

Fillmore Central School District  
Board of Education  
Joint Special Meeting  
with ISD #299 – Caledonia, MN  
November 18, 2009

A joint special meeting of the Board of Education for Independent School District #2198, Preston, Minnesota, and Independent School District #299, Caledonia, Minnesota was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of Wednesday, November 18, 2009 by Caledonia Chair Naomi Fruechte in the Caledonia Elementary School. Caledonia Board members present were Naomi Fruechte, Matt Hendel, John Klug, Michelle Werner, Charlie Wray, Spencer Yohe. Fillmore Central Board members present were Sue Ostrom, John Torgrimson, Sue Sikkink, Jim Love, Ross Kiehne, and Craig Britton. Absent: Jean Meyer and Deb Ristau. Also present were Karen Schiltz, Craig Moorhead, and Arnold Ideker.

Britton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously.

The two school boards discussed at length the ideas of sharing a superintendent between the school districts. The two boards shared with each other their enrollment numbers, duties the current superintendent does for each district, and ideas they both would like to see if they were to share a superintendent. It was the consensus of both boards that in order for this to work; the schools would need to hire a person that is a strong leader and have experience as a superintendent. The distance between the two districts was addressed as both a positive & negative. It was noted that by not being adjoining districts, there was a potential benefit in less chance of open enrollment issues.

The benefits would be the cost savings for both districts and being able to share ideas with each other. When the superintendent attends meetings, he would bring information back for both of the districts, and there would be a cost savings for travel and registration expenses.

Some of the obstacles discussed would be that both schools would be new in doing this so everyone would need to be open and flexible with each other. One school may feel slighted if the superintendent spends more time in one district and not the other. The superintendent would not be able to attend all the sub-committee/facility meetings.

Some of the changes that would need to be done would be the scheduling of committee meetings, the balancing of time between both districts, and possibly a stipend mileage reimbursement.

The board thanked each other for being able to get together and explore the ideas. Both school boards will think about this and get back to each other after their next meeting.

Spencer Yohe moved to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Motion seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ostrom  
Clerk, Independent School District #2198