

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 813  
LAKE CITY, MINNESOTA

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2010

6:00 P.M.

BLUFF VIEW ELEMENTARY MEDIA CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Balow (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Randy Meincke, Michael Noll, Andrea Hamilton, Karen England

MEMBERS ABSENT: Douglas Pflaum, Heath Oeltjen.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Craig Junker, Greg Berge, Jim Borgschatz, Val Loppnow, Pat Arndt, Tracy Oliver, Jim Klennert, Margie Harkins, Sandra Bestul, Andrew Eggenberger, and Jim Schmitt from Springsted Incorporated.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson Hamilton at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion by England, second by Noll, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Meincke, second by England, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting on January 21, 2010.
- B. Payment of Bills as presented by the Superintendent for Audit.
- C. Approve Treasurer's Report.

Motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Member Balow arrived (6:05 PM).

COMMUNICATIONS: A thank you note was read by Andrea Hamilton, who was in charge of the meeting due to Chairman Pflaum's scheduled absence.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION/REPORTS: The next regular Board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Monday, March 15, 2010. The meeting will be held in the library at Lincoln High School.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS: Bluff View Principal, Jim Borgschatz, updated the Board on current events at the elementary school. The science and inventors fair was a huge success. Students had the opportunity to showcase their ideas and inventions. Congratulations to Alexa Burkholder who will be advancing to the regional science fair held Friday, February 26, at St. Mary's University in Winona. The end of the second trimester is March 3, with conference nights scheduled for March 8 and March 11. Bluff View's

frozen food fundraiser will be held the first week of March. Funds raised will be used to help pay for field trip bussing costs, classroom publications, student assemblies, and Accelerated Reader tests.

Greg Berge, High School Principal, started his on-line learning presentation by noting just how far the district has come in terms of technology in the last few years. Since 2005, the district has purchased over 60 Smart Boards, projectors have been installed in most classrooms, teachers currently utilize 12 Senteo systems, and laptops have been assigned to teachers. We also have a user-friendly website, multi-media labs, and utilize STEM software. Both Bluff View and Lincoln High School and Middle school offer an array of technology opportunities to students.

Mr. Berge also noted on-line learning opportunities offer students flexibility, streamline curriculum, and provide additional course offerings. On the negative side, rigor and authenticity of student work has been questioned. About one-third of students enrolled in on-line learning drop out of the program.

Mr. Berge explained that online learning is an area that is not going away anytime soon. Current options include Aventa or Advantage Learning, Southeast Service Cooperative (SESC), and Southeast Minnesota Virtual Academy. Each of these programs will cost the district money but may also provide students with learning opportunities they might not have otherwise. Mr. Berge sees the district moving in a blended on-line manner that includes Moodle and ITV. The District currently has much of the infrastructure in place, including teacher laptops and strong staff development programs. Wireless capability may be provided next year.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION REPORT: Margie Harkins, Community Education Director, updated the Board regarding her programs. A Spring brochure will be published as a pull-out in the March 2 Shopper. Spring classes will include gardening classes, "centsible" meals, Tai Chi, trips, and information about the community garden. Lego Camp is new offering this year and has been enthusiastically attended. This type of program will be offered multiple times in the future. Mass registration for LEEP will be Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. in the old gym at Bluff View. Parent conferences will be held in March and April.

Latchkey will be open during Spring break, March 29 to April 2, 2010. Summer Latchkey parent meeting will also be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 6:00 PM after LEEP registration. The summer program will be housed in the Bluff View old gym and new gym. Staff, parents, and students will need to be flexible during the summer building project. The donor plates for the Auditorium Seat donations have been printed and will be put on plaques in the foyer in the near future.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### GENERAL OBLIGATION BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS

Jim Schmitt, vice-president, Springsted, informed the Board that the investment rating firm Standard and Poor's (S & P) gave the District, backed by the state's credit enhancement program, an A+ rating. Relative to our unreserved/undesignated fund balance, Schmitt noted that this was a very good rating.

Andrea Hamilton announced that the next order of business was the purchase of the District's approximately \$915,000 in General Obligation Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2010B. Schmitt reminded the Board that this refund would save the taxpayers about \$38,000. Anytime our district can save money for the taxpayers, we will make every effort to do so. Proceeds from this sale will be deposited in the Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund.

Motion by England, second by Balow, to approve the following resolution: A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF \$915,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2010B; FIXING THEIR FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS; DIRECTING THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY; AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT.

The resolution carried unanimously.

#### GENERAL OBLIGATION ALTERNATIVE FACILITY BONDS

According to Schmitt, the interest rate on the approximately \$13,620,000 Taxable General Obligation Alternative Facilities Bonds, Series 2010A, to pay for Phase I of the Facilities Improvement Plan came to 3.377 percent, over a third of a percent less than predicted. This is certainly to the District's advantage. Schmitt presented a tabulation of the proposals submitted as specified in the Official Terms of Proposal for the Bonds.

Motion by Meincke, second by England, to approve the following resolution: A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF \$13,620,000 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES BONDS, SERIES 2010A (BUILD AMERICA BONDS – DIRECT PAY) PROVIDING FOR THEIR FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS; DIRECTING THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY; AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT.

The resolution carried unanimously.

#### ENGAGEMENT LETTER APPROVAL BETWEEN DISTRICT 813 AND SPRINGSTED FINANCIAL ADVISORS (SIA)

Superintendent Junker informed the Board that the General Obligation Alternative Facility Bonds presents our district with the opportunity and obligation to invest a large amount of funds for a short period of time. He asked the board to provide SIA with the authority to manage reinvestment of the borrowed funds while guarding against loss of principal. The total amount of investments by SIA is just under \$2B.

Motion by Noll, second by Meincke, to approve the engagement letter between District 813 and Springsted Investment Advisors. Motion carried unanimously.

#### AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BIDS ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Schmitt suggested that the Board provide Superintendent Junker with the authority to sign off on the investments based on guidance and analysis from SIA on the date of the sale. Between February 17 and March 23, SIA will bid multiple ways to invest the money in order to determine the best situation for the Lake City Public Schools. SIA will provide the District with a recommendation to accept the investment bid in March.

Motion by Meincke, second by Noll, to authorize Superintendent Junker to accept bids on behalf of the District #813 school board. Motion carried unanimously.

#### DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

Superintendent Junker pointed out that the work done on the strategic plan helps the community understand where we are at, where we are going, and what we stand for as a school community. The Board has seen this information on two occasions in the past but Junker asked for the plan to be officially adopted.

Motion by Meincke, second by Balow, to adopt the strategic plan as presented, including priorities/goals and core beliefs. Motion carried unanimously.

#### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Meincke, second by England, to accept the following committee appointments:

District wide staff development—Heath Oeltjen; Karen England  
Facilities and safety committee—Mike Noll; Heath Oeltjen  
Finance—Karen England; Mike Noll; Randy Meincke  
Non-teacher negotiations—Randy Meincke; Dawn Balow; Karen England  
Teacher negotiations—Andrea Hamilton, Heath Oeltjen, Doug Pflaum  
Transportation—Andrea Hamilton, Mike Noll, Randy Meincke  
Building Trades—Randy Meincke  
Community Ed and ECFE—Dawn Balow  
Instruction and curriculum advisory—Heath Oeltjen  
Technology—Heath Oeltjen  
HVED rep—Randy Meincke  
Joint powers—Andrea Hamilton; Mike Noll  
Ed foundation—Karen England  
MSHSL rep—Mike Noll

Motion carried unanimously.

#### SCHOOL FINANCE ELECTIONS

Superintendent Junker noted that executing the upcoming school finance election this spring will be one of the most important and challenging responsibilities the District takes on this year and encouraged Board members to participate in the Steering Committee. Member Hamilton commented that the school board was 100 percent supportive of the facilities plan and referendum and quickly volunteered to serve on this committee. Member Noll also signed on. Guidelines for board member participation in school districts' referenda efforts were included in the Board packets.

Motion by Balow, second by Meincke, to authorize Superintendent Junker to stipulate in a Review and Comment letter to the MDE that May 18, 2010, is the date for the election. Motion carried unanimously.

#### SENIORITY LIST UPDATE

One teacher was removed from the seniority list. Motion by Meincke, seconded by England, to approve the amended 2009-2010 Seniority list. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 2009/2010 BUDGET UPDATE

Superintendent Junker reminded the Board that the 2009-2010 budget was built to come in at just over \$180,000 in the black. However, the revised budget indicates that the amount is more favorable than that, coming in at just over \$300,000 in the black. This number is an increase of just over \$120,000 and includes all of the District's fund balances, not just the undesignated/unreserved fund balance. He cautioned that this was not an audited number, just a projection. The increase is partially due to a slight increase in enrollment and more students receiving free or reduced meal aid.

Motion by Meincke, second by Balow, to approve the revised 2009-2010 Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

PERSONNEL

Motion by Meincke, seconded by England, to accept the resignation of science teacher Becky Sievers, with appreciation for her years of dedicated service to the students at Lincoln High School. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Balow, second by England, to approve the letter of intent to return as Senior High Guidance Counselor from Lynette Matzke. She will return at the beginning of the 2010-2011 year. Motion carried unanimously. The Board also expressed its appreciation to Vanessa Myran for her dedication to the students at Lincoln High School during Mrs. Matzke's absence.

SPRING EXTRA CURRICULAR COACHES

Motion by Noll, second by England, to approve the following spring coaching assignments

Adapted Bowling

Head Kim Bobb

Baseball

Head Perry Iberg  
Booster Club Mike Griebenow  
JV Jim Heise  
C Cory Kubista  
8<sup>th</sup> Trevor Narum  
7<sup>th</sup> Jim Anderson

Softball

Head Katie Luhmann  
JV Jennifer Abt-Talbert  
8<sup>th</sup> Candace Olstad  
7<sup>th</sup> Sandi Bestul

Golf

Head Girls Steve Randgaard  
Head Boys Luther Berkeland  
Junior High Kirk Thornton

Tennis – Boys

Head Dave Toole  
Assistant Henry Dison

Track & Field - Boys

Head Lukas Brott  
Assistant Tom Pederson  
Jr. High Tim Anderson

Track & Field - Girls

Head Meribeth Kozlowski  
Assistant Howie Cook  
Jr. High Amanada Saum  
Floater Erin Madson \*position will be filled if we have 60 participants

Weightroom

Head Rob Nutt

Motion carried unanimously.

THIRD PARTY FOOD SERVICE PROVIDER

The attraction of a third party food service provider involves the possible security of the food service fund balance as well as enhanced menu offerings. Members Balow and Hamilton added that our students deserve the best quality food the District could provide and it was worth exploring this option. Superintendent Junker noted that area school districts that have such a provider include Houston, Plainview, Byron, Kasson-Mantorville, Triton, Stewartville, Chatfield, etc. Zumbrota-Mazeppa and Pine Island are in the midst of accepting bids for the 2010-2011 school year.

Motion by England, second by Balow, to authorize Superintendent Junker to proceed with request for proposals for a third party food service provider. Motion carried unanimously.

2010-2011 Budget Planning

Superintendent Junker reported that K-12 schools were currently not slated to be cut under Governor Pawlenty's budget proposal. The next budget forecast is due on the last day in February. If it projects budget shortfalls it is nearly inevitable that K-12 education will suffer some damage. At the March school board meeting, the administration will have specific numbers for the board regarding a range of possible cuts for next year.

In planning for next year, the Finance Committee will convene before the March Board meeting to discuss various budget scenarios. We will need to move forward with local decisions once again without knowing the real answers ahead of time. If we are overly conservative, we will risk losing some effective but less experienced teachers. If we are too financially liberal, we risk putting our district at financial risk.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Superintendent Junker recently met with legislative leaders at the capitol. He suggested that the Lake City School Board officially adopt and make public a legislative platform that lifted up the need for all public school children in Minnesota to have equal access to a high quality education regardless of where they live in Minnesota. The entire platform may be found on the District's webpage: [www.lake-city.k12.mn.us](http://www.lake-city.k12.mn.us)

Motion by Meincke, second by England, to approve the District's Legislative Platform. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION

Motion by Hamilton, seconded by Meincke, to recognize the Dance Team and their coaches for their sixth place finish at the State meet. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by England, seconded by Noll, to recognize the following AAA and EXCEL recipients:

AAA Recipients: Zack Johnson and Katie Loppnow

EXCEL Recipients: Alex Lundell and Carley Siewert

Motion carried unanimously.

LOT PURCHASE FOR BUILDING TRADES HOME

Motion by Balow, second by Meincke, to authorize Superintendent Junker to negotiate a lot in the Jewel. Motion carried unanimously.

GRANT WRITING

Motion by Meincke, seconded by England to authorize Superintendent Junker the authority to approve grant applications. Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Superintendent Junker reported that an online meal payment system has been available for the past few weeks. Information is posted on the district website. No decision has been made regarding how to pay for this service, so the District is currently absorbing all of the costs associated with it. This situation needs to be rectified in the future.

At the last school board meeting, the Board discussed co-curricular events on inclement weather days. Superintendent Junker stated that the District would be following the current scenario unless the Board decided otherwise: if school is let out early due to poor weather conditions, no practices/rehearsals would be allowed at any level. If school is cancelled early in the morning, the superintendent, principal, and activities director will use their discretion to determine if a varsity level practice could take place if weather conditions improved later in the day. After discussion, the Board asked Superintendent Junker to further study this issue and report back in March.

In terms of school make up days, Junker noted that the summer's tight construction schedule made it difficult to make up the two weather related school closings in June. Due to this situation, he suggested that the students not make up these instructional days but that teachers make up both of these days.

BOARD REPORTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Meincke, second by Balow to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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Douglas Pflaum, Chairperson

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Andrea Hamilton, Clerk