

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
High School Room C350

The regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 283 of St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, convened at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2020 in High School Room C350. Present were Board Members Mary Tomback, Karen Waters, Anne Casey, Heather Wilsey, Laura McClendon, C. Colin Cox, Ken Morrison (7:35 p.m.) and Superintendent Astein Osei. Superintendent's Cabinet members present included: Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Silvy Un Lafayette, Director of Assessment, Evaluation and Research, Richard Kreyer, Director of Human Resources, Tom Marble, Director of Technology Services, Sara Thompson, Director of Communications and Public Relations, Lisa Greene, Director of Community Education, Brooks Grossinger, Assistant Director of Finance, and Flower Krutina, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Mary Tomback called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was recommended that the School Board approve the Agenda for March 9, 2020. A motion was made by McClendon, seconded by Cox to approve the agenda, as presented. Motion passed 6-0. Director Morrison not yet arrived.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Osei provided an overview of Black History Month activities including the student led assembly at the High School. This presentation is available to view online at: www.youtube.com/slpcable. Superintendent Osei then recognized the civic engagement of various students over the past several weeks who testified at the Capital in front of legislators. Seniors CC Owens, Aliviah McClinton, and Ari Balfour testified in favor of HF2243, which would: 1) eliminate suspension as an option for students younger than 5th grade, require secondary schools to document tangible alternatives to suspension and require districts to develop an independent review process for parents with concerns related to specific uses of exclusionary discipline. Sophomore Gigi Stillman will testify in favor of HF3837, which would create a reporting distinction for crimes motivated by bias (hate crimes) and appropriate money for police officer training related to this distinction. Several writers for the Echo are preparing to testify in favor of HF1868. The bill is on hold right now as it moves through the Senate, but they should be able to testify soon. Next Superintendent Osei recognized High School Echo writer Marta Hill for the Journalism Association of Minnesota Journalist of the Year award. She now has the opportunity to compete nationwide. The report concluded with the recognition of Louise Rath for being a recipient of the Lifetime Excellence in Leadership Award from the Minnesota Division of Early Childhood.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Start Times – Childcare Update

Lisa Greene, Director of Community Education provided an update on the implementation of childcare options for the 2020-21 school year. Greene's presentation included an overview of the Elementary Out of School Time Task Force recommendations, the new two-tier payment and schedule structure for Kids Place that will begin in the 2020-21 school year, the dates and goal of the Kids Place registration window, Kids Place marketing and promotion, and school age care staffing.

Math Design Update

Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction provided an update of the work of the Math Design Team. He presented information on regional studies of surrounding districts and their math pathways, clarified acceleration pathways for math in St. Louis Park Public Schools beginning this year for students in 4th and 5th grade, and discussed measurements for success.

2019-20 Mid-Year Budget Update & 2020-21 Budget Assumptions

In the absence of Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, Brooks Grossinger, Assistant Director of Finance, provided an update on the 2019-20 Mid-Year Budget and 2020-21 Budget Assumptions. Grossinger reviewed the budget planning process, budget timeline, FY 2020 mid-year revenue budget adjustments for the general fund, Financial Advisory Committee recommendations, FY 2020 capital budget, and next steps. The School Board will be asked to approve FY 2021 budget proposal for General and Capital fund and the FY 2020 mid-year budget update at the March 23, 2020 meeting. The School Board will then be asked to approve the FY 2021 final budget at the June 22, 2020 meeting.

Peter Hobart Temporary Easement Update

In the absence of Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, Astein Osei, Superintendent provided an update on the status of the temporary easement request from the city of St. Louis Park at Peter Hobart Elementary School. The School Board and Facilities Manager had concerns on the agreement for temporary easement and this communicated with the City. After some time and communication sent to the City by Capital One, who also has an interest in the property at Peter Hobart due to our lease purchase agreement through them, and review by legal counsel, the City updated the terms to reach a mutual agreement and begin work on the Peter Hobart land.

2021-22 School Calendar

Richard Kreyer, Director of Human Resources shared feedback on the two 2021-22 calendar options. Additional feedback was received, teachers were polled and a larger committee was put together for review. The goal is to not go late into summer and provide a longer winter break. Chair Tomback also spoke to many families who expressed greater support for option 1. The Board will be asked to take action at tonight's action agenda.

February 2020 Listening Session Recap

Anne Casey, School Board Vice Chair provided a recap of the School Board listening session that occurred on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at the High School. Directors Wilsey and Cox were also present at the listening session. Two topics were brought forward. The first was brought forward by a group representing SLP SEEDS, expressing interest in wanting to use the high school kitchen. They also presented at open forum and have since also connected with Tom Bravo, Facilities Manager. The second topic brought forward was regarding the math redesign and concerns about the process, opportunities for community input, access to acceleration

pathways, what neighborhood districts are doing and measurements for success. All of those items were passed along to Superintendent Osei and addressed in the presentation done earlier in the evening by Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. The next is listening session is on April 29, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at Aquila. The public can also reach out to the School Board via email or message line.

Policy Committee of the Board

Anne Casey, School Board Vice Chair shared information about developing a temporary advisory committee of the Board to review policy. In order to complete the work of getting the policy manual in order, Vice Chair Casey proposed a temporary advisory committee of the School Board with the goals of creating a checklist for policy review (ensure compliance with state law, other School Board policies, and alignment with the strategic plan), look at buckets/sections of policies as a whole, and reduce the amount of time where work is happening during meetings. What would stay the same is that the Board would still have first and second readings and opportunities for discussion. In compliance with open meeting law, no action would ever be taken at committee meetings. This would also create additional transparency and opportunity for the community to work with the School Board. If there is interest in joining the Policy Committee, individuals are encouraged to reach out to Vice Chair Casey.

Policy Development – First Reading 535 PowerSchool Parent/Guardian Web Access

The School Board reviewed as a first reading policy 535 PowerSchool Parent/Guardian Web Access. After internal review by District directors, it is recommended that the School Board remove this policy as there are already procedures in place each year at registration and back to school nights to address student data privacy with regards to technology platforms that are currently in use or will be adopted in the future. The School Board will be asked to approve the recommendation for the policy at the next meeting's action agenda.

Policy Development – Second Reading Policy 404 Employment Background Check

The School Board reviewed as a second reading policy 404 Employment Background Check. A notable update included the change in State Law to include background checks on employees “and on all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether any compensation is paid.” The policy was presented at the evening's action agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Morrison and then withdrawn. A motion was then made by Casey, seconded by Waters to approve the following Consent Agenda items: Settlement agreement and release. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Approval of Labor Agreements - Principals

A motion was made by Wilsey, seconded by Cox to approve the employment agreement between Independent School District #283 and the Principals group for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years, as presented. The motion passed 7 – 0.

Approval of Labor Agreements – Community Education Educator Group

A motion was made by Wilsey, seconded by Cox to approve the employment agreement between Independent School District #283 and the Community Education Educator group for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years, as presented. The motion passed 7 – 0.

Peter Hobart Temporary Easement Approval

A motion was made by Casey, seconded by Morrison to approve the Peter Hobart Temporary Easement agreement between the City of St. Louis Park and Independent School District 283, as presented. The motion passed 7 – 0.

Approval of the 2021-2022 School Year Calendar

A motion was made by Casey, seconded by McClendon to adopt Option1 for the 2021-22 school year calendar, as presented. The motion passed 7 – 0.

Approval of the Second Reading of Policy 404 Employment Background Check

A motion was made by Wilsey, seconded by McClendon to approve the second reading of policy 404 Employment Background Check, as presented. The motion passed 7 – 0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Cox to adjourn. Motion passed 7 - 0. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

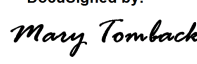
Respectfully submitted:

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Karen Waters, Clerk

Approved:

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Mary Tomback, Chair

Minutes prepared by Flower M. Krutina