

January 28, 2025 at 6:30 PM - School Board - Regular Business Meeting

The regular meeting of the Independent School District 283, St. Louis Park Public Schools, was held on January 28, 2025, in the Central Community Center, 6300 Walker Street, St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

Present: Colin Cox, Virginia Mancini, Taylor Williams, Celia Anderson, Abdihakim Ibrahim, Sarah Davis, Anne Casey, and Superintendent Dr. Carlondrea Hines. Also present were members of the Cabinet.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Colin Cox called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at the Central Community Center - District Office

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair, Colin Cox, recited the Land Acknowledgement “We are gathered on the land of the Dakota and Ojibwe peoples. I ask you to join me in acknowledging the Dakota and Ojibwe community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. St. Louis Park Public Schools also acknowledges that it was founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous Peoples, including those on whose land this school district is located. This acknowledgment demonstrates a commitment to dismantling the ongoing legacies of colonial power and the district's desire to support the ongoing work of local Indigenous communities to thrive in our schools.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The regular meeting agenda was presented for approval. *Motion by Anderson, seconded by Casey, to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comment participants.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Hines centered her report around the district’s mission to inspire and empower students in an environment focused on racial equity, student voice, and experience. She highlighted several recent community interactions and district initiatives designed to enhance student engagement and celebrate diversity. The following topics were discussed:

1. **SAPPHIRE Quiz Bowl Tournament:** On January 18, St. Louis Park Middle School hosted its first SAPPHIRE Quiz Bowl Tournament, with 24 teams from 10 middle schools competing. Two of the district’s teams advanced to the playoff rounds, marking a notable achievement.

2. **Superintendent's Parent and Community Advisory Committee Meeting:** Dr. Hines held her first meeting with seven parents attending online. They discussed educational opportunities and received valuable feedback, which will help guide future initiatives. The next meeting is scheduled for April.
3. **National Day of Racial Healing Event:** St. Louis Park High School SOAR students led the National Day of Racial Healing at Westwood Hills Nature Center. The event celebrated the community's diversity and perspectives, with Dr. Patrick Duffy joining as a panelist to discuss inclusivity and racial healing.
4. **Upcoming Events:** Dr. Hines highlighted upcoming events, including a Virtual Information Night for incoming 6th-grade families and a Career Pathway Advisory Board Meeting. Exciting announcements about Career and Technical Education (CTE), early college credit opportunities, and career pathways will be shared at the meeting.

Dr. Hines closed by expressing gratitude to the community for their continued dedication to the district's mission and the success of its students.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dr. Patrick Duffy, Director of Teaching, Learning & Leadership, presented an update on the Special Education Design Team's Phase I progress. This presentation introduced the team's work and highlighted their racial equity purpose statement, outlining key efforts to improve special education services through an equity-focused lens.

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, along with auditors from MMKR, presented the final FY2024 Audit Report to the school board. The report provided a comprehensive overview of the district's financial performance for the fiscal year, highlighting key findings and recommendations.

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, provided an update on the budget forecast and enrollment projections. The presentation outlined the current status of the budgeting process and offered insights into future financial planning based on projected enrollment trends.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Mancini, seconded by Cox, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

At the recommendation of Board Chair Cox, Motion by Cox, seconded by Casey, to approve Policy 903 Visitor Policy as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Board members reported on recent educational activities/events in which they have participated.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by:
Jazmin Hankerson
Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed: Chair _____
Date _____

Clerk _____
Date _____