

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 – 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 in St. Louis Park High School Room C350. Present were Board Members Karen Waters, Anne Casey, Ken Morrison, Heather Wilsey, Laura McClendon, C. Colin Cox and Superintendent Astein Osei. Board Chair Mary Tomback was absent. Vice Chair Casey presided over the meeting in Chair Tomback's absence. Also present were members of the Superintendent's Cabinet including: Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, and Flower Krutina, Executive Leadership Partner.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice Chair Anne Casey called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Wilsey, seconded by Waters to approve the agenda, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

OPEN FORUM

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Osei shared that students Fiona Petrie, Sophie Davis, Gunner Anderson, Isaiah Klepfer, Ada Turman, John Lawrence, Owen Winecoff, Alicia Mainjeni, Ramona Mavis, Chiara Colinet-Adler, Anya Panday, Louise Marshall, Mae Turman, Caroline Butler, Jacob Nelson, Emily Foster, Maree Lasala, Semona Robel, Jack Kottke, Jack Mintz, and Paris Lim were selected to participate and perform with their respective Metro West All Conference Ensembles Music Festival on Tuesday, September 28, 2021. Also recognized were the year's National Merit Scholars. Five St. Louis Park High School seniors have recently been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as either a National Merit Semifinalist or a Commended Scholar.

Daniel Shope is one of approximately 270 students in Minnesota to be named a National Merit Semifinalist. St. Louis Park seniors – Kristina Moe, Fiona Petrie, James Vournakis, and Jude Wickberg – have all been named National Merit Commended Scholars for 2022. Next, Superintendent Osei shared plans for homecoming 2021. The report concluded with the announcement that the District is hiring school aged childcare staff.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

School Resource Officers

Superintendent Osei and Chief Harcey, Sergeant Meyer, Officer Ford and Officer Smith from the St. Louis Park Police Department, provided information on the partnership and collaboration of School Resource Officers within St. Louis Park Public Schools. The presentation also shared

more about the District’s School Resource Officers, Officers Ford and Smith, their roles at the Middle and High School, and programs that they support.

Elementary Talent Development

Patrick Duffy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and the Elementary Talent Development Team provided an update on the implementation of the Elementary Talent Development model. The Elementary Talent Development Team is comprised of the following:

Aquila

K-2: Marriah Foudray

3-5: Lisa Bottolene

Park Spanish Immersion

K-2: Maria Ponce-Khoury

3-5: Kim Wieber duSaire

Peter Hobart

K-2: Kathryn Oberg

3-5: Renee Robinson

Susan Lindgren

K-2: Meg Schauer

3-5: Carrie Runke-Jones

There were three areas of focus as the team developed their purpose statement which reads, “To cultivate the innate potential and brilliance of each student by: Identifying and activating students’ strengths, Empowering student voice, choice and action in their learning, and Developing racially conscious and globally minded citizens. The team then shared more details and examples connected to each area of focus, professional development, and operational practices and the scope and sequence for each elementary section. Next the team discussed how student learning and growth as well as other measures would be assessed.

Construction Update

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services and Tom Bravo, Construction Manager, will provide a construction update. School Board members received information to understand the results of the August 2021 construction bid opening, the proposed use of remaining 2017 construction funds, and the process toward a potential special election to renew technology levy and issue bonds. The 2017 construction management estimates for remaining construction projects came in higher than the actual August 2021 bids. Factors that impacted bids were regulatory changes and other universal factors, such as COVID. The remaining \$13.3 million in remaining construction funds from the 2017 Bond Issue would go to renovating Middle School classrooms, renovating Central Community Center, and to purchase cafeteria furniture for the High School. Director Magnuson then discussed a Potential Special Election for construction bonds and capital projects levy to cover remaining projects at the High School such as the kitchen, 10 classrooms, media center renovations, and student common areas. The capital project levy would be connected to technology. Director Magnuson concluded her presentation with important election deadlines and next steps.

Preliminary Levy Payable 2022

Patricia Magnuson, Director of Business Services, presented information on the 2021 Preliminary Levy Payable in 2022. She reviewed the budget timeline for operating fund budgets, high level audit information, and FY21 enrollment and the impact that has on the budget. The School Board reviewed the preliminary Pay 2022 tax levy for St. Louis Park Public Schools in preparation for School Board action to certify the levy at maximum during the evening’s Action Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was then made by Cox, seconded by Morrison to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

1. Payroll for August 13, 2021 in the amount of 1,512,682.00 and August 31, 2021 in the amount of 1,473,399.41
2. Recap of Expenditures
3. Electronic Fund Transfers
4. Accounts Payable Disbursements
5. Donations
6. Investment Holdings
7. Personnel

By means of roll call vote, motion passed 6-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Approval of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) III Application

Director Magnuson provided a brief overview of the ESSER III application process, use of funds, and community feedback. Staff will continue to work with MDE before submitting the application to meet the October 1 deadline. A motion was made by Cox, seconded by Wilsey to approve the ESSER III for FIN 160 and 161, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the 2021 Preliminary Levy Payable in 2022

A motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Waters to approve the 2021 Preliminary Levy payable in 2022 at maximum, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

Approval of District Office Lease Termination

A motion was made by Cox, seconded by Wilsey to approve the termination of the lease for the District Office located at 6311 Wayzata Blvd. St. Louis Park, MN 55426, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Cox, seconded by Wilsey to adjourn. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Laura McClendon, Clerk

Mary Tomback, Chair

Minutes prepared by Flower M. Krutina