

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, March 17, 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 arriving at 7:05 p.m., John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Charlie Wray. Also present were Superintendent Michael Moriarty, Nancy Runningen, and Principals Brian Doty and Ronald Helmers. Others present were Karen Schiltz, Barb Meyer, Dan McGonigle, Janelle Field Rohrer, Curt and Peggy Reiser, Laura Diersen, Mike and Dona Lampert, Jody and Dawn Sonsalla, and Paula and Aaron Augedahl. Absent was Principal Connie Hesse. Director Naomi Fruechte left ill at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Charlie Wray to approve the agenda as amended to include the Gundersen Lutheran Sports Medicine Center contract. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by John Klug to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2008, regular school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by Joyce Knutson, seconded by John Klug to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$516,728.95 including check numbers 46863 through 47004 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$660,000.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Staffing

Member Jean Meyer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DISCONTINUING AND REDUCING

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District No. 299 adopted a resolution on January 23, 2006, directing the administration to make recommendations for reductions in programs and positions; and,

WHEREAS, said recommendations have been received and considered by the School Board;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 299, as follows:

That the following programs and positions or portions thereof, be discontinued:

1. 0.40 Middle/high school Spanish position
2. Reduce kindergarten positions from a 2.5 FTE to a 2 FTE
3. Reduce one FTE middle/high school combination social studies and reading position
4. One administrative position as per board decision on February 27, 2006

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Matt Hendel and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Matt Hendel, John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean

Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Charlie Wray. Absent was Director Naomi Fruechte. Those opposed: None. Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Resolution for Proposing Unrequested Leave of Absence

Member Michelle Werner introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION PROPOSING TO PLACE
BECKY NEWGAARD ON UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 299, as follows:

1. That it is proposed that Becky Newgaard, a teacher of said school district, be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits, effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year on June 30, 2008, pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subdivision 10, and Article XXIII of the current Master Agreement between the school district and the exclusive representative.
2. That said proposed placement on requested leave of absence is not the result of implementation of an education district agreement.
3. That written notice be sent to said teacher regarding the proposed placement on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits as provided by law and said notice shall include a date for hearing if requested and be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLACEMENT
ON UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF
ABSENCE AND NOTICE OF HEARING
DATE, IF REQUESTED**

March 17, 2008

Mrs. Becky Newgaard
17375 County 27
Spring Grove, MN 55974

Dear Mrs. Newgaard:

You are hereby notified that at the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 299 held on Monday, March 17, 2008, consideration was given to your placement on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits as a teacher of Independent School District No. 299, and a resolution was adopted by a majority vote on the Board, proposing your placement on unrequested leave of absence effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year on June 30, 2008, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subdivision 10, Article XXIII upon the grounds described in said statute and which are specifically as follows: discontinuance of position, financial limitations and lack of pupils.

Under the provisions of the law, you are entitled to a hearing before the school board provided that you make a request in writing within fourteen days after receipt of this notice. If no hearing is requested within such period, it shall be deemed acquiescence by you to the school board's proposed action.

Yours very truly,
SCHOOL BOARD OF INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 299

Jean Meyer
Clerk of the School Board

4. That each and all of the foregoing grounds of said notice are within the grounds for unrequested leave placement as set forth in M.S. 122A.40, Subdivision 10, Article XXIII, and are hereby adopted as fully as though separately set forth and resolved herein.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member John Klug and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Matt Hendel, John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Charlie Wray. Absent was Director Naomi Fruechte. Those opposed: None. Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Spring Sport Coaching Contracts for the 2007-2008 School Year

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Michelle Werner to ratify the contract for Tom Schultz as the assistant baseball coach at \$1,824.58 at 11/0 years for the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Medical Leave of Absence

Moved by John Klug, seconded by Jean Meyer to accept the medical leave of absence request from Erna Krzbiec as an elementary cook beginning April 2, 2008, and to continue for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Resignations

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to accept the resignation of Ken VanDenBoom as high school science teacher, athletic director, and head girls' golf coach effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year with thanks for his forty years of service to our school district. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by Joyce Knutson to accept the resignation of Ron Moen as high school social studies and middle school physical education teacher effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year with thanks for his thirty-eight years of service to our school district. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by John Klug to accept the resignation of Evan Thimmesch as the IT Systems Administrator effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year with thanks for his two years of service to our school district. Those voting in favor: Matt Hendel, John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, and Charlie Wray. Those opposed: Michelle Werner. Absent was Director Naomi Fruechte. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Field Experience Contractual Agreement Between Luther College and ISD #299

Member Jean Meyer introduced the following agreement and moved its adoption:

This contract is made and entered into by and between the Luther College Department of Education, Decorah, Iowa, and Caledonia Public Schools, District No. 299

Provisions:

1. Luther College and Caledonia Public Schools, District No. 299 agree to participate, if placements are available, in the district in a field experience program, which includes, but is not limited to: Student Teaching, Student Observations, and other field experiences during the 2008-2009 academic year. This agreement may include assignments in elementary (grades PreK – 6), secondary (grades 7 – 12), and special fields (Art, Music, Physical Education, and Health for grades K – 12).

2. Luther College will provide supervision by one or more of the following: faculty member(s), or trained and credentialed specialists in education, for students participating in Field Experiences who are placed in the school district identified under item 1, above.
3. Luther College agrees to compensate the school district in the amount of \$100 for one-half a semester or \$200 for a full semester for each student placed as a student teacher. Payment is to be made at the end of each semester after the Department of Education receives the written Student Teacher Evaluation from the Cooperating Teacher. Allocation of compensation to each cooperating teacher is to be directly made to the cooperating teacher, unless otherwise specified by the district. Payment for a student teacher who has withdrawn prior to the middle of the term shall be one-half of the normal reimbursement with payment to be made at the end of the period. Other field experiences identified in this agreement will be compensated with regard to time involvement and course objective, and will be stated at the time of the request.
4. Student teachers and other field experience enrollees of Luther College Department of Education are to comply with all the contracted school district's rules, regulations, and policies. Termination or change in assignment will be the option of Caledonia Public Schools, District No. 299, as well as the option of Luther College, should circumstances warrant such an action.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Matt Hendel and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Matt Hendel, John Klug, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Michelle Werner, and Charlie Wray. Absent was Director Naomi Fruechte. Those opposed: None. Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Approval of Revised 2007-2008 Budget

Moved by Matt Hendel, seconded by Michelle Werner to approve the revised 2007-2008 budget as follows:

	2007-2008 Adopted Budgeted Revenues	2007-2008 Revised Budgeted Revenues	Increase (Decrease) In Revenues	2007-2008 Adopted Budgeted Expenditures	2007-2008 Revised Budgeted Expenditures	Increase (Decrease) In Expenses	2007-2008 Fund Balance Inc/(Decrease)
General Fund	7,861,590	8,119,536	257,946	7,709,937	8,183,953	474,016	-64,417
Food Service	408,908	408,908	0	415,021	402,836	-12,185	6,072
Community Services	285,472	285,387	-85	288,368	279,957	-8,411	5,430
Debt Retirement	1,471,780	1,471,780	0	1,446,780	1,444,528	-2,252	27,252
Scholarship Fund	12,700	13,495	795	12,700	13,940	1,240	-445
Concession Stand Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Activity Fund	40,550	40,550	0	40,550	40,550	0	0
Total	<u>10,081,000</u>	<u>10,339,656</u>	<u>258,656</u>	<u>9,913,356</u>	<u>10,365,764</u>	<u>452,408</u>	<u>-26,108</u>

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Gundersen Lutheran Sports Medicine Center Contract

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by John Klug to approve the Athletic Training Outreach Service Contract between ISD #299 and Gundersen Clinic beginning August 11, 2008, through June 3, 20011, in the amount of \$1,975.00 each year for all services provided. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Doty updated the board regarding the Adequate Yearly Progress and testing. He informed them that Thursday, March 20th, the middle school students will be having a Career Fair Presentation in the morning, then will

be listening to a presentation from Earl Kyle from NASA in the afternoon, and then having a middle school dance in the evening.

Mr. Helmers shared with the board a preliminary course sign up sheet for junior and senior students. They are continuing to work on the schedule for the 2008-2009 school year. He also shared with the board information about the various sessions he attended while at the National Principal's Convention.

Mrs. Hesse was absent.

Superintendent Moriarty informed the board that the search will begin immediately to fill the IT systems administrator position. The science teacher position will be posted next week. The energy savings project has saved the school district approximately \$22,554.00 since September 1st. Unified Voices will be held on April 10th at the State Capitol. Preparation for the 2008-2009 budget is underway and informed the board that food service and athletic fees will have to be increased. The preliminary budget will be presented for adoption at the June board meeting. He will be interviewing for the long term kitchen sub this week. Letters were sent home to all families regarding a student who had possibly a confirmed case of meningitis. A technology committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18th.

Mrs. Runnigen informed the board that the SAC Program is currently making plans for the summer program. Mr. Moriarty and herself attended a meeting at Southeast Tech where they discussed ways Southeast Tech can partner with high schools, college credits in the high school and were updated on the Perkins Grant. She shared with the board a copy of the Hiawatha Valley Consortium Newsletter. Mrs. Busta shared with the board an ECFE and Learning Readiness update.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Athletic Committee Update

There was a general discussion surrounding the athletic committee's current review of the athletic philosophy statement in the coach's and student handbooks. The athletic committee is currently reviewing this outline of the athletic philosophy statement and is intending to report back to the board at the April 21st board meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Werner informed the board that Director Fruechte and she will be working on the superintendent's evaluation and will update them at the April 21st board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jean Meyer, seconded by Joyce Knutson to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Jean Meyer, Clerk