

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 15, 2014

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Mike Miernicki
Judy Seliga Punyko
Harry Welty
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

Laura Fredrickson
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Kobi Tremble

➤ Chair Miernicki called the regular school board meeting of July 15, 2014 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Westholm, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote on the agenda, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Miernicki asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of June 17, 2014.

M-Westholm, S-Harala, to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2014 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

July 2014

Tim Sworsky - Members of the Board, this month I'm pleased to present representatives from the ISD 709 Child Nutrition Department for recognition. A warm welcome to: Pam Bowe-Manager and Registered Dietitian, Sheila Oak-Area Supervisor, Betsy Sislo-Site Supervisor, Kathie Johnson-Cafe Manager Duluth East High School, Debbie Mckowski-Cafe Manager Ordean East, Liz Russell-Cafe Manager Lakewood, Jodi Puff-Summer Cafe Manager Lester Park, Patti Barber-Cafe Manager Laura Mac Arthur, Wendy Wakefield-Cafe Manager Stowe, Susan Geissler-Cafe Manager Lowell. Earlier this year, food service programs at Duluth East, Lakewood and Ordean East passed a rigorous Federal/State audit by the Minnesota Food and Nutrition Department. The ISD 709 Child Nutrition program also passed a Summer Audit and Review conducted by the US Department of Agriculture with flying colors. School district food service programs are regularly audited and must pass to remain part of the USDA food service program. The audits reviewed many areas including, but not limited to: Student applications, Daily business procedures in the kitchens, managers' office and Child Nutrition Main office, HACCP compliance, Health

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Department Reports, Breakfast and lunch menu analysis (both nutritional and financial), ISD 709 Wellness policy, sanitation, daily meal counts, the monthly financial claim and special diets, The auditors were complimentary of the systems in place to serve appetizing meals to students within USDA/State regulations. Congratulations to our Child Nutrition Department and for all they do to support education!

Public Comments

July 2014

James Youngman, 2026 East 4th Street, spoke to the School Board regarding his concern with the recent test scores and the need to use the referendum funds in the classroom. He also noted his concern with the investigation against Art Johnston.

Henry Banks, 719 West 4th Street, spoke to the School Board regarding salary information he requested for administrators salaries, and his concern with the infighting on the board.

Melanie Grune, 1818 Lakeview Drive, spoke to the School Board to thank them for their service and thanked them for reaffirming the civility project.

Loren Martell, 623 East 7th Street, spoke to the School Board to regarding his concern with board members.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

July 2014

Chair Miernicki stated the communications received.

Superintendent's Report

July 2014

Laura Fredrickson, Director of Special Services presented the Superintendents report:

- During the summer months, high schoolers are catching up on credits through seat-based classes or independent study. Elementary students who face challenges to academic success are taking part in the Excel program, funded by the Minnesota Department of Education. Community Education enrichment classes are offered for all ages at several school sites, teaching everything from computer basics to cooking, photography, arts & crafts, first aid, music and more.
- Students can learn a great deal in the outdoors as well, and the many parks throughout Duluth are a great place to spend time as a family.
- Free breakfast and lunch are available for children 18 and under at eight of our sites during the summer. There are no forms to fill out – students can just show up at Lester Park, Lowell, Myers Wilkins, Piedmont, Laura MacArthur, Stowe or Denfeld. Bag lunches are also available at the Lincoln Park Boys' & Girls' Club. Breakfast: 8:00AM to 10:30AM and Lunch: 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Education Committee Report
July 2014

Member Harala presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

M-Harala, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the Education Committee Report.

Chair Miernicki introduced Mike Cary, the new Curriculum Director, and expressed his excitement for the new social studies adoptions. Discussion took place regarding the new curriculum.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.D. – Bullying Prohibition Policy to note that truancy is related to bullying. He stated that he would like to add a paragraph that would require a report will be given to the school board at the June regular meeting with a summary of bullying incidents. Discussion took place regarding the proposed addition.

Upon a vote on the Education Committee, the same was approved – unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report
July 2014

Member Welty presented the Human Resources Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

M-Welty, S-Johnston, to approve the Human Resource Committee report.

Member Johnston withheld Items 2.A. and 2.B.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.A. – Change in Rates for the Hourly-Substitute Pay Rate Sheet to ask if any individuals are covered by union representation and gave his support for the increases. Discussion took place regarding the increases.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.B. – Policy Change to Policy 4015 Prohibiting Harassment, and Violence to request that there be language added to the policy that there will be an annual report of incidents given to board members, and additional language regarding an appeal process. The information will be forwarded to board members.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Business Committee Report
July 2014

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the Business Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution:

R E S O L U T I O N
 Authorized Student Activity Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St.

Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

District Building	Banking Institution	Account Number	Addition of Authorized Signer	Removal of Authorized Signer
Piedmont	DTCU	XXXXXX4	Jodi Keller	

B-7-14-3196

July 15, 2014

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-7-14-3196 – Authorized Student Activity Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved - unanimously.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution:

R E S O L U T I O N
 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 various organizations.

SCHOOL	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME/ORGANIZATION	RESTRICTION	AMOUNT
District Wide		Duluth Art Institute	Art Program	2,565.50
Denfeld	Attn: Finance	FIRST	Denfeld Robotics	5,000.00
Lester Park		Lake Superior Steelhead Association	Lester Park School Forest	500.00
Ordean East Middle	Kari	Newmann Ness	Destination Imagination	50.00
Ordean East Middle	Sophia	Stalzer Wyant	Destination Imagination	50.00
Ordean East Middle	Ruth & Terry	Saar	Destination Imagination	25.00
Ordean East Middle		Duluth Plumbing Supplies	Destination Imagination	100.00
Ordean East Middle		Hanson House Co.	Destination Imagination	200.00
Ordean East Middle	Charles & Janice	Elliot	Destination Imagination	50.00
Ordean East Middle	Deann	Munson	Destination Imagination	100.00
HOCHS	Jeanne Mock	Kemps Kids in Need Foundation	Families In Transition Program	In Kind
			TOTAL	8,640.50

B-7-14-3197

July 15, 2014

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-7-14-3197 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved - unanimously.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution:

Resolution Determining The Status Of School Board Members For Purposes Of
The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Court of Appeals and the Minnesota Department of Administration have held that the classification of data on elected officials depends upon whether the entity considers its elected officials to be employees for purposes of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (“MGDPA”);

WHEREAS, most data on individual “employees” of a school district are classified as personnel data pursuant to the MGDPA and, specifically, Minnesota Statutes section 13.43;

WHEREAS, the School Board has weighed various political, educational, and public accountability considerations in deciding whether its members should be considered to be employees for purposes of the MGDPA; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that the public interest in transparency outweighs any competing privacy interest that individual Board members may have in regard to most data that the District maintains about individual Board members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, Duluth, as follows:

1. Members of the School Board are not employees for purposes of the MGDPA, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13. Accordingly, data that the District maintains on School Board members are not subject to Minnesota Statutes section 13.43.
2. This Resolution does not impact the determination of whether School Board members are employees for purposes of other laws, including, but not limited to, any federal or state tax laws.
3. This Resolution does not alter the classification of protected data on elected officials, such as social security numbers, health data, or medical data, which are not subject to disclosure.

B-7-14-3198

July 15, 2014

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-7-14-3198 – Resolution Determining the Status of School Board Members for Purposes of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Discussion took place regarding the resolution and proposed budget.

M-Miernicki, S-Welty, to call the question. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Upon a vote on the resolution, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Harala, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee Report:

Member Johnston withheld Item 4.A.2) – Workers’ Compensation and property Liability Insurance Policies and Premium Designation to note specifics within the coverage. Discussion took place regarding the item.

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Member Harala withheld Item 6.D. – Facilities Management & Capital Project Status Report to ask where things are stored when a building is sold. Kerry Leider, Facilities Management Supervisor, explained where items are being stored and that there will be an auction of many stored items. Discussion took place regarding the loading dock repairs and repairs in the trusses at Lincoln Park Middle School.

**Upon a vote on the remainder of the Business Committee, the same was approved –
unanimously.**

Other
July 2014

- Chair Miernicki adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of July 15, 2014 at 8:06 p.m.