

# SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, January 23, 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 7:00 p.m. Members present were Mary Frank, Naomi Fruechte, Jean Meyer, Mike Novak, Chuck Schulte, and Charlie Wray. Also present were Superintendent Michael Moriarty, Nancy Runningen, and Principals Brian Doty, Ronald Helmers, and Connie Hesse. Others present were Karen Schiltz, Amy Schmidt, Michelle Werner, Janelle Field-Rohrer, and David Heiller. Absent was Director Barbara Hurley.

## **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 Jean Meyer, seconded by Charlie Wray to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2005, regular school board meeting and the January 9, 2006, regular school board meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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

Moved by Charlie Wray, seconded by Jean Meyer to approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$1,079,850.21 including check numbers 42066 through 42270. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

## **PERSONNEL ITES**

### New Hires

Moved by Naomi Fruechte, seconded by Chuck Schulte to ratify the following contracts: Pamela Fahy as a part-time middle/high school special educational assistant for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year V/P at \$9.21 per hour for three hours per day and Conan Kmiecik as the part-time (0.83) English teacher for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year at BA+30/0 at \$14,152.33. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Thereof

Member Charlie Wray introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFORE

WHEREAS, there has been a reduction in student enrollment, and,

WHEREAS, this decrease in student enrollment must include discontinuance of positions and discontinuance or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

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

That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions and as a result of a reduction in enrollment make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Naomi Fruechte and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mary Frank, Naomi Fruechte, Jean Meyer, Mike Novak, Chuck Schulte, and Charlie Wray. The following voted against the same: None. Director Barbara Hurley was absent. Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition Retreat**

Moved by Chuck Schulte, seconded by Charlie Wray to approve the fifth grade students to attend the Transition Retreat on Friday, May 5, 2006, through Saturday, May 6, 2006. This event will take place at the Eagle Bluff Environment Center in Lanesboro. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **Adoption of Board Goals as Developed on January 19, 2006**

Chair Frank stated that they had a good working session on January 19<sup>th</sup>, and that this item will be tabled until the February 27, 2006, regular school board meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mr. Doty updated the board regarding the School to Work Program. He also shared with the board an article on Formative Assessment and the value of data to develop curriculum.

Mr. Helmers distributed to the board scheduling timelines for the 2006-2007 school year. He stated that the PA system and the bells are not working at the middle/high school and is hoping to have that problem fixed soon. He has begun an Afterschool Detention Program for high school students that may have discipline issues or not getting their homework completed versus having these students being sent to Leadership in La Crosse. Snow Days is scheduled for the week of February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Hesse informed the board that there are currently 57 students enrolled in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade band program. On January 31<sup>st</sup>, an inservice will be held for the elementary teachers regarding Teaching Reading Across the Curriculum to Improve Test Scores and Student Achievement Training. The elementary student council activities have included purchasing toys for the Houston County Care and Share; and will also be participating in the Pennies for Patients Program with all money raised donated to Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota for research.

Superintendent Moriarty commended Amy Schmidt for receiving the School Finance Award for 2006 for the second year in a row. He updated the board regarding the MSBA Winter Meeting that he attended. He informed the board that the school district received a check from Southeast Service Cooperative in the amount of \$16,110.19 for the Blue Cross Tobacco Settlement. He would like to recommend that approximately \$1,500 of this money be allocated to the Mayo Clinic Custom e-Health Package for our employees. He distributed to the board a copy of the Star Office 8 Program. Reitech has finished the hazard abatement in the middle/high school shop area. The State Fire Marshall did their inspections of both buildings with a few minor citations that have been corrected. The adjustments made in the middle/high school server room have alleviated the problem of the air conditioning unit not working properly, but they are continuing to monitor this room.

Mrs. Runnigen informed the board that the community education catalogue has been mailed and is also available to view on the website. She updated the board with regard to the Minnesota State College Southeast Technical on-line honors courses and stated that the school district will be receiving ITV equipment as part of a grant that SE Tech is writing and will be able to receive classes from SE Tech via ITV starting in the fall. The School Age Childcare Program continues to be going strong with more students being enrolled. She distributed to the board an update from Mrs. Busta's ECCE/School Readiness Programs.

### **OLD BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### Wind Energy Update

Director Naomi Fruechte distributed to the board a list of possible representatives to be part of the Wind Energy Committee. She stated that Mike Pieper of Johnson Controls is willing to meet with the committee to share his thoughts. She will be attending a Windustry Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, in March.

#### Concession Stand Update

Director Frank informed the board that the glass board will hopefully be installed next week and that things are progressing within the budget.

#### Middle/High School Signage

Director Schulte informed the board that the Signage Committee will be bringing to the February 27<sup>th</sup> regular school board meeting their proposal for the signage placement at the middle/high school. He requested that the board bring the packet of pictures with them to this meeting.

### **DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Director Novak questioned the board why the school district does not offer a senior citizen discount for co-curricular and curricular events and if the school district participates in Artists in Residents.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Chuck Schulte, seconded by Jean Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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Barbara Hurley, Clerk