

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, November 25, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
St. Louis Park 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, November 25, 2019 in High School Room C350. Present were Board Members Nancy Gores, Jim Beneke, Joe Tatalovich, Karen Waters, Anne Casey, Ken Morrison, Mary Tomback, and Superintendent Astein Osei. Superintendent's Cabinet members present included: Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, Tami Reynolds, Director of Student Services, Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Silvy Un Lafayette, Director of Assessment, Evaluation and Research, Richard Kreyer, Director of Human Resources, and Flower Krutina, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Secretary to the Board. Also present were Matt Thomas, Communications Specialist, and Jim Eichten, MMKR Auditor. Board Clerk Jim Beneke was absent and member Ken Morrison acted as clerk during his absence.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Nancy Gores called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

SPOTLIGHT

The School Board recognized fall sports state participants. Volleyball - Maya Betzer, Angie Leno, Ivy Jones, Faith Johnson, Olivia Lainsbury, Addie Warg, Elsa Bergland, Macy Martinson, Sam Klepfer, Kendall Coley, Annie Holden, Raegan Alexander, Makaila Winward, Hannah Howell, Anna Bauer, Alena Jaranilla. Cross Country - Jersey Miller. Girls Swimming - Tenzin Dedhen, Hattie Kugler, Franny Bevell, Grace Loveland, Elie Grassley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was recommended that the School Board approve the Agenda for November 25, 2019 with an amendment to delete Approval of 2020-21 School Calendar off of the Action Agenda. A motion was made by Tomback, seconded by Casey to approve agenda, as amended. Motion passed 6-0.

CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION FOR 2019 SCHOOL BOARD GENERAL ELECTION

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Casey to approve the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of General Election and Directing School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Related Duties after the time for contesting the election has passed (seven days after canvassing date) and the candidate's final campaign financial reports have been submitted. The clerk of the school board is directed to deliver said certificates to the persons entitled thereto and issue a form of acceptance of office and oath of office. Motion passed 6-0.

OPEN FORUM

There were no visitors during open forum.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Osei highlighted 3 items connected to Strategy #3 Community Collaboration. First, he recognized and thanked The Gift of Music who has donated close to 800 instruments to our students since the late 90s. A thank you was also extended to STEP with a reminder of the upcoming train stop to raise awareness of food and security. The last item was a thank you to all community members who have participated in the Out of School Time Task Force and to those who have provided feedback on intervention and enrichment activities for students as we change to an earlier start time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

FY19 Financial Audit Presentation

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, and Jim Eichten, MMKR Auditor, presented the audit findings for the 2019 fiscal year. This is the district's first year with MMKR as the financial auditing firm. MMKR completed a rigorous audit and a thank you was extended on behalf of the Board and community for their feedback. Jim Eichten, MMKR Managing Partner, provided a brief presentation of the audit results of year. There was a more detailed meeting held prior. The items highlighted included the role of the auditors for opinion on financial statements, internal controls and compliance, and provide audit results and findings. Audit results included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Clean Opinion on Basic Financial Statements
 - Unmodified Opinion
- Opinion on Student Activity Financial Statements
 - Unmodified Opinion
- Internal Control and Compliance Report
 - Journal Entries including Prior Period Adjustments
- Single Audit of Federal Awards
 - No Findings
- Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit
 - Prompt Payment of Bills
 - Contractor's Withholding Affidavit's
- Student Activity Audit
 - Receipt Procedures – Signatures on Receipts
 - Inactive Accounts
 - Disbursement Procedures – Signatures on Checks
 - Untimely Deposits
 - Activity Purpose Forms
- Other Comments and Recommendations
 - School Board Approval of Claims
 - Accrued Vacation
- Follow-Up Prior Year Findings and Recommendations
 - Determination of Free, Reduced, or Paid Meals
 - Claims for Reimbursement Match Records for Meals Served

The district was commended for overall budgeting practices in a solid position.

Preview of FY21 Levy Certification

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services provided a preview of the FY21 Levy Certification for taxes payable in 2020. The purpose of the presentation was to present in preparation for the Truth in Taxation meeting on December 9th. Magnuson provided an overview of the final levy payable in 2020 with a reminder that we would like to add a turf field in the interior of the High School track field.

World's Best Workforce Presentation

Silvy Lafayette, Director of Assessment, Research and Evaluation, Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Astein Osei, Superintendent provided a progress report on the 2018-19 World's Best Workforce & Achievement and Integration goals. The goals and plan to achieve goals are clear with evidence that we are making progress, and also the gaps that we are looking to address. The presentation was not exhaustive of all data but provided overview of each goal area. The Goals of World's Best Workforce are kindergarten readiness, reading at grade level by 3rd grade, 4-year high school graduation rate, college and career readiness, closing the reading achievement gap and closing the math achievement gap. Professional development of our teams are closely tied to World's Best Workforce plans.

Review of 2020-21 and 2021-22 School Calendar Options

Richard Kreyer, Director of Human Resources reviewed the school calendars for the 2020-21 and 2021-22

school years noting that we will continue to gather feedback. There are pros and cons to all calendar options. One point of discussion is November 3, 2020 election day and whether or not to hold school. Also discussed was the historical four day break for MEA in October. More definitive recommendations will be made at next meeting. DPAC thought, if we consider cancelling school on election day, we need to take into account the primary day in March 2020 which is already on this year's calendar. Finally, Rosh Hashanah could possible push start from September 8th to 9th. Board members requested to see an option of the first day of the 2020-21 school year as the day after Rosh Hashanah at the next meeting. (First day being September 9, 2020)

Policy Development - First Reading Policy 706 Acceptance of Donation and Gifts

The School Board reviewed policy 706 Acceptance of Donation and Gifts. The School Board will review this policy as a second reading at their next meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Business and Personnel

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Tomback to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

1. Payroll – October 15, 2019 in the amount of \$1,633,038.00; October 31, 2019 in the amount of \$1,560,122.73
2. Recap of Expenditures
3. Accounts Payable Disbursements
4. Electronic Fund Transfers
5. Donations
6. Personnel

Upon vote being taken on the foregoing, motion passed 6-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Appointment

A motion was made by Casey, seconded by Tomback to approve the appointment of George Hageman to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for the City of St. Louis Park. Motion passed 6-0.

Acceptance of Audit Report


A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Tatalovich to approve the FY19 audit report, as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Casey, seconded by Tatalovich to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Ken Morrison, Acting Clerk

Approved:



Nancy Gorés, Chair

Minutes prepared by Flower M Krutina

