

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, March 20, 2018

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Maggie Carlos (Denfeld) - excused
Finnegan White (Duluth East)

➤ Chair Kirby called the regular school board meeting of March 20, 2018 to order at 6:31 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

Thank you to the students of Lester Park and Homecroft Elementary Schools for performing before the Board meeting in honor of Music in Our Schools month.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Oswald, to approve the agenda as presented.

M-Kirby, S-Oswald, to Definitely Postpone Resolution B-3-18-3532 Adoption of the Preliminary Budget Report for the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget to the Special School Board on Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the motion to postpone the Resolution B-3-18-3532 was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there was any discussion on the agenda.

Upon a vote, the agenda was approved as amended – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of February 27, 2018.

M-Sandstad, S-Gorham, to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2018 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

March 2018

Members of the Board, I'd like to introduce Kaleb Robison and ask him to come forward for recognition. We also welcome Denfeld Robotics Coach Andy Gunderson. Kaleb is Build Team Captain for the Denfeld DNA Robotics Team. During the Great Northern Robotics Competition in North Dakota, Kaleb received a big honor. He is a recipient of the Dean's List Finalist Award, celebrating outstanding students whose passion for and effectiveness at attaining FIRST Robotics ideals is exemplary. This prestigious award recognizes Kaleb as a student leader who helps guide his robotics team and community to increased awareness for FIRST and its mission while achieving personal technical expertise and accomplishment. Kaleb will attend the World Robotics Championships in Detroit next month to compete with other Dean's List finalists. Congratulations, Kaleb, and good luck to you at World!

Public Comments

March 2018

Member Gorham read the Eleven Tools of Civility.

Jerome Upton, 225 Sitka Street, spoke to the School Board about Music in Our Schools month.

Betty Greene, 4015 Dodge Street, spoke to the School Board about the distribution of the compensatory education revenue within the District.

Bob Grytdahl, 5056 Parsons Point Rd, spoke to the School Board about the distribution of the compensatory education revenue within the District.

Kevin Skwira-Brown, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the distribution of the compensatory education revenue within the District.

Jessica Durbin, 3516 East Third Street, spoke to the School Board about equity in the district and class sizes at Congdon Park Elementary School.

David Sperl, 422 Ridgewood Road, spoke to the School Board about capping classroom sizes, boundary changes and enforcing open enrollment and student transfers.

Max Thibault, 4321 West Beyer Road, spoke to the School Board about funding for Science Fair Club to help more students participate, especially those students who have limited funds.

Nabiha Imtiaz, 2732 London Road, spoke to the School Board about funding for Science Fair Club to help more students participate, especially those students who have limited funds.

Mark Zmudy, 2219 South Street, spoke to the School Board about the achievement gap and student needs.

3 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
March 20, 2018

Howard Zmudy, 917 East Sixt Shreet, spoke to the School Board about the achievement gap and student needs.

Alaina Pilate, 2919 Greysolon Road, spoke to the School Board about the class sizes at Congdon Park Elementary.

Elizabeth West-Sherman, 5554 Ryan Road, spoke about the safety of students in our schools and asked that safety discussions be added to the next Board agenda.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

March 2018

Superintendent Gronseth stated the following communications had been received:

02/14/18 – Note addressed to Board of Education from Molly regarding her concern with changes to the Office for Civil Rights Case Processing Manual/appeals process and asked the Board to stand with her in challenging these changes.

Superintendent's Report

March 2018

March is Music in Our Schools month. We had the pleasure of hearing students from Lester Park and Homecroft Elementary sing this evening. We want to thank them for coming out tonight and sharing their talents. There are also many opportunities throughout our schools for people to see and hear our music classes in action.

Duluth and St Louis County Days at the Capitol was a great success. We were well represented by a team of administrators and school board members, about 30 students from East and Denfeld, and about 10 teachers. We were able to meet with several legislators from across the state. We spoke about our legislative priorities of special education funding, student safety, early childhood programs, and more. There are several bills in the House and senate regarding these topics. We will be continuing our conversations and support for changes in these areas.

Next week we will be hosting our Think Kids Community Conversations. Monday will be at Lincoln Middle School from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday is at Myers-Wilkins from 5:45-8:00 p.m. (time difference because of activities at the school) and Thursday will be at Duluth East from 5:30-8:00 p.m. During the first part of the meeting, people will provide an opportunity to learn about some of the areas we are considering changes and to provide feedback on those topics. The second half of the meeting will be a conversation regarding our values and priorities moving forward. We hope you will come and share your thoughts and help to shape the future for our schools. If people are not able to make it to a meeting, visit our website and fill out a survey online, send us an email, give us a call, or send us a letter. Whichever works for you, we want to learn more about your hopes for the future.

Now let’s hear what’s going on in our schools:

Duluth East High School: Student Representative Finn White spoke to the School Board about the many activities going on at East including the hockey team competing at state, robotics team competitions, food drive and upcoming events like the Orchestra concert, school dance, band concert all followed by Spring Break!

Education Committee Report
March 2018

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.

| Organization | Author / Contact | Project Title | Award Amount | Terms |
|---|-------------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| MN Department of Education – Minnesota PBIS | Diana Wokson | Denfeld PBIS School Team Mini-Grant | \$800.00 | Funds will be used for team meetings and action planning, including substitute pay or teacher pay. |
| MN Department of Education – Minnesota PBIS | Ron Lake | ISD 709 PBIS District Team Mini-Grant | \$785.40 | Funds will be used for team meetings and action planning, including substitute pay or teacher pay. |
| Wells Fargo | Colleen Holliday | Wells Fargo High School Financial Education Grant | \$1,000 | Funds will be used for career path resources, professional development, motivational speakers and field trips for students to visit colleges and work sites. |

5 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
March 20, 2018

M-Lofald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution E-3-18-3530 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Lofald, S-Gorham, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report. Upon a vote, the remainder of the Education Committee Report was approved – unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report
March 2018

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

Member Gorham presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Food Service Employees

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District #709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Independent School District #709 and the Food Service Employees, a summary of which is in the hands of all School Board members, be approved and adopted for the periods of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020, inclusive, and that the Chairperson and Clerk of the School Board be hereby authorized to execute said Agreement on behalf of the School District.

HR-3-18-3529

March 20, 2018

M-Gorham, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution HR-3-18-3529 – Food Service Employees. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Gorham, S-Sandstad, to approve the Human Resource Committee report. Upon a vote, the remainder of the Human Resources Committee report was approved - unanimously.

Business Committee Report
March 2018

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

Member Trnka 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 |
|---------------|--|------------|---------------|
| Denfeld | Enbridge | \$250.00 | HOSA |
| Denfeld | Maurices | \$1,250.00 | None |
| East | Stephen Holmes on behalf of John M. Holmes | \$500.00 | East student |
| East | Maurices | \$1,250.00 | None |
| Lester Park | Lester Park PTA | \$2,399.00 | Playground |
| Lowell | Van Allen | In Kind | None |
| Myers-Wilkins | Lee Anne Heikkinen | \$50.00 | Drumming Club |
| Myers-Wilkins | Fairfield Inn Duluth | \$460.92 | None |

B-3-18-3531

March 20, 2018

M-Trnka, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-3-18-3531 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee report.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.G.

Member Trnka withheld Item 3.C.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Items 3.G. and 4.A.

Member Trnka withheld Item 3.C. Delete Policy 8095 – Procedures During Meetings to clarify that certain sections of this policy will be incorporated into its replacement policy.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.G. New Policy 108 – Data Request Policy to ask several questions and inquire if the policy met state statutes.

7 – Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
March 20, 2018

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 3.G. New Policy 108 – Data Request Policy to update the Board on the status of the MSBA model data policy.

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, to Postpone Definitely the deletion of Policy 8095 until the April 2018 Board meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 4.A. Campus Suite to express her thanks to Bart Smith and Katie Kaufman for their assistance with this item.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Business Committee report was approved – unanimously.

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

➤ Chair Kirby adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of March 20, 2018 at 8:21 p.m.