

## **Board Meeting Minutes March 21, 2016**

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 299, Caledonia, Minnesota, met in a regular school board meeting in the Middle/High School Media Center. 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 Jared Barnes, Kelley McGraw, Michelle Werner, Jimmy Westland, Spencer Yohe, and student school board representative Nathan Hagerott. Also present were Superintendent Ben Barton, Gina Meinertz, Mary Morem, Barb Meyer, Karen Schiltz, Dan McGonigle, James Larson and students participating in the Robotics Program, Heidi Myhre and students participating in the School Musical. Absent were Directors Amanda King and Jean Meyer, school board representative Nicholas Loging, and Nancy Runningen.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by Jared Barnes to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **WARRIOR PRIDE**

Thank you to the Pine Cone Place for donating prizes for the Elementary Warrior Way drawings for our students. Thank you to the Caledonia Lion's for volunteering 162 hours during the winter athletic sports season selling tickets at 37 events that took place in our school district. Thank you to Just Stitch It – Meisch Upholstery for donating material and five hours of sewing to our Robotics Program. Thank you to SE Technical College for the donation of three new Honda twin cylinder small engines to be used with the Small Engines Class. Congratulations to Roger Knutson for receiving the Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher Contest" Award. Congratulations to Nancy Mullins for being selected as one of the finalists for the Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher Contest" Award.

### **BOARD SHOWCASE**

Mr. Larson and students from the Robotics Program demonstrated their talents with the robot they have built and are busy preparing for the section competition to be held on April 7, 8, and 9, 2016.

Mrs. Myhre and students participating in the school musical performed a skit from their upcoming musical "Grease". Performance dates are April 1, 2, and 3, 2016.

### **STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Student school board representative, Nathan Hagerott, informed the board that the Large Group Contest was held last week, and both groups did very well. The winter sports season is complete and the spring sports season is underway. Pre-registration has started for students for the 2016-2017 school year.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Jared Barnes to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of the February 16, 2016, regular school board meeting minutes.
- Approval of the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$502,584.41 including check numbers 59722 through 59836 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$800,000.00.
- Accept the resignation of Michael Wittmann as a janitor effective March 4, 2016

- Ratify the hiring of Melissa Foth as a part-time ECFE parent educator at \$24.11 (BA/0) for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Ratify the hiring of Kalli Konkel as a part-time special ed para at \$11.02 per hour (II/0) beginning on March 7, 2016.
- Ratify the contract for Tory-Kale Schulz as the assistant softball coach beginning the 2015-2016 school year at II/4 years at \$2,047.83.
- Ratify the contract for Bethany Bergsgaard as the junior high softball coach beginning the 2015-2016 school year at II/10 years at \$2,002.89.
- Ratify the contract for John Hauser as the assistant girls and boys track coach beginning the 2015-2016 school year at II/0 years at \$1,879.32
- Ratify the long-term teacher substitute Memorandum of Understanding with Theresa Lauden to begin on approximately April 4, 2016, and to continue for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year during the maternity leave of Mrs. Buros.

Those voting in favor: Jared Barnes, Jimmy Westland and Spencer Yohe. Those opposed: Kelley McGraw and Michelle Werner. Absent were Amanda King and Jean Meyer. Motion carried.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 2015-2016 Revised Budget

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by Spencer Yohe to approve the 2015-2016 revised budget as presented.

	2015-16 Budgeted Revenues	2015-16 Revised Budgeted Revenues	(Increase) Decrease In Revenues	2015-16 Budgeted Expenditures	2015-16 Revised Budgeted Revenue	(Increase) Decrease In Expenses	2015-16 Revised Fund Balance Inc/(Decrease)
General Fund	\$7,444,285	\$7,276,072	\$168,213	\$7,604,050	7,494,685	109,365	(218,613)
Food Service Community Services	\$423,088	\$423,088	\$0	\$412,048	405,074	6,974	18,014
Capital Projects Fund	\$329,706	\$351,494	(\$21,788)	\$324,423	336,193	(11,770)	15,301
Debt Retirement	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$0	\$495,000	495,000	0	0
Scholarship Fund	\$1,579,175	\$1,579,175	\$0	\$1,575,101	1,575,101	0	4,074
Activity Fund	\$13,495	\$13,495	\$0	\$13,495	13,495	0	0
	\$40,550	\$40,550	\$0	\$34,474	34,474	0	6,076
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,325,299</b>	<b>\$10,178,874</b>	<b>\$146,425</b>	<b>\$10,144,983</b>	<b>\$10,354,022</b>	<b>\$104,570</b>	<b>(175,148)</b>

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mrs. Meinertz updated the board with regard to curriculum. She informed the board that a five year curriculum plan with a new curricular review cycle will be important discussion topics and items to complete for the team and are looking to blend this work with the technology committee to simplify and concentrate on the same goals. She will be having discussions about homework and study halls and wants to document the status quo and set goals to make student's experience as productive and

appropriate to 21st Century needs as possible. The Student Achievement team is working on updating the District Writing Folders to reflect the standards and Understanding By Design work. They are also having discussions about spelling and handwriting, as these are two controversial common practices that are being changed and melded in many school districts. A team of teachers are assembling to concentrate on ELA goals for the end of the year and into next to improve our MTSS/PSED processes. Scheduling is the top priority of the climate/culture team. The Warrior Way team released their Star War expectations for lunch and recess at the beginning of March. Teachers are having valuable discussions around priority standards to prepare to transition to standards-based report cards. They will use the April 1<sup>st</sup> workshop day to add consistency and important finalization to the standards-based report cards. She will be attending a standards-based report card training to support the process on March 16<sup>th</sup>. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, students, parents, teachers, and community members will gather to celebrate hands-on learning. Teachers and other staff welcomed next year's kindergarteners to the school. Throughout the month of March, the elementary school held different events to celebrate reading such as Stop, Drop, and Read, Where in the World is My Teacher?, community readers in the school, Dr. Seuss cake, and Caught You Reading. These were all great ways to excite students to read. She presented at the Principal Round Table at the School Garden Conference, which was a great event where she learned more about the efforts of school nutritionists, master gardeners, teachers, and leaders.

Mrs. Morem congratulated Roger Knutson for being the winner of "My Favorite Teacher" sponsored by Barnes and Noble, and thanked the teachers and students that helped make this happen. She informed the board that the middle school students went on a maple syrup field trip and thanked Mrs. Field Rohrer and Mr. Tolleson for their assistance in making this happen. The middle school student council dance will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The Robotics team is getting ready for section competition. Students in Mrs. Utecht's class assisted with the elementary science fair judging. Mrs. Lamm's students went on a field trip to the Minnesota Zoo. The band students attended the Symphony Orchestra. Students have put in requests for their schedule for the upcoming school year. She informed the board that the program of work study two businesses are a yes. She congratulated all the winter athletic programs for their successful season. The World's Best Work Force Committee had a good work session with some great ideas.

Mrs. Runnigen updated the board regarding the Hand in Hand Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education programs. She is working on the Pathways II Scholarship grant application for the 2016-2017 school year, which is due March 30<sup>th</sup>. Early childhood screening was held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Preschool registration will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The SAC and Surround Care programs continue to accept registrations, and planning for the summer programming is taking place for the SAC program. She is working on getting a 4-Star Parent Aware rating for the SAC and Surround Care programs. The April and May community ed classes and events will be posted and mailed out this week. An Adult Prom will be held this year at the middle/high school. She updated the board regarding testing. The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) was administered with grades 5, 8, 9, and 11 participating in this survey. She attended the PBIS training in Mankato on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendent Barton informed the board that there will be a Q Comp presentation during the April board meeting next month. He updated the board regarding the Monsanto grant opportunity. He is working with the food service department on a grant application for free breakfast and lunch offerings for our students during the summer months. He is continuing to work with Hiawatha Valley Ed District with the lease agreement with our school district to continue our partnership with them. He is having a meeting on Tuesday morning in his office with various community members as it relates to the Capital Loan Legislation.

Mrs. Meyer has updated the board with regard to the 2015-2016 revised budget. She continues to confer with Ehlers and MREA on the one-day bond legislative proposal and impact. She is working with Rita McCormick and administration on the summer food program. She has attended the Monsanto

grant meetings. She is working with the special ed director with regard to students and items with the WIN program. She informed the board that the school district should receive information in April about the Safe Routes to School Grant application that was submitted.

Mr. Jerviss informed the board that they will start to blend the Curriculum and Technology five year plans. They should integrate together and technology should support curriculum. He updated the board regarding the One Day Bond list for technology and is waiting on Apple to announce the newest iPad to see what the pricing changes will be for new iPads and also buy back and then the lease can go through. He is gathering device information to get a solid count on the number of devices to be replaced and is working on an e-rate strategy that get the most for our funds. He is working with Mrs. Christiansen and teachers to continue to increase our usage of Schoology by not just adding more but more meaningful in the classroom with content. He stated that Door B of the high school will get added to the door access system soon. He has been involved with NWEA testing and preparations for MCA testing. He is planning for summer items, projects, install configurations, and working on a plan for the student mouse squad tech group. A student help desk group will be implemented by the next school year.

Mr. Marschall updated the board regarding the energy/electricity usage in the district. He informed the board that the indoor air quality continues to improve in the school district. He is working with Valerie Green and Todd Lemke to discuss controlled burns on the school property with these possibly taking place in the spring and possibly in the fall. The staff is preparing for the spring season. The bleachers will be arriving on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be assembled by students and staff and be ready to use for the spring sports season. He updated the board regarding security in the school district. The roof restoration is going forward as planned. Bid opening will take place in early April. Tuck pointing and entrance replacement in the elementary building are awaiting bids. He updated the board with regard to staffing. Track striping will take place as soon as the temperatures are in the 50 degree range. The Chemical Management Plan will be due in June of 2016. He is also working on the summer project list.

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Director Yohe discussed with the board the offering of clay target league. It was the consensus of the board that if students are interested in this offering, they should present this to board. Director Barnes updated the board regarding the Curriculum Committee and Technology Committee meetings. Director Werner informed the board that negotiations are still in process. Director McGraw updated the board regarding the Facilities Committee meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Michelle Werner to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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Jean Meyer, Clerk