

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, December 18, 2006

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 Mary Frank at 7:02 p.m. Members present were Mary Frank, Naomi Fruechte, Barbara Hurley, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Chuck Schulte, and Charlie Wray. Also present were Superintendent Michael Moriarty and Principals Brian Doty, Ronald Helmers and Connie Hesse. Others present were Karen Schiltz, Barb Meyer, David Heiller, Janelle Field-Rohrer, Matt Hendel, and Michelle Werner. Absent was Nancy Runningen.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Chuck Schulte, seconded by Naomi Fruechte to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Barbara Hurley, seconded by Chuck Schulte to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2006, regular school board meeting and the December 12, 2006, Truth In Taxation Hearing. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUTHORIZATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by Chuck Schulte, seconded by Barbara Hurley to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$1,411,290.05, including check numbers 44121 through 44293 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$775,000.00. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Approval of Seniority Lists

Moved by Naomi Fruechte, seconded by Barbara Hurley to approve the teacher seniority list and the support staff seniority list as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

New Hires

Moved by Barbara Hurley, seconded by Jean Meyer to ratify the contract for Laura Eglinton as the speech coach for the 2006-2007 school year at 1/4 at \$1,325.67. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Advertising & Recognizing – Policy 904

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Chuck Schulte to adopt Policy 904 – Advertising and Recognition on District Property. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Houston County Family Services Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding

Director Naomi Fruechte introduced the following Houston County Family Services Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding and moved its adoption:

Houston County Family Services Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding

We, the undersigned, representing the six individual entities that comprise the Houston County Family Services Collaborative, hereby affirm:

That the Caledonia Public Schools, the Houston Public Schools, the La Crescent-Hokah Public Schools, the Spring Grove Public Schools, SEMCAC, and Houston County (Houston County Public Health, Houston County Human Services, Houston County Department of Corrections) joined in the united goal of creating the Houston County Family Services Collaborative in 1996;

That for the last ten years the Houston County Family Services Collaborative has enabled and facilitated the provision of support and services for many "at risk" children and families in Houston County;

That the services and support, and the dedicated individuals who provide that service and support have directly and indirectly benefited individual citizens, and the greater community that is Houston County;

That the services and support made possible through the combined efforts of the Houston County Family Services Collaborative, would not have been possible by any one of our organizations proceeding independently;

That the special services and support facilitated and directed by the Houston County Family Services Collaborative was made possible through grant funding from the United States federal government;

That each of us, as organizations, as well as the communities of Houston County, have benefited from the work and monies made available to the citizens of Houston County through the Houston County Family Services Collaborative;

That as we have mutually benefited from the work and monies made available through the Houston County Family Services Collaborative, we believe that we should also mutually share in any costs associated with the operation of the Houston County Family Services Collaborative, should such costs arise;

That we support the ideas, goals and work of the Houston County Family Services Collaborative, the governing board, the management team, and the individual service providers that together, make Houston County a better place to live.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing memorandum of understanding was duly seconded by Director Jean Meyer and upon vote being taken thereon, the following board members voted in favor thereof: Mary Frank, Naomi Fruechte, Barbara Hurley, Joyce Knutson, Jean Meyer, Chuck Schulte, and Charlie Wray. The following voted against the same: None.

Whereupon, the Board of Chairperson declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of December, 2006, at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 299, Caledonia, Minnesota.

Adopt Final Levy Certification

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Chuck Schulte to adopt the final levy certification for 2007 in the amount of \$2,146,819.32. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Set January Organizational Meeting

Moved by Naomi Fruechte, seconded by Charlie Wray to set the organizational school board meeting for Monday, January 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the elementary media center. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Doty informed the board that there are twenty-nine students participating in the Beyond the Bell Program in the middle school. He updated the board with regard to school district Aimsweb testing.

Mr. Helmers informed the board that the high school has completed the 6 Traits Plus 1 Writing Training and that eighteen staff participated, which was a very positive experience for all of them. They had a second modified lockdown in the middle/high school building and are continuing to fine tune the Crisis Plan. He stated that he is working on the curriculum and course offers for the next school year.

Mrs. Hesse updated that board regarding the budget for the After School Program. She shared with the board information from the December 5, 2006, ISD #299 Curriculum Committee Meeting. She informed the board that Beth McDonald, Becky Newgaard, Dave Meyer, Janelle Field-Rohrer, and herself were accepted to participate in the Southeast Service Cooperative History Grant beginning this summer. This is a three year grant that the school district will benefit greatly from.

Mr. Moriarty updated the board regarding the high school technology lab. He stated it is likely that the all day everyday kindergarten program will be fully funded over the next couple of years. He informed the board that Shay Rohrer, 5th grade, Thor Kolle, 7th grade, and Amber Sorenson, 8th grade, were selected as the first place winners for the 2006-2007 First Quarter Year of the Writer. The Board of Education commended these students for their hard work. He has spoken with Michael's Engineering, and the energy analysis study of the middle/high school building will be done by December 31, 2006. Michael's Engineering will be presenting their report at the January 22, 2007, regular school board meeting. In Mrs. Runningen's absence, he informed the board that the community education office is working on the Winter/Spring Catalogue. The SAC Program is continuing to run well. The Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical will be offering certified nursing assistant, forklift training, and serv safe training and food manager recertification courses this spring.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Discussion of New Telephone System

Superintendent Moriarty informed the board that the current phone system is continuing to fail and is no longer supported by EDC. He would like to start the process of looking into a new phone system for the 2007-2008 school year and stated that this would have to be bid out to vendors. It was the consensus of the board to have Superintendent Moriarty begin the process of looking into a different telephone system for the school district.

Discussion of Early Closing and Extracurricular Activities

The board discussed the recent early out due to the power outage and extracurricular activities being held. It was the consensus of the board that if school is dismissed early because of the weather that all extracurricular activities will be canceled. If school is dismissed early and there are no safety issues, extracurricular events may still take place at the discretion of the superintendent and that students will be allowed to make long distance phone calls in the offices as necessary for these situations and that this information will also be announced on the radio stations.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

On behalf of the school district, Superintendent Moriarty thanked Directors Mary Frank and Chuck Schulte for their years of service they have given Independent School District No. 299 and wished them well.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Chuck Schulte, seconded by Barbara Hurley to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Barbara Hurley, Clerk