

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, December 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, Nancy Runningen, and Principals Ronald Helmers and Connie Hesse. Others present were Barb Meyer, Karen Schiltz, Janelle Field Rohrer, Spencer Yohe, and Craig Moorhead.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Matt Hendel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2008, regular school board meeting and the December 2, 2008, special school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by John Klug to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$1,218,496.07, including check numbers 48380 through 48514 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$545,000.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Resignations

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by Jean Meyer to accept the resignation of Spencer Yohe as the junior high wrestling coach from the Caledonia School District effective immediately. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Matt Hendel to accept the resignation of Daniel Goergen as the junior high wrestling coach from the Caledonia School District effective immediately. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

New Hires

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Matt Hendel to ratify the contract for Mike Stemper as the junior high wrestling coach at I/6 at \$2,002.89. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by Charlie Wray to ratify the contract for Casey Meiners as the junior high wrestling coach at I/P at \$1,665.89. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Seniority Lists

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Michelle Werner to adopt the teacher seniority list and the support staff seniority list as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Set January Organizational Meeting

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Matt Hendel to hold an organizational school board meeting on January 5, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the elementary media center. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Adopt Final Levy Certification

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Michelle Werner to adopt the final levy certification for 2009 in the amount of \$2,470,716.98. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Helmers informed the board that the middle school student council is wrapping up a food drive for the local food shelf. The high school student council is collecting funding for families at need. The high school concert was excellent, and he received a lot of compliments from the public. Winter sports are in full swing. Attendance issues have been taking up more of his time with unexcused absences and truancy hearings. He attended a principal's meeting where they discussed the changes that will be implemented with the ACT Test. He shared with the board the highlights of the 40th PDK/Gallup Poll.

Mrs. Hesse updated the board regarding the ISD #299 Curriculum Committee meeting held on November 11, 2008. She shared with the board information regarding the District Summary Report for the NWEA testing from the fall of 2008. Parent teacher conferences took place with 95% attendance. The elementary winter concerts did an excellent job and were well attended. The Select Choir will be performing on Sunday, January 18th, at 12:45 p.m. on KTTC during the Cancer Telethon. The elementary staff is donating boots, mittens, and hats for students this Christmas instead of doing a gift exchange.

Superintendent Moriarty updated the board regarding the computer network contract services. He has been speaking with four different technology firms. He stated that Affordable Technologies has given the school district a quote that would match the budget and recommends a month-to-month service contract with them. The school district will need to reevaluate the technology options this spring for the 2009-2010 school year. He informed the board that they will be acting on the resolution directing administration to propose program and staff reductions at the January regular school board meeting. He stated that there would be a significant savings of approximately \$8,000 - \$10,000 if we close off the wing of the elementary building and move fifth grade over to the middle/high school building. He publically thanked the American Legion Post of Caledonia for donating \$2,000 to be divided evenly between the elementary and middle/high school libraries. He also thanked Joyce Knutson for her service and dedication she has given to the Board of Education

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by Jean Meyer to give Superintendent Moriarty permission to enter into the first month contract of the month-to-month contract with Affordable Technology. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Runnigen informed the board that they are working on the Winter/Spring Community Ed Brochure. The SAC Program will be open on snow days and is continuing to take registrations for the program. Hand in Hand Preschool received a grant from the Arlin Falck Foundation in the amount of \$1,500 to be used for preschool tuition assistance. She is currently accepting applications for the ECFE Early Childhood teacher and assistant positions.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

The District Improvement Team is currently meeting every other month and is currently considering how best to redefine its focus and goals to best meet the changing needs of the district.

Director Hendel informed the board that he was very impressed with the presentation that was held during the Curriculum Committee Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Michelle Werner to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Jean Meyer, Clerk