

January 20, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on January 20, 2021, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Martin, Polcher, Nyberg, and Chair Berklich.  
Members Absent: Director Egan

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Martin to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Nyberg and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda for the Month of December, 2020 which consists of Consideration of Claims for the month of December \$1,007,627.79. Electronic Fund Transfers for the month of December in the amount of \$344,328.61. Treasurer's and Investment Report for the month of December. Payrolls for the month of December in the amount of \$1,987,872.00.

**Dana Lindstrom and Susan Nelson presented on the REACH Program:** Social emotional program elective course for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders replaces study hall. Intention is to give students an adult in the building as a mentor or someone they can go to. No structured curriculum, the needs of the students dictate what is done in class. We have received 2 grants for the program of \$20,000 from anonymous donor and \$7,500 from United Way.

**Director Egan arrived at 3:55 p.m.**

**Public Comment:** Kristina Hawkinson – represent the parent group. Would like to know the bi-weekly number for COVID is (29) and wants to get kids back in school earlier. Requests a special meeting if the number drops below 20 and would like a meet and greet with board members. Requesting a meeting be held at 5:00 p.m. so that other parents can attend.

Director Nyberg made a motion for the second meeting in February be held at 5:00 p.m. with the first 30 minutes as a meet and greet session. Motion failed, no support.

Kristina requested that parents know what the guidelines are for coming back to school.

Director McLaughlin suggested a special meeting in the auditorium just for public comment.

**Old Business:** None

**Personnel:**

APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR AN UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR HANNA ARMBRUSTER FROM JANUARY 29, 2021 TO MARCH 11, 2021

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Martin to approve the request for an unpaid leave of absence for Hanna Armbruster from January 29, 2021 to March 11, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

**Administrative Reports:**

**Directors / Student Director:**

Director McLaughlin – January 18<sup>th</sup> presentation in honor of MLK – great support from school staff.

Attended MSBA webinar government relations conversation.

Gave a recap of the Dylan project meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Principals / Assistant Principals:**

**Committee Report:**

**COVID-19 Update:**

Superintendent Aldrich updated the board members on vaccine information and how the first 10 staff members were chosen for the vaccine. 29.6 is the bi-weekly number and community spread is very low possibly to be able to have HS back in person 2 weeks after January 26<sup>th</sup> if the number stays low. This is the recommendation of MDH and public health nurse.

**Administrative Business:**

APPROVE RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATIONS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Martin to approve the resolution to accept donations. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE 2021 MEMBERSHIP TO THE HIBBING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENTS OF DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,850.00

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Nyberg to approve the 2021 membership to the Hibbing Chamber of Commerce and authorize payment of dues in the amount of \$1,850.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

Superintendent Aldrich discussed the potential partnership with the City of Hibbing for a Fieldhouse. Asking for a sub-committee of the board to meet with Pete Hyduke and the City Council. Directors Nyberg, McLaughlin and Egan volunteered to be on the committee.

Superintendent Aldrich updated on Cheever Field and we are waiting for the agreement to be completed.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

---

JOHN BERKLICH, Chair

ATTEST:

---

MARJORIE MARTIN, Clerk