

Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2020

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 299, Caledonia, Minnesota, met in a regular school board meeting in the middle/high school auditorium with social distancing in mind for all visitors. The meeting was called to order by Chair Kelley McGraw at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. The school board members present were Melissa Marschall, Kelley McGraw, Daniel Small, Wendy Woyczik, Spencer Yohe and student school board members Emma Ideker and Sam Privet. Also present were Superintendent Craig Ihrke, Nathan Boler, Susan Link, Barb Meyer, Karen Schiltz, Gretchen Juan, Jordan Gerard, and Pam Schieber. Absent were Directors Matt Blocker and Jared Barnes.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Wendy Woyczik to approve the agenda as amended to include a resignation of Chelsey Kruckow. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

WARRIOR PRIDE

The following resolution was moved by Melissa Marschall, seconded by Daniel Small to accept the following resolution:

Resolution Accepting Donations

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 citizen, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise 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 Independent School District No. 299, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

Donor	Item	Designated Purpose (if any)
Merchants Bank	Monetary Donation	

Motion carried by a unanimous vote. Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student school board members informed the board that MEA break is wrapping up for students. Hybrid learning for grades 7 through 12 is going well. It has been great to be able to see the football and volleyball teams play.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Daniel Small to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of September 28, 2020, Regular School Board Minutes
- Approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$256,037.17.
- Accept the resignation of Mark Schiltz as a school crossing guard on Highway 44/76 effective October 1, 2020, with thanks for his eighteen years of service to our school district in this position.
- Accept the resignation of Christine McCann as a part-time special education paraprofessional effective the last day of her employment on October 30, 2020, with thanks for her past two years of service to our school district.
- Ratify the hiring of Chelsey Kruckow as a part-time preschool teacher beginning October 12, 2020, at \$18.36 hour.
- Approval of the Education Minnesota Caledonia Educational Support Professionals Local #7345 Master Agreement for the 2020-2022 school years as presented.
- Approval of the Non-bargaining Administrative Agreement for the Elementary/Middle/High School Administrative Assistants for the 2020-2022 school years as presented.
- Accept the snow removal proposal from Schroeder Landscaping and Construction, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year as presented.
- Approval of the Transgender Nondiscrimination Policy #545
- Accept the resignation of Chelsey Kruckow effective immediately.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Students Taking the ACT Test

Moved by Daniel Small, seconded by Wendy Woyczik to continue to offer the ACT tests for students that would like to take the ACT test with the school district only paying for the first test that they take. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Co-Curricular Coaching Contracts for the 2020-2021 School Year

Moved by Daniel Small, second by Melissa Marschall to approve the following co-curricular coaching contracts for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Band	Dustin Moburg at I/9 years
Choir	Ross Martin at I/10 years

The above contracts are approved contingent upon participation numbers in each of the activities and per the language in the Memorandum of Understanding for Compensation of Coaches and

Co-Curricular Advisors during the 2020-2021 School Year. Also, the board members of the Activities Committee will be involved with the decision making of these payments of the co-curricular and curricular activities when payments of these contracts are evaluated by the school district. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Setting a Special School Board Meeting to Canvass November 3, 2020, Election Results

Moved by Spencer Yohe, second by Daniel Small to hold a special school board meeting on Friday, November 6, 2020, at 7:00 a.m. in the District Office to canvass the November 3, 2020, election results. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Link was absent informed the board that the elementary teachers have completed their first official Zoom parent teacher conferences on October 8th and October 13th. The feedback has been positive. Parents prefer the Zoom option for the practicality of fitting it into their busy lifestyles. Some conferenced from work during their break time, so they did not have to take time off of work. In addition, they appreciated that they could be at home with their small children. The staff also gave positive feedback on the Zoom conferencing. They commented that the parents seemed at ease and less hurried. They also liked that they could share the students' work digitally, which was more efficient. We have reconfigured our Warrior and Strong Days to coincide with the MSHS School Gold and Black Days in the event that the elementary school will ever be in a Hybrid situation. This will keep families together if they have students in both buildings. Our first round of teacher observations has been completed. It is always fun to get into the classroom and see the dynamic teaching and learning that is happening. We had six new students from three new families start at our elementary school on October 12th. We are excited to have them join our elementary school community. PACE, our parent organization is working on Reading and Math awards. We are also collecting box tops for education. These can be dropped off in the entryway in the Pace containers at the elementary school. We will be doing our Club Choice fundraiser and book fair virtually this year to keep our students and community safe. We continue to keep the health and safety at the forefront when making these decisions. We will be giving out our Warrior Way awards at the end of the month. Teachers have been handing out tickets to promote positive behaviors in our school. Our students are working hard at doing their best to follow the Warrior Way and acting responsibly in all areas of our school.

Mr. Boler informed the board that Hybrid learning is going well considering the circumstances. Most students are doing a great job logging on and completing their work. We continue to look for ways to improve and better support struggling students. Parent Teacher Conferences were held virtually September 28th and October 1st. Attendance was down this year, likely due to the virtual format. With the availability of cell phones and email, teachers and parents are able to communicate on a regular basis as needed. He has twenty-eight evaluations to complete this year. He is working to get as many completed while we are in school to avoid having to complete evaluations should we be forced to move to Distance Learning. Edgenuity for our "off-site" learners continues to go well. We continue to search for a paraprofessional to fill our current need. At present, he is in need of two special education paraprofessionals and a media specialist. Brent and himself have started their senior meetings. The goal is to make sure seniors have a solid plan following graduation. If they do not have a plan, we work to provide them resources to check into. Seniors (who elected to) took the ACT on October 6th. The October 8th early out allowed time for a building staff meeting and Hapara training for our HS teachers. He has attended a number of meetings/webinars including but not limited to state-wide principal meetings, SE MN Principal/Superintendent meetings, NCAA meeting, PLC webinar, curriculum committee meeting, technology committee meeting, and transportation meetings.

Mrs. Juan informed the board that she has sent out fifty letters for Early Childhood Screening that is scheduled for November 13 and 14th. Chelsey Kruckow started on October 12th as the three-year old preschool teacher and since has resigned from this position. We will begin the process of finding another applicant for this position. Background studies are now required again for the SAC and Surround Care staff so those have been getting completed. The SAC program had a Health and Safety Technical Assistance review held last week over the phone. She has been working with Ms. VonArx regarding options for the SAC program if the school district moved entirely to distance learning. Twenty-five seniors took the ACT exam on October 6th, and she is planning for spring ACT testing.

Superintendent Ihrke congratulated Mrs. Gretchen Juan on her wedding held this past weekend. He stated that we are already one-quarter of the way through the school year. He has had lots of meetings with the Regional Support Team and the Houston County Public Health with regard to COVID updates and monitoring. He attended the virtual National Superintendent's Cohort last week, which went well. He also informed the board that he would like to schedule a school board retreat in the future when we have any new school board members in place.

Mrs. Meyer informed the board that the summer food service program has been extended to the end of the 2020-2021 school year. The CRF must have 75% of expenditures submitted by November 1, 2020. She continues to work on the LCTS reporting, transportation reporting, insurance renewals, year end work, reconciling accounts, audit preparation and other office duties as needed.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

School Policies

The school board held its first reading of the following policy with the adoption to be held at the regular school board meeting in November:

- Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Preventions Instructions Policy #419
- Student Medication Policy #516
- School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals Policy #601
- Organization of Grade Levels Policy #607

The school board reviewed the following policies:

- Organization of School Calendar and School Day Policy #602
- Curriculum Development Policy #603
- Instructional Curriculum Policy #604
- Alternative Programs Policy #605
- Textbooks and Instructional Materials Policy #606
- Instructional Services – Special Education Policy #608

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Yohe informed the board that the MSHSL stated that there will not be any state football competitions held this year. He congratulated the boys' soccer team for their successful season and for their win against the Rochester Lourdes last week. The MSBA Leadership Conference will be held virtually in January. The board discussed the MSHSL fee increases and asked Superintendent Ihrke to get in contact with surrounding school districts and/or HVL to schedule a meeting with the MSHSL to discuss with their fee increases. Director Woyczik informed the board that they have finished negotiating a contract with Cindy Colleran and Angie Morken. Director McGraw informed the board that the Facilities Committee held a meeting last week to discuss a transportation request from a parent.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Daniel Small, seconded by Wendy Woyczik to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m.
Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Spencer Yohe, Clerk