

## **SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**

### **Monday, September 15, 2008**

The Board of Education of Independent School District #299, Caledonia, Minnesota, met in a regular school board meeting in the Caledonia Area Elementary Media Center.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Naomi Fruechte at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Naomi Fruechte, Matt Hendel, John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Charlie Wray. Also present were Superintendent Michael Moriarty and Principals Ronald Helmers and Connie Hesse. Others present were Barb Meyer, Nancy Runningen, Tom Murphy, Jody Sonsalla, Dave Meyer, and Janelle Field Rohrer.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Charlie Wray to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2008, regular school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Matt Hendel to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$444,237.83, including check numbers 47826 through 47989 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$250,000.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Dave Meyer was present to update the board on his new role as the Athletic Director. The board discussed with Mr. Dave Meyer the concerns of younger girls playing varsity soccer and questions about their uniform order placed this fall. He explained to the board that early in the year there were some issues with players and that procedures were followed in order to have these younger players play at the varsity level. Mr. Meyer will get the uniform rotation schedule out by the end of the month to coaches.

Mr. Jody Sonsalla addressed the board with the proposal to dedicate the football field and name it Bud Marnach Memorial Field. He stated that he would pay for a memorial sign that would be placed on the bleachers. After some discussion it was the consensus of the board that the building and grounds committee discuss this further and bring back to the board their recommendation.

#### **PERSONNEL ITEMS**

##### **Support Staff Reassignment**

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to reassign Laura Welscher as the new middle/high school head cook beginning the 2008-2009 school year at VII/3 year at \$11.22 per hour based on the 2006-2008 support staff salary scale. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

##### **New Hires**

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Matt Hendel to ratify the contract for Alissa Goetzinger as the junior high volleyball coach beginning the 2008-2009 school year at I/0 at \$1,665.89. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Michelle Werner to ratify the contact for Bradley Church as the half-time junior class advisor beginning the 2008-2009 school year at V/0 at \$1,046.38 (\$2,092.75/2). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Joyce Knutson to ratify the contract for Jason Cognac as the half-time junior class advisor beginning the 2008-2009 school year at V/O at \$1,046.38 (\$2,092.75/2). Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Charlie Wray to ratify the contract for Mellonie Roesler-Begalke as the long-term substitute in the Early Childhood Family Education Department and the School Readiness Department beginning the 2008-2009 school year at \$9.77 per hour as an educational assistant and \$12.00 per hour as a school readiness teacher. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the contract for Mrs. Judith Flaten as the 0.50 FTE elementary reading specialist for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Matt Hendel to ratify the contract for Aimee Johnson as a part-time middle/high school cook beginning the 2008-2009 school year at III/P at \$9.20 per hour. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Long Term Teacher Substitute

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the long term teacher substitute contract for Mr. Paul Hughes during the medical leave of absence for Mr. Scott Martin beginning the 2008-2009 school year at a daily rate of \$183.47 based on a BA/O. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Maternity Leave Request

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Charlie Wray to accept the maternity leave request of Mrs. Marsha Kotten beginning December 1, 2008, through March 1, 2009. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Resignation

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by John Klug to accept the resignation of Shannon Staggemeier as the part-time elementary secretary effective immediately. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### Memorandum of Understanding with Schmitz Bus Service

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by John Klug to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with Schmitz Bus Service, Inc. in agreeing to revise its contract with Independent School District no. 299 as follows: Reduction of recent 3% base contract increase for the 2008-2009 school year and 2009-2010 school year to a 2% increase to base contract for the 2008-2009 school year, 2009-2010 school year, and 2010-2011 school year in exchange for reducing one bus route. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Levy Limitation Certification for 2009

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Michelle Werner to certify the Levy Limitation Certification for taxes payable in 2009 in the amount of \$2,470,716.98. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Jean Meyer to not hold a Truth In Taxation Hearing on December 2, 2008, and a continuation meeting on December 15, 2008. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement for the 2007-2008 School Year

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve the Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement for the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Approve Contract for Services with Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center for the 2008-2009 School Year

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by Matt Hendel to approve the contract for services between Independent School District No. 299 and Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve the property, liability, auto, and worker's compensation insurance quote from Continental Western Group in the amount of \$73,798.00 for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mr. Helmers informed the board that this has been the smoothest start to a new school year in his memory. The fall activities are in full swing. Homecoming is on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The sixth grade orientation went well. The ninth grade orientation was well attended. Nomination for class officers will be done this week. The weekly bulletin is being placed on the school website and on the television this year for students instead of over the intercom system. The Beyond the Bell Program for sixth through eighth graders has begun. The media center is now open until 5:00 p.m. during the weekdays for students and the public to utilize. It was suggested by the board to consider holding the middle/high school orientation night a week earlier to avoid athletic events.

Mrs. Hesse informed the board with regard to the Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instruction Grant and stated that Mrs. Judy Flaten is going to be reading specialist teacher and Mrs. Tammy Twite is going to be the reading educational assistant for this grant. There was a 98% attendance for the Home & School Connection. CLIMB Theatre will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The Pizza Pete Fundraiser is underway in the elementary building.

Superintendent Moriarty informed the board that the AYP Committee met on September 11<sup>th</sup>, and they have until November 3, 2008, to submit their plan to the Department of Education. He stated that the school will need to set aside 10% title for staff development. He stated that the school's insurance company attorney handling the Allen case will be doing an onsite visit with a water runoff expert in the next couple of weeks and will update the board as more information becomes available. He stated that there are approximately 778 students at this time enrolled. He updated the board on the new transportation requirements that will affect our employees. The school district is going to check into performing background checks with Orange Tree Employment Screening. John Klug, Jean Meyer, and Spencer Yohe are the three candidates for the upcoming school board election. The school district is working with Open Technology to get the Version 9 update printer problems resolved.

Mrs. Runnigen informed the board that ABE classes have started. She is working on the fall brochure. The SAC Program has fifty students enrolled and Sam Steele is a new assistant to this program. She is continuing to oversee the Perkins grant and adult classes offered locally through SE tech. There are currently sixty students enrolled in the School Readiness Program. ECFE classes begin on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Directors Hendel and Werner updated the board with regard to the recognition sign to be located on the varsity football/soccer/track complex. The sign will be placed on the right side of the hill by the concession stand. The design will be brought before the board as soon as they receive a copy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Jean Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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Jean Meyer, Clerk