



# SCHOOL BOARD MEETING RECAP

Official publication of the ISD282  
St. Anthony-New Brighton School District

## WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

### **Referendum Discussion** Strategic direction: strong communication

Matt Rantapaa, with the Baird Public Finance Team, presented referendum options to the board for when the current 10-year operating and capital project levy expires (set to expire in the 2024-2025 fiscal year). This discussion is preliminary and will provide the board with information to begin a discussion regarding a potential renewal or replacement of the district's current operating and capital levies. Without an operating and capital levy, the district would need to make major financial adjustments and decisions. The state legislature is also debating if districts will need to continue to go out for approval on renewing operating and capital levys going forward. At this time, the district will move forward with planning regardless of what the legislature decides.

The first opportunity to renew the operating levy is in 2023 (\$929.89 to renew in that final year of the operating levy; language to taxpayers would state that the district would be renewing an existing levy that is set to expire— no tax increases). The district could do a revoke and replace of the operating levy in 2022; commencing with taxes payable in 2023.

If this didn't pass, the district would have two more opportunities to go out for renewal in 2023 and 2024. It's important to note that a district can only hold one operating levy per calendar year. *(continued on next page)*

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The capital projects levy will expire at the same time as the operating levy. With the capital project levy, the district has an opportunity in 2022 to do a revoke and replace; again, if this doesn't pass, the district would also have two additional opportunities to renew as with the operating levy in 2023 & 2024. These funds can be used for facility-type items, such as improvement and repair to sites and buildings; technology, textbooks, and transportation.

The last day to submit review and comment to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE has 60 days to provide the review and comment; districts can call for the election prior to receiving and publishing the MDE review and comment) on the capital projects levy is Sunday, Aug. 14, 2022 and Aug. 13, 2023; Aug. 11, 2024. The first day to vote absentee is toward the end of September. The district can submit as early as possible in order to get ahead of the MDE's review process timeline. The fall election dates of importance are as follows: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022; Nov. 7, 2023; Nov. 5, 2024.

Mr. Rantapaa provided information and a cost breakdown of his firm's service package that would assist with the district's operating and capital project levy referendum. Common revenue needs from districts consist of early childhood services; programming (maintenance & enhancement); class-size maintenance; facilities; technology; and transportation.

The School Board will need to focus on whether to go out in November 2022 or in November 2023. Once that decision is made, this will begin the process (the focus of the 2022-23 school year will be administration and the board working to determine the best approach; what's needed; when review/comment is necessary; financial projection; and what are the levels and various advantages to renewing or asking for an increase. If the district were to move forward with going out for referendum in November 2023, things would need to be in-place by late-winter/early 2023. It might be best to focus on 2023, especially, if the district moves forward with a community survey with Morris Leatherman in 2022 to gage the temperature of the community- this survey would give an indication on how likely a referendum would pass.

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## WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

### ***SAMS/SAVHS Schedule*** *Strategic direction: high support & high expectations*

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St. Anthony Middle School (SAMS) Principal Amy Kujawski presented to the board a schedule update on behalf of SAMS and St. Anthony Village High School (SAVHS). Student-need has been clear this school year—to heal the community and provide humane reinvention.

The goals behind this new schedule are teacher-led: time for students and staff to connect in new, meaningful ways; opportunities for teachers to implement more rigor, relevance and relationships in learning; and structure that invites flexibility and creativity so that students get exactly what they need in order to learn at high levels. The schedule change allows for these goals to be implemented. The Teaching and Learning Team wanted to allow for teachers to have time to work more closely with their students, going deeper into their learning, having more time for class discussion, and providing support and enrichment when they need it.

Both SAMS and SAVHS gathered feedback from students, staff and families on the schedule change; at this time, it's too early to implement changes based upon this feedback. Better to use it as a temperature check at this point— give it a chance first before making changes.

Principal Kujawski referenced the Modern Classrooms Project as a vision for students to have the opportunity to move more fluidly between interdisciplinary courses.

Teachers receive support from their teacher leaders, other teachers, and from administrators (principals). Staff meets every Wednesday morning for professional development.

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## WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

### ***January Organizational Meeting*** *Strategic direction: strong communication*

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Discussion between board members on changes that need to be implemented in January, 2022. The School Board is asked to approve a number of organizational items at the first meeting in January. The goal at this meeting is to determine which areas, if any, need further discussion and/or research for future meetings. Communication Coordinator Janet Kimmel will link to the policies that discuss the different types of meetings on the SB meeting page for further clarification (Regular Meeting vs. Work Session and Special Meeting). Will be reviewed at the second meeting in December 2021 once the board receives feedback from the community and parent/guardian survey.

### ***Mid-Year Superintendent Eval*** *Strategic directions: high support & high expectations*

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The hiring and evaluation of a superintendent is one of a board's most important responsibilities. The process and timeline for the district's annual superintendent evaluation includes a mid-year progress report in December, and a year-end evaluation in June. The evaluation includes the following performance areas: leadership; finance; curriculum and instruction management; community relations and engagement; personnel/organizational management; School Board relations; and student support. The board received the superintendent evaluation tool for review prior to the mid-year evaluation in December 2021.

### ***Board Retreat Recap*** *Strategic directions: high support, high expectations & strong communication*

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In July 2021, the School Board adopted four goals, one of which is to host four School Board retreats during the 2021-22 school year to analyze data from multiple community engagement resources. All the retreats are open to the public and held on school and City property. The first retreat was held on Wednesday, Nov. 3. The purpose of the retreat was to understand and engage with all stakeholders to understand the Teaching & Learning and Equity work in order to best serve all students. *(continued on next page)*

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## WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board Chair Oksnevad will review the four areas (Brain Writing Activity, Branding Presentation, Stakeholder Data & Success Metrics) and facilitate a discussion for planning future board retreats.

### **COVID-19 Update** Strategic direction: *strong communication*

Superintendent Dr. Renee Corneille provided the board with an update on COVID-19 cases and quarantines for St. Anthony-New Brighton. At this time, we currently have a total of 12 positive cases, with a total of 39 in quarantine. Minnesota currently has the highest number of COVID-19 cases. The district's mitigation measures, such as masking and high-vaccination rates and quarantines, are helping keep our students and staff in our buildings without major interruptions or school closures.

The district's first COVID-19 vaccination clinic for ages 5-11 took place on Nov. 9, at Wilshire Park Elementary School (sponsored by Minnesota Department of Health). A total of 240 vaccinations were given at this clinic. The clinic was full within the first 30 minutes of the registration link going live.

There is a second COVID-19 vaccination clinic for ages 5-11 set for Nov. 22, at Wilshire Elementary School. This clinic is sponsored by Cub Pharmacy.

### St. Anthony-New Brighton School Board:

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