

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, October 15, 2007

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, Principals Brian Doty, Ronald Helmers and Connie Hesse, and Nancy Runningen. Others present were Barb Meyer, Karen Schiltz, Jane Palen, Don Moore, Carrie Erickson, Jim Hoscheit, and Tim, Janelle, and Kendra Rohrer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2007, regular school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by Michelle Werner, seconded by John Klug to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$795,264.23, including check numbers 45835 through 46041 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$441,000.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Music Trips

Ms. Carrie Erickson shared with the board information regarding the future plans of music trips. The music programs would like to implement band and choir trips every two years rotating between a small trip and a big trip. She informed the board that these trips would be totally funded by the music program through fund raisers, there would be no costs to the school district, and that there would always be an educational value involved with these trips. It was the consensus of the board to act on this item at the November 19th regular school board meeting.

Handicap/Senior Citizen Parking at the Middle/High School Building

The building and grounds committee met last week to discuss the feasibility of having senior citizens and/or handicap parking along the southwest end of the middle/high school athletic field. Superintendent Moriarty said he was informed by Mr. Bob Nelson that the school district would need to apply for a zoning permit. It was the consensus of the board that this area would need to be graveled before people would begin to utilize this as a parking area. The board will act on this item at the November 19th regular school board meeting.

Athletics

Tim, Janelle, and Kendra Rohrer shared with the Board their frustrations concerning on how their daughter was removed from the team due to an illness. They informed the board that Kendra had been ill for five weeks unable to attend school or be involved in sports. They stated that they kept the coaches, teachers, and athletic director aware at all times of her health. When Kendra received the doctor's okay to return to sports, she stated that she was informed from the coach that she had been removed from the team and ineligible to play. The family said this was very upsetting, and they felt this should have been handled just as they would have handled a sports injury where Kendra would have been able to return to the team. The Board thanked the family for bringing this to their attention and would like to research this and discuss this further at the November 19th regular school board meeting.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Medical Leave Request

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by John Klug to accept the medical leave request of Mrs. Amy Wild for four to six weeks beginning September 26, 2007. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Long Term Teacher Substitute Contract

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Charlie Wray to ratify the hiring of Mr. Larry Thompson as a long term teacher substitute during the medical leave of absence of Mrs. Amy Wild beginning September 26, 2007, and continuing for approximately four to six weeks or upon the return of Mrs. Wild at a daily rate of \$172.94 based on a BA/0. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Maternity Leave Request

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Michelle Werner to accept the six to ten week maternity leave request for Mrs. Becky Newgaard to begin at the birth of her child around November 20, 2007. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Winter Sports Coaching Contracts

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to ratify the following coaching contracts for the 2007-2008 winter sports season: Wrestling: Jay Tolleson, head coach, V/7 at \$3,499.47, Houston School District hires and pays for the assistant coach, Dan Goergen, junior high coach, I/1 at \$1,570.26, Spencer Yohe, junior high coach, I/0 at \$1,570.26; Boys' Basketball: Josh Diersen, head coach, V/4 at \$3,339.58, Jeremy Leis, assistant coach, III/2 at \$2,173.80, Bob Burmester, 9th grade coach, I/0 at \$1,570.26, Daniel Reinhart, junior high coach, I/8 at \$1,887.94, Bill Kearney, junior high coach, I/0 at \$1,570.26; Girls' Basketball: Scott Sorenson, head coach, V/11 at \$3,499.47, Carl Fruechte, assistant coach, III/18 at \$2,491.45, Sara Fruechte, 9th grade coach, I/3 at \$1,729.09, Kevin Klug, junior high coach, I/6 at \$1,887.91, Mitchell Mullins, junior high coach, I/5 at \$1,729.09; Gymnastics: Paul Stevens, head coach, V/8 at \$3,499.47, Jackie Johnson, assistant coach, III/1 year at \$2,173.80. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

New Hires

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Charlie Wray to ratify the contract for Patti Correll-Syring as the part-time parent educator in the ECFE/Learning Readiness Department at an hourly wage of \$21.62 based on a BA/0. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Setting of Special School Board Meeting to Canvass November 6th Election Results

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by Michelle Werner to hold a special school board meeting on Tuesday, November 6th, at 9:00 p.m. in the superintendent's office to canvass the November 6th election results. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of the Renewal of Continental Western Property Liability Insurance Premium

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by John Klug to approve the renewal of Continental Western Property Liability Insurance premium for our school district in the amount of \$47,562.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Winona Controls Proposal

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by John Klug to approve Option #2 in the amount of \$2,700.00 to provide additional air conditioning to the middle/high school computer server room. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Doty updated the board regarding AimsWeb testing and NWEA testing.

Mr. Helmers shared with the board information he received from the Minnesota High School League (MSHSL). He stated that the MSHSL is mandating administrators, athletic directors and coaches attend the MSHSL meetings or the school district will receive fines. They are implementing more online training, creating a scale for coaches, players, and fans, working on eligibility issues and summer issues with athletics, and a clarification of captain's practices.

Mrs. Hesse updated the board regarding the ISD #299 Curriculum Committee meeting held on October 2nd. The Main Street Academy has started once again in the elementary building on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The After School Program has 38 students currently enrolled in grades 3, 4, and 5.

Superintendent Moriarty informed the board that the referendum brochures were mailed out last week and that the official notices to all property tax owners in ISD #299 were mailed out today. He has made presentations regarding the referendum to the Rotary Club and the Caledonia Chamber of Commerce. There are ten senior citizen parking signs installed in the middle/high school parking lot. They have ordered wind break material for protection from the wind for the back of the bleachers located at the middle/high school athletic field. Michael's Engineering will be monitoring our energy efficiency project over the next two to three years to observe our cost savings. He informed the board that he would like them to take action at the November 19th school board meeting regarding increasing the raising the limit amount from \$500 to \$1,000 for items that need to be tracked on the school district inventory list for capital and fixed asset items. He is in the process of getting another quote for worker's comp. He is looking into updating the job descriptions for the school district employees which would be in next year's budget.

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by John Klug that the school district move to the company that gives us the best worker's comp rate. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Runningen informed the board that the ABE/GED classes will begin in November. The SAC Program currently has 44 students enrolled. She is working with Kay Dahle to inform students second semester about Honors Online Opportunities. She is aligning with SE Tech to offer online classes through www.ed2go.com. Early childhood screening is being held October 25th and 26th. The School Readiness Program currently has 58 children enrolled and the ECFE Program currently has 31 families involved.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Building and Grounds Committee Meeting Update

The Building and Grounds Committee met to discuss the issues Andy and Sheri Allen brought to their attention last month about the erosion on their property. Director Wray stated that even though there were changes to the land with the construction of the middle/high school building the engineers stated there was no more water running off than in the past. In 2006 the school district and Hilary Allen came up with a plan to cost share and fix the problem where water was running off. The School Board feels that they have done everything in good faith to get any problems fixed in the past.

District No. 299 Policy Manual

The board reviewed Section 900 of the District No. 299 Policy Manual with no changes to be made.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Meyer informed the board that there is a technology committee meeting on Tuesday, October 16th.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Jean Meyer, Clerk