

Board Meeting Minutes September 29, 2011

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 Michelle Werner at 7:00 p.m. The school board members present were John Klug, Scott Longhorn, Melissa Marschall, Kelley McGraw, Jean Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Spencer Yohe. Also present were Superintendent Bruce Thomas, Principal Paul DeMorett, Karen Schiltz, Barb Meyer, Jean Klinski, Carol Nelson, Lindsey Meyer, Sara Petersen, Kim Torgeson, Clay Schuldt, Brad Harguth, and Janelle Field Rohrer. Absent were Nancy Runningen and Jane Morken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Melissa Marschall to approve the agenda as amended to include the FFA National Convention Trip. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Scott Longhorn to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2011, regular school board meeting, minutes of the August 22, 2011, special school board meeting, and minutes of the September 8, 2011, special school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Spencer Yohe to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$556,021.68, including check numbers 52987 through 53162. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

LEVY LIMITATION CERTIFICATION FOR 2012

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by John Klug to certify the Levy Limitation Certification for taxes payable in 2012 in the amount of \$2,464,218.91. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Licensed Staff Recall

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Scott Longhorn to ratify the contract for Bradley Harguth as a full-time middle/high school teacher beginning the 2011-2012 school year at BA+30/13 with ten extra contracted days at \$54,206.10. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the contract for Tina Fruechte as part-time middle school math and Title I beginning the 2011-2012 school year at BA+15/7 at \$38,728.70 (0.896 FTE @ \$43,224). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by John Klug to ratify the contract for Zachariah Hauser as part-time middle school physical education and health beginning the 2011-2012 school year at BA/3 at \$18,760.39 (0.504 FTE @ \$37,223). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Melissa Marschall to ratify the contract for Julie O'Mara-Meyer as the part-time elementary school counselor beginning the 2011-2012 school year at MA/13 at \$21,865.20 (0.40 FTE @ \$54,663). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Spencer Yohe to ratify the contract for Cheryl White as part-time elementary school media specialist/gifted and talented beginning the 2011-2012 school year at MA/11 at \$26,237.50 (0.579 FTE @ \$52,475). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

New Hires

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the contract for Tara Dodson as the part-time middle/high school cook for 4.75 hours per day at \$9.63 per hour at III/P for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the contract for Mary Lou Gerard as the part-time middle/high school cook for 3.5 hours per day at \$9.63 per hour at III/P for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Kelley McGraw to ratify the contract for Mike Meiners as the full-time middle/high school custodian at \$10.81 per hour at VII/P beginning October 3, 2011, for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Support Staff Reassignment

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Spencer Yohe to reassign Kris Ballard as the middle/high school head custodian at \$11.47 per hour at VII/2 beginning October 3, 2011, for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Resignations

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Kelley McGraw to accept the resignation of Janice Peterson as the middle/high school custodian effective September 19, 2011, with thanks for her services. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Melissa Marschall to accept the resignation of Ross Martin as the school musical director effective immediately with thanks for his services. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Support Staff Reductions

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Scott Longhorn to make reductions in support staff to be determined by the Superintendent of Schools for budgetary purposes due to financial limitations and declining enrollment. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Property, Liability, Auto, and Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage for ISD #299

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve property, liability, and auto insurance quote from Continental Western Group in the amount of \$46,396.00 and the worker's compensation insurance quote from RAM Mutual Insurance Company in the amount of \$59,578.00 for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Certify Truth in Taxation Hearing Dates

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Kelley McGraw to certify the Truth in Taxation Hearing dates to be held on Monday, December 19, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the middle/high school media center for the initial hearing and Thursday, December 22, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the middle/high school media center for the continuation hearing if needed. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

National FFA Convention Trip

Moved by Scott Longhorn, seconded by Spencer Yohe to approve the trip request from Mr. Brad Harguth for students to attend the National FFA Convention on October 14, 2011, through October 21, 2011. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. DeMorett shared with the board the ACT scores from the last five years and informed them that our school district was above the state average in every category this past year. Opening week of school and Homecoming went well for staff and students. Mid-quarter is the end of this week and parent-teacher conferences will be held October 10th. He is in the process of working with his staff to complete a technology application that he has created. He informed the board that St. Mary's 8th grade students are coming to our school the last period of everyday for health and physical education classes. He shared with the board the AYP summary.

Mrs. Morken was absent.

Superintendent Thomas updated the board with regard to the process that has been happening for the upcoming referendum. There will be public community meetings to discuss the referendum on October 11th in Caledonia, October 13th in Eitzen, October 18th in Brownsville, and October 25th in Freeburg. The support staff negotiations committee met this week. The technology committee met this week and will meet again on October 12th. The athletic committee, the curriculum committee, and the meet & confer committee also met this past week. He is working on the grievances that he received from the support staff and teacher unions. He informed the board that an arbitrator has been selected for the case between the School District and Mrs. Connie Hesse.

Mrs. Runningen was absent.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Strategic Planning Committee

Staff will be contacted to see if there is any interest from them to be on the strategic planning committee.

Classroom Grading Policy

Mr. DeMorett will gather grading scale data from his staff and will present this information to the board at the October board meeting.

Superintendent Search Committee

The committee will continue to meet with Superintendent Thomas to research ideas such as interim superintendent to get through the remainder of the school year.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

The board discussed parking issues at the middle/high school parking lot as people are parking in no parking areas such as the fire lane and feel that enforcement is an issue. The building and grounds committee will discuss this at their next meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Yohe updated the board with regard to the athletic committee meeting and the Three Rivers Conference meeting he attended. Mr. Meyer will report to the board the participation numbers.

Director Longhorn updated the board with regard to the meet and confer committee meeting and the technology committee meeting that he attended.

Director Werner informed the board that she received a letter from the Teacher's Association and if anyone is interested in nominating a teacher for Teacher of the Year, these forms are due November 15th. There are openings on the Southeast Service Cooperative Board if any board members are interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Spencer Yohe to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Jean Meyer, Clerk