

St. Louis Park Public Schools
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 10, 2022 – 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 Wednesday, August 10, 2022 in St. Louis Park High School Room C350. The meeting was held on this date due to election day on the regularly scheduled date of Tuesday, August 9, 2022. Present were Board Members Ken Morrison, Heather Wilsey, C. Colin Cox, Abdihakim Ibrahim, Sarah Davis, Virginia Mancini, and Superintendent Astein Osei. Chair Anne Casey was absent and Vice Chair Heather Wilsey presided over the meeting in her absence.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice Chair Heather Wilsey called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Osei thanked Community Education and all of the partners that helped make the SLP Summer Reading Festival kickoff on August 8, 2022 a success. Various community events will continue to be held through August 14, 2022. Next, St. Louis Park Public Schools teacher leaders Maurna Rome, Mayumi Huynh, and Molly Kukowski were recognized for their presentation at the Hamline ELM Summit. At the ELM Summit, the team shared an overview of their collaborative process focused on prioritizing and elevating multilingual student voice. Osei also shared gratitude for St. Louis Park Public Schools 2021 Youth Data Analysts for sharing their research at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities College of Education + Human Development 2022 Leading in Equity, Action, and Diversity (LEAD) Conference. They shared their study on the disproportionate use of exclusionary practices in our schools. The students that presented at the LEAD Conference were; Muna Abdullahi - Univ. St. Thomas (1st year) / recent grad; Adam Gips - Middlebury College (1st year) / recent grad; Maryan Yassin - rising 11th grade; Manny Shetaye - rising 12th grade; and Alivia Oliver - rising 10th grade. Next, Osei welcomed Rachel Hicks, APR, who joined the District on Monday, August 8, as Interim Director of Communications for the 2022-23 school year. His report concluded by thanking St. Louis Park voters for their support and passing of the referendum. Both questions received over 70% voter support. The funds will allow for the completion of school building improvements to enhance the daily lived experience of students, stabilize costs and conserve energy, maintain core operations, and improve safety and security.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Preparing for the 2022-23 School Year

Superintendent Astein Osei provided the School Board with an update on the planning and action being taken to help staff feel prepared for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The first update was in connection to the strategic plan priority work for the school year. This year's priority work statements are as follows:

- Sustain and deepen culturally relevant literacy development through the collaborative team process.
- Develop and implement authentic internal communication (loop) strategies that energizes and enhances the spirit of our community.

Next, Osei thanked all of the staff who worked this summer to engage learners, provide childcare, maintain and prepare facilities, design curriculum and programs, provide meals, and prepare for the start of the 2022-23 school year. Osei then shared information connected to staff workshop week and the plans for both new staff and districtwide professional development. He highlighted Dr. Gholdy Muhammad's keynote and the connection to one of the year's strategic priorities connected to culturally relevant literacy development. His presentation concluded with an update on COVID items. Test kits will continue to be provided for staff and students, vaccine events hosted in partnership with Hennepin County, and policy 808 COVID-19 Face Covering is still in effect and masking will be enforced when 5% or more of the students and/or staff who attend or work at a St. Louis Park Public School or other facility test positive for COVID-19.

Superintendent Evaluation Process

Board Vice Chair Heather Wilsey provided an overview of the annual superintendent evaluation process for Superintendent Astein Osei for the 2021-22 school year. The special closed meeting for the School Board to evaluate Superintendent Osei will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Payroll for June 15, 2022 in the amount of 2,097,709.29; June 30, 2022 in the amount of 6,038,194.10; July 15, 2022 in the amount of 593,733.00; and July 31, 2022 in the amount of 547,923.89
2. Recap of Expenditures
3. Electronic Fund Transfers
4. Accounts Payable Disbursements
5. Investment Holdings
6. Donations
7. Minutes
8. Personnel

The motion passed 6-0.

ACTION AGENDA

Truth in Taxation Date Approval - December 13, 2022

A motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Wilsey to approve the date of December 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. as the Truth in Taxation 2022, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

School Board Listening Session Dates

A motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Casey to approve the following dates for the 2022-23 School Board Listening Sessions:

- November 15, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.
- February 21, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.
- April 18, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.

The motion passed 6-0.

High School Assistant Principal Contract

A motion was made by Mancini, seconded by Cox to approve the employment contract between Independent School District #283 and Alyssa Gardner as the High School Assistant Principal, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

Director of Communications Contract

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Morrison to approve the employment contract between Independent School District #283 and Rachel Hicks as the district's Director of Communications, as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

Miscellaneous Pay Rates Approval

A motion was made by Cox, seconded by Morrison to approve the proposed 2022-23 miscellaneous pay rates for positions and activities performed on behalf of the School District, as presented. These rates are not otherwise specified as part of an employee agreement already approved by the Board. The motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mancini, seconded by Cox to adjourn. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

C. Colin Cox, Clerk

Anne Casey, Chair

Minutes prepared by Flower M. Krutina