

School Board Minutes
 Regular Meeting
 Monday, September 16, 2024

The Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Lemke at 6:02 pm, Monday, September 16, 2024 in the Secondary Auditorium. Board members present: Gohman, Lemke, Levin, Jager, Tonder, Wolf and Wright. Others in attendance were: Superintendent Daniel Ludvigson, Sherri Evenson, Tammy Cebulla, Barton Rud, Brad Evenson, Kelsey Paurus, Mitchell Ganske, Dave Nelson, Kevin Trierweiler, Bonnie Middendorf, Cindy Dalton, Jenny Thelen, Jordan Anderson, Beth Gustafson, Nicole Cuchna, Chuck Speer, Kyle Lamb, Senator Utke, Jen Olson, Stan Mensen, Jon Chase, Pat Schultz, Russ Olson, Steve Hinson, Ron Hibbs, LeRoy Uhlehkamp, Renee Kreemer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

It was moved by Tonder and seconded by Wright to adopt the agenda with the following additions: MOU for Teacher Contract and Senator Utke as a guest speaker. Motion unanimously carried.

It was moved by Wolf and seconded by Jager to approve the following Consent Agenda with the addition of Nathan Hibbs Contract approval, teacher license position:

CA-1. Regular meeting minutes August 19, 2024

CA-2. Bills

CA-2a. Prewrite checks numbered to and including 21915-21923=\$351,033.36

Checks for FY 24 numbered to and including 21924-21930=\$92,043.60

Checks for FY 25 numbered to and including 21931-22022=\$363,891.21

CA-2b. Fund Transfers:

| Date | Pmt Type | To Whom | Amount |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 8/15/2024 | WX | PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMT ASSN | 17054.19 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE | 8330.66 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | TEACHERS RETIREMENT ACCOUNT | 11112.23 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 755.83 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 800.01 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 766.68 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 125 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 1666.67 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 1.4 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 1099.98 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 350 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | ELECTRONIC FED TAX PAY SYSTEM | 45233.22 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | HEALTH PARTNERS | 18653.33 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | HEALTH PARTNERS | 24002.36 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | HEALTH PARTNERS | 59373.45 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | HEALTH PARTNERS | 4743.42 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | EYE MED VISION CARE, LLC | 46.89 |

| | | | |
|-----------|----|-----------------------------|---------|
| 8/15/2024 | WX | EYE MED VISION CARE, LLC | 10.42 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | EYE MED VISION CARE, LLC | 157.77 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | EYE MED VISION CARE, LLC | 66.17 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | DELTA DENTAL OF MN | 559.18 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | DELTA DENTAL OF MN | 102.48 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | DELTA DENTAL OF MN | 2359.27 |
| 8/15/2024 | WX | DELTA DENTAL OF MN | 644.31 |
| 8/23/2024 | WX | AVIBEN | 363.75 |
| 8/31/2024 | WX | AMERICAN HERITAGE NATL BANK | 49 |
| 8/31/2024 | WX | REVTRAK INC | 1994.84 |
| 8/31/2024 | WX | EMPOWER | 1185 |
| 8/8/2024 | WX | BMO | 3501.68 |
| 8/31/2024 | WX | MINNESOTA NATIONAL BANK | 10 |

CA-2c. Revolving checks numbered to and including – 5805-5808=\$140.50

CA-2d. P-Card Statement.

CA-3. Financial Report _____ 2023__

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| General Fund | 4,793,454.04 |
| Food Service Fund | 81,319.79 |
| Community Service Fund | 315,418.09 |
| Construction Fund | 0 |
| Debt Service Fund | 627,653.43 |
| Scholarship Fund | 0 |
| Student Activity Fund | 0 |
| TOTAL ALL FUNDS | 4,693,367.01__ |

CA-4 Personnel

A. New Hires

- 1) Taralee May – Paraprofessional
- 2) Esther Swartzentruber - Paraprofessional
- 3) Madison Wolf - Paraprofessional
- 4) Katie Dolezal - Paraprofessional
- 5) Denitta Kircher - Head Cook at Secondary

The following appointments are made contingent upon adequate enrollment/participation in the program. The board retains broad discretion to discontinue programs, without notice if enrollment/participation is not adequate.

- 1) Jonathan Young - Head Coach GBB
- 2) Angela Eldred - Assistant GBB
- 3) Steve Rist – C Squad GBB
- 4) Diana Hegseth - JHGBB
- 5) Brett Eisenshenk - Head Coach BB
- 6) Mike Eberle - Assistant BB
- 7) Tanner Roske - C Squad BB
- 8) Tyrone Scott - JH BB
- 9) David Wright - Head Coach GH
- 10) Leif Ludwig - Assistant GH
- 11) Jordan Ramey - Assistant GH

- 12) Chad Wehrman - Head Coach BH
- 13) Jesse Sogge - Head Coach Gymnastics
- 14) Mikayla Jasmer - Assistant Gymnastics
- 15) Taylor Lanoue - Assistant Gymnastics
- 16) Nate Pachan - Head Coach Wrestling
- 17) Bryce Kirchner - Assistant Wrestling
- 18) Brayden Thom - Assistant Wrestling

- B. Accept the following resignations:
- 1) Guadalupe Vasquez - Paraprofessional
 - 2) Sara Wettstein - Paraprofessional
- C. Overloads - Jessica Rosenow and Michelle Halonen

CA-5 Truth in Taxation Meeting Date: This will take place at the regular board meeting on December 16, 2024 in the boardroom.

CA-6 Policy Review - Policies 722 (Open data request) and 203 (Operation of School Board) have errors. Updates have been done to update these errors. Policy 722 does contain updates to match the current MSBA model policy.

Motion unanimously carried.

Beth Gustafson and Nicole Cuchna gave a presentation on Performance Data and Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Plan.

Jordan Anderson from Freshwater gave a summary of services provided to LPGE by the Freshwater District.

Chuck Speer/Kyle Lamb - presented the idea of a Spring band trip to Florida. It is moved by Wolf and seconded by Jager for approval of this trip and to allow them to start planning and fundraising for it. Motion unanimously carried.

Senator Utke gave an informational talk about some things going on in St. Paul that has affected our district. He wanted to learn more about our district and hear any ways that he could help through legislation changes.

Jen Olson - teacher at LPGE had a couple questions for the board along with a talk on how this is affecting everyone in the community. The community wants answers.

Stan Mensen - former employee and concerned community member presented the board with two petitions that are being circulated for signatures. One petition to remove 2 school board members and one petition to reinstate Mr. Ludvigson's contract. The board was given copies of these petitions.

John Chase - concerned community member stated that Jen Olson had covered everything perfectly that he was wanting to address.

Russ Olson - concerned community member stated that Jen Olson had covered everything perfectly that he was wanting to address.

Patrick Schultz - concerned community member stated that Jen Olson had covered everything perfectly that he was wanting to address adding she was "spot on"

Steven Hinson - former board member and concerned school district parent - talked about Constitutional Rights. Also stated that he had personal encounters with the board chair of her badmouthing him to his face and about the Superintendent Daniel Ludvigson. I served on the board with these folks so I know the things behind the scenes that they keep referring to as private data and there isn't anything. Mr. Hinson asked the board chair Lemke to step down from her position at least two times.

Ron Hibbs - concerned community member. He is concerned about all the bad publicity and how it will affect anyone wanting to come to this school in the future.

LeRoy Uhlenkamp - Didn't feel that that board heard anything from his last speech as things just seem to continue to be in turmoil. Similar situation happened to him and his family about 16 years ago.

Renee Kreemer - concerned community member - talked about the fact that students are not even able to enjoy school anymore because they don't know and/or understand what is going on. Kids do talk. She stated there is a lot of "behind the scenes" stuff going on with the board. The board and all of the upheaval is costing the district and community a lot of money that did not need to be spent. Everyone supports Superintendent Ludvigson.

Kelsey Paurus asked if there were any questions from the board on her activities report. No questions were asked.

Mr. Evenson shared with the Board that flag football started tonight. He also talked about the closing of Trinity's Early childhood center so we are seeing an increase in numbers coming into the school, more staffing and funding may need to be obtained down the road if the increases continue. Summer school is wrapped up and Mr. Evenson extended a special thanks to the staff for stepping up and making it a great summer school session. Mr. Evenson is working on the program report for 21st Century that is due at the end of the fiscal year which is September 30, 2024.

Mr. Ganske told the board that the Arvig refund check had finally arrived in the amount of \$7836.75. This has been a long process but has definitely been worth it.

Tammy Cebulla and Barton Rud reported on their reports. The kids are back in the building and off to a good start. PBIS seems to be working well and Mr. Rud feels kids are different this year so far in the fact of more respect, so he feels things are headed in the right direction.

The Board reported they would like to look at adding more structure to the meeting that is held with Mr. Ludvigson prior to the board meetings.

Superintendent Ludvigson went over goals set by the board for the superintendent, three standards set. Worked through negotiations as it was a negotiation year. Budget and audit preparation, budget ending in the green.

Superintendent Ludvigson gave his report, working hard on the building, landscaping, bathrooms, and working with the state to put the solar contract back out on bids. Bleacher railings have been installed in the big gymnasium. Continuing planning on the track project, part of the LTFM. Adding soccer to the list of activities. Levy information given. Enrollment during the first week of school was down so we were hoping to reach out to get more information. TNT meeting in December at the regular board meeting. Fun Fact from Ehlers that \$210,000 were generated from bonds that we would not have otherwise had.

Board Highlight – Gohman extended a special thank you to the FFA and Just for Kix groups for helping out at the tractor pull in Grey Eagle, great job done by all. Mr. Ludvigson shared that the State of Minnesota moved school board appreciation to September so he extended his appreciation to all school board members in the State of Minnesota.

Unfinished business - MOU for Business Manager corrected to include longevity pay and to change the payout from MSRS to an HRA plan as this is a single person contract. Technology contract will follow the same as the Business Manager position, no benefit changed just the wording. Community Ed license MOU for Tammy Cebulla, referenced a few other people on this to get information from. It was moved by Tonder and seconded by Levin to accept the MOU's for the Business Manager and Technology Director. Motion unanimously carried.

It was moved by Gohman and seconded by Tonder to approve the Community Ed License MOU with the numbers that Tammy had sent the board which was \$750.00 plus fees. Motion unanimously carried

The donation resolution was moved by Wolf and seconded by Levin:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS for September 2024

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: “The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: “Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or device of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full.”; and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Long Prairie Grey Eagle, ISD 2753, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

| Donor | Item | Designated Purpose (if any) |
|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Long Prairie Lions Club | \$2250 | Scholarship |
| Long Prairie Packing Co. | \$1000 | FFA |
| Steve Neville | \$250 | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| MN National Bank | \$160 | Thunder Athletes |
| American Heritage Bank | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| LP Chamber | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| ECP | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| William’s Dingman Funeral Home | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| Double R Saloon | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| Peace United Churches | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| Vitality Wellness Center | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| Little Rose Creations | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |
| Camphill Village | Misc. | New Teacher Welcome Basket |

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| TCC Wellness | 250 Backpacks | Elementary |
|--------------|---------------|------------|

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

Aye: Gohman, Jager, Lemke, Levin, Tonder, Wolf and Wright

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

Discussion was held on the Turf and Track project, options are being considered right now. Looking at a 2024 Levy payable in 2025.

Preliminary 2024 Payable 2025 Levy Certification. Presentation given by Daniel with a request to approve for the maximum levy amount at this time and at the December meeting it can be adjusted if necessary. It was moved by Wolf and seconded by Tonder to approve the Levy as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Committee Appointments: Meet and Confer, Wolf and Gohman volunteered for this committee. It was moved by Levin and seconded by Jager to appoint Wolf and Gohman to the Meet and Confer Committee. Motion unanimously carried. Advisory/Stakeholder Committee: Tonder volunteered for this committee. It was moved by Wright and seconded by Levin to appoint Tonder to the Advisory/Stakeholder Committee. Motion unanimously carried. Negotiations Committee: Tonder volunteered for this committee. It was moved by Wright and seconded by Levin to appoint Tonder to the negotiations committee. Motion unanimously carried.

MOU for the Read Act was presented requesting approval for the Read Act training. It was moved by Levin and seconded by Jager to approve the Read Act MOU. Motion unanimously carried.

It was moved by Gohman and seconded by Wolf to table the discussion of the Interim Superintendent. Roll call with all in favor of the original motion made by Gohman to table discussion was Wolf, Gohman and Tonder, opposed Lemke, Levin and Wright. Jager abstained. Motion died due to a tie vote.

It was moved by Tonder to make an amendment to the current motion to reword it to state to postpone any discussion of the Interim Superintendent until February of 2025, seconded by Gohman. Roll call with all in favor of the amendment to the original motion, Wolf, Gohman, Tonder, opposed Lemke, Levin and Wright. Jager abstained from voting. Motion died due to a tie vote.

It was moved by Wolf and seconded by Tonder to adjourn the meeting. Roll call with all in favor to adjourn, Tonder, Wolf and Gohman, opposed Lemke, Levin and Wright. Jager abstained. Motion died.

It was moved by Levin and seconded by Wright to have the board chair look into an interim superintendent. Discussion of the need for a committee to look into this, not just one person. Roll call with all in favor of the motion, Wright, Levin, and Jager, opposed Gohman, Tonder, Wolf and Lemke. Motion failed.

It was moved by Tonder and seconded by Gohman to amend the current motion to have the negotiation committee look into this if there is a need. Roll call with all in favor of the amendment, Gohman, Tonder and Wolf, opposed Jager, Levin, Lemke and Wright. Motion failed.

It was moved by Tonder and seconded by Gohman to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm by Chairman Lemke.

Tanja Levin, Clerk