

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, April 17, 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)
Finnegan White (Duluth East)

➤ Chair Kirby called the regular school board meeting of April 17, 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 Ordean East Harmony Bridge Group for performing before the board meeting in honor of Jazz Appreciation Month.

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

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of March 20, 2018.

M-Sandstad, S-Gorham, to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2018 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of March 27, 2018 (Student Expulsion).

M-Sandstad, S-Oswald, to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2018 Special School Board Meeting (Student Expulsion) as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of March 27, 2018 (FY 19 Budget).

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Oswald, to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2018 Special School Board Meeting (FY 19 Budget) as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition

April 2018

Members of the Board, this month we have two recognitions. Both are associated with our Career & Technical Education program. I'd like to invite Andrea Sas of Duluth East High School to come up first. Andrea took part in the SkillsUSA State Architectural Drafting Competition in Bloomington. Contestants use their drafting skills to solve an Architectural problem which includes a written test, hand sketch, and drawings. The contest tests problem solving abilities as well as CAD skills. Andrea received a Silver Medal in the competition. She's also a State Officer and will be attending the National SkillsUSA Conference in Louisville, KY as a voting delegate June. Congratulations, Andrea!

And now I'd like to invite our HOSA students and their advisor Kim Olson to come forward. HOSA is a unique program of leadership development, motivation and recognition for students enrolled in health occupations education programs. It's a critical mission when considering the acute shortage of qualified workers for the health care industry. Our HOSA students participated in several competitions at the State Leadership Conference and came away with many awards:

- First Place, Life Support Skills: Zachary Mc-Kay-Jones
- First Place, Interviewing Skills: Zachary Mc-Kay-Jones
- First Place, Health Career Photography: Kristianna Yecoshenko
- Nursing Assistant: First Place Erin Johnson, 2nd Nakiah Lanthier, 4th Kaitlyn Herold
- Home Health Aide: First Place Nakiah Lanthier, 2nd Erin Johnson, 3rd Kayla Miller, 4th Kaitlyn Herold
- Second Place, Medical Reserve Corps: Ian Goerdt, Kaitlyn Herold, Nakiah Lanthier, Abigail Nash
- Third Place, Nutrition: Erin Johnson
- Fourth Place, Human Growth and Development: Erin Johnson
- Fourth & Fifth Place, Medical Terminology: Erin Johnson, Ian Geordt
- NAMI Service Project: Anna Lemon
- HOSA Happenings: Zarar Hayee
- Barbara James Service Award: Kaitlyn Herold
- MRC Volunteer and HOSA Honors Chapter Recognition: Emma Arntsen, Zarar Hayee, Kaitlyn Herold, Erin Johnson, Nakiah Lanthier, Ian Goerdt, Zachary Mc-Kay-Jones, Kayla Miller Abigail Nash, Kristianna Yecoshenko, Denfeld and Duluth East

Congratulations on these phenomenal results!

Public Comments

April 2018

Lynn Kuehnow, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the April Human Resources Committee meeting.

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Teri Akervik, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about the music programs within the District and to thank the Board for their continued support of these programs.

Bernie Burnham, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about celebrating the 20 years of the Duluth Community Schools Collaborative and to mention that several members went down to lobby the legislature. Next week is secretary's week!

Jessica Saxton, address not provided, spoke to encourage the School Board to hire more mental health providers for the District.

Mark Zmudy, address not provided, distributed materials to the School Board that will be discussed by his father.

Howard Zmudy, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about a curriculum program he developed.

Betty Greene, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about community engagement.

Bill Elliott, address not provided, spoke to the School Board to voice his support for the clerical staff within the district.

Catherine Nachbar, address not provided, spoke to the School Board to voice her support for the clerical staff within the district.

Bob Feyen, address not provided, spoke to the School Board about equity.

Doris Malkmus, 1925 Jefferson Street, spoke to the School Board about compensatory education fund distribution.

Cruz Mendoza, address not provided, spoke to the School Board to voice his support for the clerical staff within the District and about two recently passed resolutions from the City of Duluth's Human Rights Commission.

The history class of Angelo Florestano, Lester Park Middle School, spoke to the School Board to discuss their findings of ancestry research.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

April 2018

Superintendent Gronseth stated that no communications had been received.

Superintendent's Report

April 2018

Thank you to the Ordean East Harmony Bridge Group for sharing their talents with us! It was a great way to start the evening. And, Happy Second Spring Everyone! I can't remember the last time we had a snow day in April-- ice yes, but not usually because of snow! With the warm weather predicted for the week I am sure it will be melting quickly and our spring activities can get back outside and on the fields.

I want to thank the many community partners that came together for the parent meeting at East this week. These organizations are also involved in our schools every day providing mental health care to our students. We are proud of the work we have done together to increase accessibility through co-located partnerships. While even greater accessibility is needed, we want to recognize how much our partners are providing.

The legislative session is still underway and is scheduled to end by May 21. The Governor's Budget Bill is currently in the House and Senate. Priorities include school funding, student safety, special education, and early childhood programs. There are also several other bills in both the House and Senate on these topics. We will continue to monitor the progress of session. I know we have had several teams visiting the capitol. We encourage everyone to do the same and to continue to advocate for bills that support our legislative priorities.

As you know we have some key positions in the district that will be seeing changes. There are quite a few applicants for both positions. We will soon be conducting interviews for both the Assistant Superintendent and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction. The district does strive to create diverse interview teams and often includes parents and community members. This is the case for these positions as well as I was able to share with the coalition when they asked about the team. The candidates that are chosen will be in place this summer, hopefully with some transition time available.

We will also be posting for open principal positions starting on Monday. Interested candidates can visit our website at www.isd709.org.

Denfeld High School: Student Representative Maggie Carlos spoke to the School Board about the many activities going on at Denfeld including the Maroon 16 performing with Foreigner when they were in town, Mario Madness, canine visits, and the upcoming coin wars, MCAs and ACTS, and five students heading to State for Speech! Upcoming spring sports include an undefeated baseball team.

Duluth East High School: Student Representative Finn White spoke to the School Board about the many activities going on at East including trips to Los Angeles and New York, MCAs, ACTs and AP exams, the spring talent show, and spring sports. The Jazz band will be performing in Eau Claire Jazz Festival. The East community has been hit hard with the recent tragic loss of two students to suicide.

Education Committee Report

April 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
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation – Duluth Public Schools Endowment Fund	Various	Misc.	\$28,908	Funds from these grants will support miscellaneous projects and initiatives within Duluth Public Schools.
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation – Scott D. Anderson Leadership Foundation Fund	Duluth Public Schools	Scott Anderson Leadership Forum	\$14,593	Funds will be used to support the annual, week-long Scott Anderson Leadership Forum.

E-4-18-3535

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M-Lofald, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution E-4-18-3535 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Lofald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.B.3)

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Items 1.B.1) and 1.B.2)

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Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 1.B.1) Duluth Public Schools/Duluth Preschool Governing Board (School Board) Annual Training to discuss the Board education requirements and to recognize the parents involved.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 1.B.2) Record of Continuous Improvement (RCI) Presentations to voice her appreciation for the teams, staff and community that come and present every month.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1.B.3) Duluth Public Schools, MN Department of Education & MN Department of Human Rights Update to voice her appreciation on how this is being addressed.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Education Committee Report was approved - unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report

April 2018

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

M-Kirby, S-Oswald, to Postpone Definitely the Approval of Hourly Wage Rates for Hourly Employees until the May 2018 Regular Board Meeting. Upon a vote, the same was approved - unanimously.

Member Gorham presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Duluth District-Wide Instructional Administrators' Association

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 Duluth District-Wide Instructional Administrators' Association, a summary of which has been provided electronically to all School Board members, be approved and adopted for the period of August 1, 2017 to July 31, 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-4-18-3536

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M-Gorham, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution HR-4-18-3536 – Duluth District-Wide Instructional Administrators' Association. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Gorham, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the Human Resource Committee report.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1

Member Oswald withheld Item 1 - Staffing Report Action Items to thank Principal Clayton Norman for his service and to inquire if any additional retirements have been received.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Human Resources Committee report was approved - unanimously.

Business Committee Report

April 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	Fred T. Friedman	\$500.00	Debate
Denfeld	Gail LeGarde Birman	\$100.00	Art Department / Photography
Denfeld	FDL Development	\$100.00	None
East	Harbor Pointe Credit Union	\$250.00	Orchestra Performance
Laura MacArthur	Mars Supply	\$200.00	5th grade field trip to Wolf Ridge
Lester Park	Donors Choose	\$547.00	Sitting stool purchases
Myers-Wilkins	Peggy Johnson	\$50.00	Delinquent student lunch accounts
Ordean-East	Northland Foundation	\$829.00	Greenhouse
Ordean-East	Peter Good / Deanna L Notaro	\$15.00	"GARTen Fun" night
Ordean-East	LHB Inc	\$50.00	Robotics
Ordean-East	Carlson Orthodontics, PA	\$50.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship
Ordean-East	ON THE LIMIT USA LTD	\$25.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship
Ordean-East	Members Co-op Credit Union	\$100.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship
Ordean-East	Arrowhead Orthodontics, PA	\$100.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship

Ordean-East	Harbor Pointe Credit Union	\$100.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship
Ordean-East	Rotary Club of Duluth Harbortown	\$1,200.00	Six Grade Biz Town Sponsorship
Ordean-East	PG&E / Employee Giving	\$498.00	Student needs
Ordean-East	Daniel & Kelly M Nikcevich	\$200.00	Robotics Club
Ordean-East	Gregory C / Jill M Hilliard	\$20.00	Robotics Club

B-4-18-3537

April 17, 2018

M-Trnka, S-Lofald, to approve Resolution B-4-18-3537 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

RESOLUTION

Lowell Elementary School Forest Designation Amendment

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District 709 recognizes that a School Forest would have a positive impact on students, teachers, parents, and the community where students would learn a variety of subjects and have a place that enhances an appreciation of natural resources and heightens community pride and involvement; and

WHEREAS, Lowell Elementary School students, parents, staff, and community members wish to begin the process of establishing the Lowell School Forest as depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of Independent School District 709 supports the amendment of the Lowell School Forest and outdoor classroom comprising approximately 10.75 acres located in NE ¼ of the SW ¾ Township 50, Range 14, Section 16, St. Louis County, Minnesota, described as:

- Block 6: Lots 1-10, Triggs and Kennedys Addition, including adjacent vacated Madison Avenue and Cortez Street
- Block 7: Lots 2, 4, 6-10, Triggs and Kennedys Addition, including adjacent vacated Madison Avenue and Cortez Street
- Block 9: Lots 7-16, Triggs and Kennedys Addition, including adjacent vacated Connecticut Avenue
- Block 10: Lots 5-16, Triggs and Kennedys Addition, including adjacent vacated Connecticut Avenue, except the eastern half of lots 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16
- Block 11: Lots 2, 4, 6, Triggs and Kennedys Addition, including adjacent vacated Cortez Street
- Starting at the NW corner of the E ½ of the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, going east 164.3 feet along the northern property line, then south 266 feet, then southwesterly 50° for 223 feet, then north 422.5 feet along the western property line to the point of beginning

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Board of Independent School District 709 supports the amended enrollment of said school forest in the Minnesota DNR School Forest Program for educational purposes.

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M-Trnka, S-Sandstad, to approve Resolution B-4-18-3538 – Lowell Elementary School Forest Designation Amendment.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Oswald, S-Lofald, to remove the last bullet point of the resolution “Starting at the NW corner of the E ½ of the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, going east 164.3 feet along the northern property line, then south 266 feet, then southwesterly 50° for 223 feet, then north 422.5 feet along the western property line to the point of beginning” until further clarification on if it will be used for other purposes in the future such as parking.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Oswald withdrew her motion to remove the last bullet point of the resolution “Starting at the NW corner of the E ½ of the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, going east 164.3 feet along the northern property line, then south 266 feet, then southwesterly 50° for 223 feet, then north 422.5 feet along the western property line to the point of beginning” until further clarification on if it will be used for other purposes in the future such as parking.

Upon a vote, Resolution B-4-18-3538 – Lowell Elementary School Forest Designation Amendment was approved as written – unanimously.

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

Member Oswald withheld Items 3.A. and 3.D.
Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 6.E.

Member Oswald withheld Item 3.A. Review of Bylaw 212-School Board Member Development and Travel/Expense Reimbursement to inquire if this Bylaw should be postponed as it is unclear if there are any changes to the Bylaw.

The Board agreed as a whole that the review of Bylaw 212 – School Board Member Development and Travel/Expense Reimbursement will be discussed again at the May 2018 Board Meeting.

Member Oswald withheld 3.B. Data Request Policy to state this policy does not address subjects of data.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Loeffler-Kemp withheld Item 6.E. Facilities Management & Capital Project Status Report to thank the Facilities staff for their hard work all year, especially during school breaks.

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

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Other
April 2018

M-Sandstad, S-Trnka, to approve Member Oswald’s attendance at the Increase Engagement Workshop in May. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0-1 as follows:

Yea: Gorham, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Lofald, Sandstad, Trnka

Nay: None

Abstain: Oswald

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

➤ Chair Kirby adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of April 17, 2018 at 8:42 p.m.