

Minutes of the Special 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

Friday, September 27, 2019

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Cathy Erickson, CFO
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Members Absent:

None

- Chair Loeffler-Kemp called the Special School Board meeting of September 27, 2019 to order at 11:58 a.m.

Chair Loeffler-Kemp 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.

BOARD MEMBER

Jill Lofald
Alanna Oswald

TIME FRAME

July 2019 - June 2020
July 2019 - June 2020

HR-9-19-3660

September 27, 2019

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution HR-9-19-3660 – Employment of a School Board Member by the District. Upon a vote, the same was approved 4-0 as follows:

Yea: Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad, Trnka

Abstain: Lofald, Oswald

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School Board Vacancy:

Chair Loeffler-Kemp reviewed the process for filling the vacant At Large School Board seat to date and the items that still need to be decided.

Discussion regarding the process for the interviews took place.

M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to hold all the interviews on September 30th, beginning at 5:00 p.m., for 10 minutes with each candidate. Upon a vote the same was approved, 4-2 as follows:

Yea: Kirby, Lofald, Oswald, Sandstad

Nay: Loeffler-Kemp, Trnka

Discussion continued regarding the interview process including; timing method, who asks the questions, and how to handle issues with not answering all the questions.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Trnka, to ask each candidate five questions with each board member asking a question in a round robin method, and that the interviews will be timed for a total of 10 minutes per candidate, and candidates must answer all five questions. Upon a vote, the same was approved 6-0.

Discussion continued regarding the nomination and voting process.

Member Sandstad left the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

M-Trnka, S-Oswald, School Board Members will rank their top 5 candidates with 1 being the best and 5 being the last best, and everyone else gets a 6. Board member will give their rankings to Secretary Thibault and Deputy Clerk Erickson and they will tabulate the rankings and project them on a screen for viewing. Board members will deliberate the top 5 candidates, and if there is a tie they will deliberate all candidates included in the tie as well. Upon a vote, the same passed 5-0.

Discussion continued regarding the nomination and voting process.

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, that after the melding (ranking) the top 5 (or more in the event of a tie) on are voted on by each board member on a signed piece of paper. Upon vote, the same was approved 5-0.

Discussion continued regarding the voting process, what to do in the event of a tie and the vote on the final candidate.

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, that following deliberations the board will move to the paper ballots and the candidate who receives a majority vote (4) will become the formal nomination. In the event there isn't a majority they will go to a second and third round of voting, with deliberation after each vote. Everyone who wants will have one opportunity to speak. If after three ballots there is no majority the voting will move to the next regular board meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approve 5-0.

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Member Lofald thanked Chair Loeffler-Kemp for all the hard work in this process.

M-Trnka, S-Oswald, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved 5-0.

Chair Loeffler-Kemp adjourned the Special School Board meeting of September 27, 2019 at 1:47 p.m.