

Fillmore Central School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
February 23, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Independent District #2198, Preston, Minnesota was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, February 23, 2010, in the Fillmore Central Middle School Media Center by Board Chairperson Ross Kiehne. Present: Superintendent Myrna Luehmann, Business Manager Kathy Whalen, Bookkeeper Darla Ebner, Board Members: Kiehne, Love, Ostrom, Ristau, Sikkink and Torgrimson. Absent: Britton. Visitors: Heath Olstad, Chris Mensink, Aaron Hess, Lisa Brainard, Jade Wangen and several members of the Harmony, Preston, and Fountain communities.

Recognition of visitors – a sign-up sheet for those that wish to speak to the Board regarding agenda items was recognized.

Addition to the agenda:

- Budget committee update
- Move item 19, Discussion/Action on proposed 7/8 grade configuration, up to follow item 9.
- Approve short term investing

Ostrom moved to approve the agenda with additions. Motion seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

Love moved to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2010, organizational and regular board meeting. Motion seconded by Sikkink. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Britton joined the meeting at 6:05 pm.

Sikkink moved to approve the monthly claims in the amount of \$456,987.25. Motion was seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously.

Principal's report was received from Myrna Luehmann.

Principal's report was received from Heath Olstad.

Love moved to approve the resignation of Elaine Armstrong as Van Driver. Motion was seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Ristau moved to approve the resignation of Sara Blessing as HS Vocal Music teacher. Motion was seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously.

Britton moved to approve the retirement of Laura Armstrong as Elementary teacher. Motion was seconded by Sikkink. Motion carried unanimously.

Sikkink moved to hire Nate Carlson as B-squad softball coach and Travis Malley as Jr. High softball coach contingent on the number of participants in the softball program. Motion seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Britton moved to hire Jessica Marzolf as three and four year-old Learning Readiness paraprofessional, \$8.00/hour. Motion seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

Ostrom moved to hire Tracy Ward as special education paraprofessional at the Root River Program. Motion seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Sikkink moved to hire Heather Grinnell as daycare lead teacher in the toddler room, \$9.00/hour. Motion seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously.

Torgrimson recapped the budget committee meeting that was held on February 8, 2010. A \$200,000 budget reduction was targeted based on a potential 3% cut in general education aid from the State of MN. Areas of savings include administrative re-configuration (0.6 FTE Superintendent with 1.0 FTE K-12 Principal), moving grades 7 and 8 to the high school, athletic director position covered by overload, and other misc. efficiencies. In the event that additional revenue reductions are made by the State areas for consideration are bussing and media center restructuring.

Discussion was held regarding the reconfiguration of students to grades K-6 at Preston, grades 7-12 at Harmony. Heath Olstad addressed the Board and community regarding moving the 7th and 8th graders to the high school. The schedules have been worked out and the plan is to continue with the block schedule with the possibility of a split-block for math and English for 7th and 8th graders so they would have those subjects for the full year. Issues discussed were the socializing students, locker arrangements,

Heather Shupe and Heath Mensink signed up to address the Board. They were each given time to speak in regard to the configuration for students. Comments were also heard from Tracy Gulbranson and Archie Jorgenson.

Sikkink moved to relocate grades 7 and 8 to the high school building beginning with the 2010/11 school year. Motion seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Torgrimson and Britton updated the Board on the Facility Committee meeting held February 15, 2010. The upcoming HVAC project at the middle school was reviewed. Mr. Aaron Hess, A & F Consulting, suggested that an on-site construction manager be hired to oversee the project. Lawn mowing options for 2010 and 2011 were discussed.

Torgrimson moved to request quotes for lawn mowing service at the Harmony site and to have the Preston site mowed by staff. Motion seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Britton moved to award the bid for the HVAC project to the lowest bidder, Schwab, LLC, with a base bid of \$940,700. Motion seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously. Other base bids received were: DMC Plumbing \$965,000; Market/Johnson \$1,002,000; HIMEC \$1,054,000; Ryan Mechanical \$1,055,790; TCI \$1,101,250; and Superior \$1,204,000. (*Complete copies of bids on file in the district office.*)

Mr. Aaron Hess asked for approval to complete the alternate projects associated with the HVAC project at the middle school. The bonds issued will cover the cost of the initial project plus all alternate projects which include AHU entrance doors - \$6,550; Ceilings 31, 33, 84 - \$11,200; Fin tube removal - \$12,800; Cab/convectors removal - \$4,850; Replace ductwork - \$42,700; Repairs to interior front entrance - \$6,500.

Ostrom moved to complete all alternate projects associated with the HVAC project. Motion seconded by Torgrimson. Motion carried unanimously.

Torgrimson moved to hire Greg Fogarty & Associates as on-site construction manager, amount not to exceed \$52,500, for the HVAC project at the middle school. Motion seconded by Ostrom. Motion carried unanimously.

Britton moved to hire Jackie Whitacre as director for the Spring Play. Motion seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

A 2010/2011 tentative school calendar was distributed for the Board's review.

Sikkink moved to reinstate the elementary chorus stipend in the amount of \$125 to Schedule B of the 2009-2011 ED MN-Fillmore Central Master Agreement. It was deleted from the schedule in error. Motion seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

Sikkink moved to approve a part-time superintendent contract (.6 FTE) with Myrna Luehmann for the 2010/2011 school year. Motion seconded by Ristau. Motion carried unanimously.

Ristau moved to approve a K-12 principal contract with Heath Olstad for the 2010/2011, 2011/2012, and 2012/2013 school years. Motion seconded by Britton. Motion carried unanimously.

Ristau moved to pre-approve investing bond proceeds at best interest rate available as determined by the business office. Motion seconded by Sikkink. Motion carried unanimously.

Love moved to close the meeting at 7:25 pm to discuss a personnel issue. Motion seconded by Ostrom. Motion carried unanimously.

Love moved to re-open the Board meeting at 7:32 pm. Motion seconded by Ristau. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Torgrimson introduced the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION
IMMEDIATELY DISCHARGING
JAMES GRELL**

WHEREAS, the School District hired James Grell ("Grell") in or about October 2009; and
WHEREAS, the Administration of the School District gave Grell a pre-termination hearing on January 25, 2010 and

WHEREAS, Grell is not a veteran within the provisions of the Veterans Preference Act; and
WHEREAS, the Administration of the School District has recommended that Grell be immediately discharged on the grounds set forth in the Notice of Immediate Discharge attached hereto as "Exhibit A"; and

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2198 as follows:

1. That Grell be and hereby is discharged, effective immediately, as an employee of the School District based on the grounds set out in Exhibit A attached hereto.
2. That written Notice of Immediate Discharge in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A be signed by the Clerk of the School Board and served upon Grell.
3. That the contents of the exhibit attached to this Resolution contains private data on individuals pursuant to the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13. The Superintendent is specifically directed to maintain the private data classification of these materials in accordance with all applicable law, including the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Board Member Britton and upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the following Board Members voted in favor thereof: Britton, Kiehne, Love, Ostrom, Ristau, Sikkink and Torgrimson

and the following voted against same: none

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Sikkink moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Love. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ostrom
Clerk, Independent School District #2198