



Independent School District No. 834 – Stillwater Area Public Schools
Video Conference
April 8, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Meeting Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Beverly Petrie, Chair, Alison Sherman, Vice-Chair, Matt Onken, Treasurer, Annie Porbeni, Clerk, Katie Hockert, director, Tina Riehle, director, Liz Weisberg, director

III. **Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda by: Member Hockert; seconded by: Member Sherman; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried unanimously.

IV. **Superintendent Report**

- Staff members at several of our schools enjoyed a free cup of coffee over spring break, thanks to the Shepherd of the Valley Church.
- The annual tornado drill is on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 1:45 p.m.
- The Senior Graduation ceremony is being planned for Saturday, June 5, 2021.
- Congratulations to our 2021 Partnership Plan award recipients. Visit the [Partnership Plan Website](#).
- State health officials say 752 Minnesota schools have confirmed COVID-19 cases as of this week. Please continue to wear masks, keep social distancing, avoid large gatherings, adhere to other restrictions that are still in place, get tested, stay home if you're ill or test positive.
- Congratulations to Gursimart Dahry and Annika Fredeen who qualified for the National Speech and Debate Association's National Tournament.
- School Board Members and the District Leadership Team met with Paula Forbes this week for professional development. Paula Forbes has been instrumental in working with our students at the high school level on equity and student voice this year.
- Interim Superintendent Lansfeldt shared her vision for the immediate future and her belief in building positive relationships, having a strong focus on student and adult learning, collaboration, reflection, high standards for all and accountability for results.

V. **Introductory Items**

A. **Student Report**

Mara provided a report on academics and Student Life -

- This is the first week back after Spring Break and the start of the fourth quarter.
- Students in the art department have been making signs to promote alcohol awareness month.
- The Voices of Change conference is being held on April 16.
- The Stillwater Speech Team achieved the first section win during the speech tournament on Wednesday, April 7.

- Seniors interested in serving on the Graduation Committee, need to fill out the Google Form that was sent to their school email account by Sunday, April 11.

Brynn provided a report on Activities -

- Mara shared an update on high school sporting events. For more information, please visit; <https://goponies.org/>.
- The Wrestling team lost a close semi-final match to St. Michael-Albertville in the team portion of State.
- Both the Girls hockey and Girls basketball teams lost in their quarterfinal games at state.
- Spring sports have begun for all teams.
- The tentative date for Senior Prom is Saturday, June 12, 2021.

B. Recognition

Brigid Sandager, a fifth-grade teacher at Anderson Elementary School in Bayport, has received the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC) 2021 Outstanding Teacher Award. She will receive a \$500 stipend and up to \$1,500 in expenses to attend the 2021 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Des Moines, Iowa in June.

VI. Open Forum

- Dawn Beavers, Stillwater, MN - Data request and achievement in the district
- Stacy Bartlett, Hudson, WI - The need for equity training at the board level

VII. Consent Agenda

- Minutes of February 11, 2021 Closed Meeting
- Minutes of March 25, 2021 Closed Meeting
- Minutes of March 25, 2021 Business Meeting
- Disbursement Register – March 27, 2021 - April 9, 2021
- Stillwater Middle School Track Resurfacing
- 2021 District Wide Pavement Rehabilitation
- 2020-2022 Employee Medical and Dental Insurance Rate Approval
- Human Resources Personnel Report

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items A,B,C,D and G by: Member Onken; Second by: Member Porbeni; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items E, F and H by: Member Riehle; Second by: Member Onken; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Reports

- Intermediate 916 Joint Powers Agreement Proposed to Member Districts - District 916 Superintendent Connie Hayes
Superintendent Hayes presented the proposed Joint Powers Agreement, which includes an equity vesting plan. The agreement will become effective on July 1, 2021.
- Contract and Expenditures Reviews - Dr. John Thein, Director of Finance
This is an information report on the four contracts from March 19, 2021 through April 1, 2021 for goods and services equaling less than \$50,000.00
- First Policy Reading: Policy 701- Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget; Policy 701.1 - Modification of School District Budget; Policy 702 – Accounting; Policy 703 - Annual Audit - Dr. Jennifer Cherry
These policies will be presented for a second reading at the April 22, 2021 School Board Meeting.
- Student Achievement Update - Dr. Jennifer Cherry

Dr. Cherry presented an overview of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 student achievement in literacy, math, career and college readiness through assessment and testing and how COVID impacts student achievement and performance.

IX. Action Items

- A. In-Person School Board Meetings - Mr. John Perry
Mr. Perry presented options to return to in-person meetings.

Motion to approve In-Person School Board Meetings at Oak Park Professional Development Center for board members and administration while public attendance and open forum remain online by: Member Sherman; Second by: Member Onken; Vote: 6 ayes, 1 nays (Riehle): Motion carried.

- B. 2019-202 Custodial Employees Masters Contract - Ms. Cindy Gustafson
Ms. Gustafson presented the 2019-2022 Custodial Employees Master contract.

Motion to approve the 2019-2022 Custodial Employees Masters Contract by: Member Porbeni; Second by: Member Hockert; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. 2019-2021 Principal Master Contract - Ms. Cindy Gustafson
Ms. Gustafson presented the 2019-2021 Principal Master contracts.

Motion to approve the 2019-2021 Principal Master Contract by: Member Onken; Second by: Member Sherman; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried unanimously.

- D. A Resolution providing for the Issuance and Sale of Certificates of Participation for the expansion of Brookview Elementary - Interim Superintendent Lansfeldt
Interim Superintendent Lansfeldt shared that the expansion will provide space to address overcrowding and allow for additional growth.

Motion to approve the resolution providing for the issuance and sale of certificates of participation to fund an expansion of Brookview Elementary by: Member Hockert; Second by: Member Sherman; Vote: 5 ayes, 2 nays (Riehle, Weisberg): Motion carried.

X. Board Reports

- A. Working Group Reports
1. Finance and Operations - Nothing to report
 2. Legislative - Chair Petrie shared information on the House and Senate biennium education bills.
 4. Policy - Nothing to report
- B. Member Reports:
- Director Weisberg shared that Valley Crossing was sold not closed. Would like to have the Spanish Immersion program expand for the entire district.
 - Director Riehle shared that she received a couple of emails regarding tech tools for literacy and fluency.
- C. Board Chair Report – Chair Petrie reminded the board of a letter from students regarding the injustice among students in our schools. She also read the statement regarding the commitment of the school board to continue equity work and opportunities to continue to learn.

XI. Adjournment

- A. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Annie Porbeni, Clerk