

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Monday, Nov. 25, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, Delano City Hall
Delano Public Schools
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

1. Call to order at 7 p.m.

A. Record of members present or absent.

Members present: R. Depa, R. Schaust, A. Johnson, J. Gierke, S. Roeser. and C. Black.
Absent S. Baker.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Upon motion by J. Gierke and seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Work Session

R. Depa arrived at 6:30 p.m. and S Baker was absent. The board reviewed the requests for extended field trips for the Robotics Team. Vaughn Dierks and Robert Sehm from Wold Architects and Engineers presented a 2024 long-range planning study. The district commissioned Wold to review district facilities for physical deficiencies and to assist the district with the preparation of two and ten-year plans to address deferred maintenance. Wold gathered data about, physical conditions - facility assessment, enrollment and capacity, safety and security, curriculum and programming, activities and athletics, community, existing campus /site, and future sites. The plan will help align the district's long-term goals and develop action steps with the district's strategic plan. Wold's presentation is included in the agenda. Elementary school principal Rachel Schultz provided an elementary school update. Things working well at DES include LETRS PD, SST, interventions, progress monitoring, Reading Corps, Math Corps, strong staff and new hires, Math curriculum adoption, parent involvement, and individual student growth. Behavior response protocols, NED para, SST, outstanding paras, Kids Hope, Watch DOG program, and the social worker contribute to DES success. DES is experiencing a wider range of abilities in classrooms, staffing issues, an increase in behaviors and inconsistent FAST scores. DES is addressing the challenges through fidelity checks - literacy/behavior, restructuring Tier 1 - long-term plan, getting creative with coverage and looking at hiring options and grants. M. Reeder provided a financial update and is preparing the 2025-26 budget discussions.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Program Review

Janel Bitzman, CPA from Bergan KDV provided the independent auditors report. The full report was attached to the agenda.

6. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by S. Roeser and seconded by A. Johnson, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Oct. 28, 2024, School Board Meeting minutes.
2. Special School Board Meeting minutes Nov. 14, 2024, canvassing the election.

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments
2. Investment Transactions
3. CARES Act Budgets
4. Wire Transfers
5. Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund
6. Cash Report
7. Revenue Report by Fund
8. Expense Report by Fund
9. Expense Report by Program
10. Expense Report by Object
11. List of Bills Presented for Payment

7. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts

Upon motion by R. Schaust, and seconded by S. Roeser, the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Motion passed 6-0.

8. Personnel Matters

Upon motion by A. Johnson and seconded by S. Roeser, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 6-0.

9. Administrative Reports

Superintendent M. Schoen updated the board at the start of the school year. Schoen recognized how the US News and World Report ranked the schools: DIS #1, Delano Elementary #19 and Delano High School # 15. The strategic planning committee will meet in Dec, Jan., Feb., and March.

A. Principals

Katie Thompson reported on behalf of the intermediate school. SBLT: some new protocol considerations: welcoming new students, situational awareness-internally, parent collaboration, and device checks. PD: Late start: LETRS, SAEBRS, Vertical, Individual MTSS: Next round of math and reading in January. Upcoming events: Turkey Bingo, Door Decorating and concerts. Thompson recognized Teresa Campbell and Judy Reed and DIS was named best MN middle school according to US News and World Report!

Rachel Schultz reported on behalf of the elementary school. Fundraisers: DES had a very successful BoosterThon. Schultz thanked the DES PIE leadership, first grade teacher Lori Prickett as the PIE President and many community, family and friends who helped. DES met and exceeded its \$60,000 goal. The money helped replace and purchase instruments and materials in the music department. Fun run outside to celebrate -spectators cheered on their child. PD Update: 50 percent of staff completed LETRS training. Staff not completing LETRS training are working on Curriculum Based PD, Standards Based Grading, or meeting with Vertical Teams. Site Base: Angie L. answered questions regarding SpEd processes and student support. She shared a document on restorative practices that support follow-through and accountability of all students. Schultz recognized Adventure Club teachers, Teresa Langton, Sarah Beck, Ali Vierling and Kim Phillips, Jeanne Schansberg, Judy Reed and Galina Menard who were recognized at the ESS Banquet in St. Cloud.

Barry Voight reported on behalf of the high school. Voight recognized several students Oliver Beck - State tourney boys XC Girls XC - section champs, state tourney - Mya Werner 9th place; Team placed 5th! Girls Volleyball - state tourney 3rd place; Cassie Wegeman and Sydney Pink all tourney team. Girls Swimming - Medley Relay- 3rd Place, Josie Strobl- 200 IM, 4th place, Josie Strobl- 100 Fly, 4th Place, 200 Freestyle Relay, 4th Place, Emma Ristau - 100 Free, 6th place, Norah Seguin, 100 Backstroke, 3rd Place, 400 Free Relay- Champions (Emma Ristau, Abby Gierke, Josie Strobl, Kaia Georges) setting a school record with a time of 3:31.67! Katelyn Pink - Girls Tennis, Harper Bukowski was nominated and accepted into the UWEC honor band (90 schools from MN/WI). SBLT UPDATE: Review curricular offerings - Splitting Human Geo and World History; CIS College Algebra; CIS Sociology. School Discipline Report - 275 cell phone violations (237 1st; 27 2nd; 5; third; 1 4th; 4 insubordinations). Attendance discipline is up. Restorative Practices for the last three years; 41 this year; 45 last year; 61 two years ago.

B. Business Manager

Business Manager **M. Reeder** briefed the school board on finances. The 2024 2025 budget has been updated to reflect updated state aid revenue driven by enrollment, salaries and benefits for staff who were hired this year. The original budget had estimated the enrollment to be 2,378; the current enrollment is 2, 413 which is an increase of 35 students. The largest growth was in the high school. The original budget had the General Unassigned Fund Balance being in deficit by \$675, 835; the revised budget now has a deficit in the unassigned Fund Balance being \$480, 983. The deficit decreased because of the additional General Ed

Aid to be received due to the increase in enrollment. Based on the revised budget, the unassigned fund balance will be 15.9 percent. The board-approved fund balance is 12 percent.

C. Community Ed

Interim Community Education Director, **C. Runke** presented Community Ed updates. Preschool: Enrollment update: 3's/4's half-day preschool (morning): 45 students enrolled; 4's/5's half-day preschool (morning): 37 students enrolled; 4's/5's extended day preschool (8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.): 49 students enrolled. Observations made by kindergarten teachers regarding children who have gone through Delano Public Schools Preschool (DPSP) compared to those in other programs or without preschool: DPSP students start the year already familiar with basic school routines, such as walking in the hallways, sitting in a group, using the restroom, following lunchroom procedures and playground expectations, and waiting their turn, they tend to be more independent, they exhibit stronger self-help skills, their social skills are more advanced, including abilities like sharing, taking turns, asking to play with others, and including others in activities, they demonstrate better emotional regulation, especially during drop-off times and when coping with longer school days. DPSP teachers use the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment tools to measure student progress. The ECFE program will host its annual Holiday Market in the Community Education Gym on December 7 as part of the Old Fashioned Christmas Event in Delano. The Market will be open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., which are extended hours for this year! ECFE is hosting the Santa's Workshop Party from 10:00 a.m. to noon. More than 200 children are expected.

10. Student Board Representative Reports.

- A. Student representative Sophia Grant and Logan Wermager presented student reports. NHS students visited students and helped teachers in the elementary school. Representatives met with the DIS student council to brainstorm ways to help transition 6th grade students to the high school. Representatives held a listening session with 7th graders and explored ways to help transition students to the HS. Reps also met with students who take classes at Wright Tech. Students love the program and want more time at Wright Tech.

11. Board Reports

- A. MAWSECO
Board member A. Johnson reported on behalf of MAWSECO. Johnson toured Village Ranch. The board talked about a pay equity review.

12. Old Business.

- A. Approve the second read of Policy 620, Credit for Learning. Upon a motion by A. Johnson, and seconded by R. S. Roeser, the Board of Education approved the second read of Policy 620, Credit for Learning. Motion passed 6-0.

13. New Business

- A. Approve the extended field trips for students in German Language Classes and Boys Tennis. Upon a motion by J. Gierke, seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the extended field trips for students in German Language Classes and Boys Tennis. Motion passed 6-0.
- B. Approve the first read to rescind Policy 808, Site Based Management. Upon a motion by R. Schaust and seconded by A. Johnson the Board of Education approved rescinding Policy 808, Site Based Management. Motion passed 6-0.

13. Public Comment

No public Comments

14. Adjournment

Upon motion made by A. Johnson, seconded by S. Roeser, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke
RECORDER