Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 707 – Transportation of Public School Students for a second reading. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the consent agenda for the April 2, 2025 Board of Education Meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

VI. REPORTS

A. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

1. Diana Fenton, Chair of the Achievement, Integration and Equity Committee, noted the committee met today and reviewed the following topics: (1) Recommendation to reduce the number of School Update presentations to the board to bimonthly instead of monthly, (2) Review a draft of the Response to the NAPAC Non-Concurrence Vote which will be on the April 2, 2025 board agenda, and (3) Review the Secondary Education presentation which included data on the Professional Learning Teams, Comprehensive Balanced Assessment System, and

information on the NPSI framework that is designed to position every student for postsecondary success.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Haws noted the April 2, 2025 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Community Celebration
- Approval of 2025-26 Compensatory Revenue Plan
- 2025-26 FTE Projections Based on Enrollments and Registrations
- NAPAC Board Response Letter
- 2025 Summer School Review
- 2025 Summer Projects Review
- Policy Readings

Board member Dahlgren heard something recently on the radio about next year's school budget and shortfalls through the AMSD schools and St. Cloud was included. He is aware the budget is being developed right now but would like to hear some information prior to the budget presentation on how we are addressing the shortfalls. Chair Haws noted that Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, is working on the budget and will keep the board informed before the budget presentation.

IX. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

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

All Board members stated "aye". The Board meeting concluded at 7:43 p.m.

Scott Andreasen, Clerk Pro Tem

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