

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, January 22, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Art Johnston
Judy Seliga Punyko
Ann Wasson
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

Student Representatives

- Chair Kasper called the regular school board meeting of January 22, 2013 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote on the agenda as presented, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of December 18, 2012.

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2012 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of January 7, 2013.

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2013 School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Organizational School Board Meeting of January 7, 2013.

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2013 Organizational School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Public Comments

January 2013

None

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

January 2013

Superintendent Gronseth acknowledged the communications received.

Superintendent's Report

January 2013

Superintendent Gronseth stated that there would be a new element each month awarding certificates of achievement as a way to recognize the achievements of staff and students.

Denfeld Key Club Members - Denfeld students are recognized for their work on two projects that helped out our community.

--Project Linus: Members of the Denfeld Key Club made 38 blankets and donated them to children in need in the Duluth area.

--Operation Christmas Child: Members of the Denfeld Key Club packed 33 shoeboxes with fun and useful gifts for Operation Christmas Child.

Nicole Heskin, Duluth East High School -She's been awarded a Blue Jacket as part of the Minnesota FFA Foundation Bright Futures program. The program provides sponsored FFA jackets to Minnesota youth who are starting their FFA career.

Aaron Siegle, Homecroft Elementary -Winner in the Essentia Health "Light of Love" essay contest sponsored by St. Mary's Medical Center Auxiliary. He received a plaque and participated in the "Tree of Lights" Lighting Ceremony at St. Mary's Medical Center.

Superintendent Gronseth presented his state of the District address.

Education Committee Report

January 2013

Member Johnston presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Johnston presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Support for Lester Park Elementary School Forest Designation

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, Lester Park Elementary School students, parents, staff, and community members wish to begin the process of establishing the Lester Park School Forest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Independent *School*

District 709 supports the establishment of the Lester Park School Forest and outdoor classroom comprising: Lots 376-379 Including Part of Vacated 53rd Avenue East Adjacent to Lot 379, Block 33, Crosley Park Addition to Duluth, and supports enrollment of said school forest in Minnesota DNR School Forest Program for educational purposes

E-1-13-3073

January 22, 2013

M-Johnston, S-Westholm , to approve Resolution E-1-13-3073 - Lester Park School Forest Designation. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Johnston 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 various organizations.

	Organization	Author/Contact	Project Title	Award Amount	Terms
1	Northland Foundation	Bill Gronseth	Youth Success Teams/AmeriCorps Support Project	\$30,000	Funds from this grant award will be used to help support having AmeriCorps in the Duluth Public Schools.
2	Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation	Kathy Bogen	Addressing the Social Determinants of Health through School/Community Partnership	\$75,000	Funds from this grant award will be used to partner with the Myers-Wilkins Community School Collaborative, United Way of Greater Duluth, and the Duluth Local Initiatives Support Corporation to expand services that address the social determinants of health impacting Myers-Wilkins families and other Duluth Hillside residents.

E-1-13-3070

January 22, 2013

4-Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
January 22, 2013

M-Johnston, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution E-1-13-3070 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Johnston, S-Wasson, to approve the Education Committee Report as presented.

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.A.1) – Think Kids – Our Schools, Our Community, Our Future to note that he thinks the conversations should be extended to include financial planning. Superintendent Gronseth stated that financial planning has been a big part of the meetings and that the topics are not limited at the meetings. Member Wasson stated that budget planning meetings would be coming up in the near future and that there would be an opportunity for input at those meetings as well. Discussion continued regarding financing of the long range facilities plan.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report
January 2013

Member Westholm presented the Human Resources Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

M-Westholm, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the Human Resources Committee Report as presented. Upon a vote on the Human Resources Report as presented, the same was approved – unanimously.

Business Committee Report
January 2013

Member Seliga Punyko presented the Business Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Authorized Student Activity Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

District	Banking	Account	Addition of	Removal of
<u>Building</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Authorized Signer</u>	<u>Authorized Signer</u>
Ordean East	DTCU	XXXX1	Rachel Jackson	Vance Hopkins

B-1-13-3071

January 22, 2013

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Wasson, to approve Resolution B-1-13-3071 – Authorized Student Activity Bank Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

5-Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
January 22, 2013

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
2013 Legislative Platform

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the attached 2013 Duluth School District Legislative Platform be adopted.

B-1-13-3072

January 22, 2013

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-1-13-3072 – 213 Legislative Platform.

Discussion took place regarding the platform.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Seliga Punyko, S-Wasson, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee Report as presented.

Member Johnston withheld Items 3.A.1), 4.B., 6.A., 6.C., and 6.F.

Member Johnston withheld Item 3.A.1) – Policy 8030- School Board Member Compensation to note that he thought the board should take a 10% pay cut.

Member Johnston withheld Item 4B. – Change Orders to note his concerns with the change orders.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.A. – Expenditure Contracts to note his concern with the apartment rental for the lobbyist.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.C. – Other Contracts to request a separate vote on an item. It was clarified that there is not a vote on informational items.

Member Johnston withheld Item 6.F. – Change Orders related to the Long Range Facilities Plan report to note his concern with some of the change orders.

Upon a vote on the remainder of the business committee report as presented, the same was approved 6 – 1 as follows:

Yea: Cameron, Kasper, Miernicki, Seliga Punyko, Kasper, Westholm

Nay: Johnston

Other
January 2013

Chair Kasper asked that board members who attended the Minnesota School Boards Association conference give a brief overview of their experience. Members Seliga Punyko and Johnston gave a review of their experience at the conference.

Member Johnston thanked the students and staff who participated in the Martin Luther King events.

➤ Chair Kasper adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of January 22, 2013 at 7:36 p.m.