

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administration Building
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

October 24, 2023
5:30 PM

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
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 - B. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)
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7. Change Orders

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- 1. Resolution Relating to \$15,000,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2023A; Ratifying the Award of Sale, Prescribing the Form and Details and Providing for the Payment Thereof

12. INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Literacy Update
- B. Policy Update
 - 1. SECOND READING: Policy 413.01 Chemical Use and Abuse
 - 2. SECOND READING: Policy 501.03 Student Dress Code

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

- A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas
- B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

14. **ADJOURNMENT**
#BoldSubject#

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named Dr. Joe Gothard, Superintendent of Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS), the 2024 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year.

As the Minnesota honoree, Dr. Gothard is a candidate among other state recipients for National Superintendent of the Year, to be announced during the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) National Conference on Education on February 15–17, 2024, in San Diego, CA. Dr. Gothard was selected for this honor by a panel of representatives from a variety of Minnesota education organizations. Nominees are evaluated on how each candidate demonstrates leadership for learning, communication skills, professionalism, and community involvement.

“Dr. Gothard’s selection as the 2024 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year reflects his unwavering commitment to excellence in education and his exceptional leadership in our state’s educational community,” said MASA Executive Director Dr. Deb Henton. “His innovative leadership and dedication to fostering a supportive and equitable learning environment have significantly impacted the success of all SPPS students and educators. We congratulate Dr. Gothard, and we look forward to his continued successful contributions to SPPS and Minnesota’s education system.”

Dr. Gothard has served as Superintendent of SPPS since 2017. Prior to his time with SPPS, he was Superintendent of the Burnsville–Eagan–Savage School District for four years. Dr. Gothard was a dean of students, middle school principal, high school principal, and then assistant superintendent with the Madison Metropolitan School District in Madison, WI. Dr. Gothard began his career in teaching as a biology teacher at La Follette High School in Madison.

Dr. Gothard is an active member of MASA and the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). He has served on the MASA Board of Directors for four years and is currently the MASA President. Dr. Gothard also serves as a member of the Professional Assistance Team, providing MASA members with professional and confidential support during times of need.

2. This item is submitted by Jackie Turner, Executive Chief of Administration and Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

The recommendation is that the Board of Education recognizes the staff acknowledged above for their contributions and outstanding work.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102, and**

Available Streaming Online at www.spps.org/boe and Saint Paul Cable Channel 16

**September 19, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Jim Vue, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: H. Henderson, U. Ward, J. Vue, J. Kopp, Z. Ellis
Superintendent Gothard

J. Foster arrived at 5:31 p.m.

C. Allen was absent.

C. Long, General Counsel; S. Dahlke, Assistant Clerk

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the order of the main agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Ellis.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

4. RECOGNITIONS

BF 33372 Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees

1. **Hannah Darr**, a teacher and content coach at Battle Creek Middle School, has received a Fulbright Teachers for Global Classrooms Program award from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

As a Fulbright recipient, Darr will share knowledge and foster meaningful connections across communities in the United States and abroad. Fulbrighters engage in cutting-edge research and expand their professional networks, often continuing research collaborations started abroad and laying the groundwork for forging future partnerships between institutions. Upon returning to their classrooms in the United States, they share their stories and often become active supporters of international exchange, inviting foreign scholars and educators to their school or campus and encouraging their colleagues and students to go abroad.

2. **Shana Lee**, a teacher at Murray Middle School, has been selected by the U.S. Department of State for a 10-month fellowship project, training teachers and teaching English in South Africa at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). Lee is one of only 184 U.S. citizens selected for the 2023-2024 English Language Fellow Program.

Lee has been teaching at Murray since 2019 where she focuses on the language of science for long-term multilingual learners and students who are new to the country. At UKZN, she will work with students enrolled in the Bachelor of Education program in both English language courses and teaching methodology courses. She will also provide support, training and workshops to in-service educators at local K-12 schools and technical vocational colleges.

The English Language Fellow Program is the premier opportunity for experienced teachers of English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in the way that English is taught abroad. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) with funding provided by the U.S. government.

3. **Dr. Winston Tucker**, principal of Highland Park Senior High School, has received the MNIB Leadership Award from the Minnesota Association of International Baccalaureate World Schools (MNIB). Each year the MNIB awards one outstanding school administrator or leader with this award. The award recipient is nominated by a colleague for being a leader who stands out as someone who helps promote and sustain the MNIB program in their school.

Dr. Tucker's nominating colleague said about him, "When it comes to supporting the IB in Saint Paul, Dr. Winston Tucker takes the lead, not only at Highland Park, but in the three IB high schools in our district. He has been a long-time advocate for our teachers at Highland Park and is dedicated to promoting our IB program with students, teachers, support staff and our larger family community. Dr Tucker communicates regularly with our partner school (Highland Park Middle School) to promote a fluid 6-12 program. He really understands that as an IB school, we don't put our program 'on the back burner,' but showcase this valuable asset as much as possible."

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Leo Jackson** Equitable pricing for athletic facilities
2. **Jennifer Hartman** Importance of youth programs and partnership with SPPS
3. **Peter Hendricks** Digital ticketing for athletic events
4. **William Hill** Equal Opportunity – Policy 401
5. **Earl Miller** Naming the Harding Auditorium in Honor of JoAnn Clark
6. **Melvin Miller** Naming the Harding Auditorium in Honor of JoAnn Clark

6. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with no items pulled for separate consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of August 22, 2023

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of August 22, 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of September 5, 2023

At the Committee of the Board Meeting on September 5, 2023, Superintendent Gothard welcomed everyone to the meeting and to the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, and provided a recap of his day in visiting schools on their first day of the new school year, including connecting with students, families, and staff. Discussion from the Board focused on the differences in tone of the start of this school year as compared to recent previous years.

The first presentation was the Resolution Relating to Extending A Tax Increment Financing District For The Minnesota Event District In The City Of Saint Paul. Questions and discussion from the Board included the rationale for this specific requirement and recent legislation, and overview of the TIF process and district, potential impacts of funding to the school district, reimbursements, and effects on property taxes if this were to not pass. This item will come before the Board for a vote at the Regular Meeting on September 19, 2023.

The second presentation included details on the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Year 2023 End of Year Update. Discussion on this presentation focused on the continued guidance by this process in SPPS, examples of implementation challenges, discussion on the data presented of American Indian students

served by ARP funds, details on the process for redeployment of funds, evaluation of fund use by our community partners, further information on the unspent funds, goals for the progress of initiatives and those that were sunsetted, including the need to inform the community about those initiatives. Further details were also shared about the needs assessment results. Discussion also included the timeline on when schools will feel the effects of adjustments and changes from ARP funding, and the importance of communication to schools about those changes and impacts. Information was also shared on the priorities for the upcoming budget from this work, including the WINN strategy, and the need to be data-driven in the decision making process.

Lastly, the policy update included presentations on proposed revisions to two policies. Within the discussion for updates to Policy 501.03 - Student Dress Code, details were requested on student dress and cultural expression in athletics, and ways to ensure that this policy is upheld at events. The role of the Minnesota State High School League regulations was also noted, as well as the training needed and conversations with the League. The next presentation included proposed updates to Policy 413.01 - Chemical Use and Abuse. The consensus was to move both policies updated to the three-reading process.

MOTION: Director Kopp moved to accept the report on the September 5, 2023 Committee of the Board meeting and approve the recommended motions and minutes of that meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

9. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

A. Board of Education Meetings (5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- 2023
 - October 24
 - November 14
 - December 19
- 2024
 - January 9 (Annual Organizational Meeting)
 - January 23
 - February 20
 - March 19
 - April 23
 - May 21
 - June 11 (Special Meeting – Non-Renewals) | 4:00 p.m. | Conference Room 5A
 - June 18
 - July 16
 - August 20
 - September 17
 - October 22
 - November 19

- December 17

B. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- 2023
 - October 10
 - November 8 - Wednesday
 - December 5
- 2024
 - January 9
 - February 6
 - March 6 - Wednesday
 - April 2
 - May 7
 - June 11
 - August 7 – Wednesday
 - September 10
 - October 8
 - November 6 – Wednesday
 - December 3

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Gothard began his announcements by providing further details on the first few days of school. He thanked all staff, parents, caretakers, partners, and students for a wonderful opening of the 2023-2024 school year. He noted the warm weather on the first day of school, and a second day that was 35 degrees cooler, and it is nice to settle into a more seasonable weather pattern. He thanked Mayor Carter for joining him to spend time in our schools; he tells students that, one day, he wants them to take his job as mayor, and the Superintendent tells students the same. We want students to see themselves however they want, and with open minds to who they want to be as leaders. He also thanked board members for their work.

He also thanked our partners at the US Department of Education for visiting SPPS, including Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and his visit to Txuj Ci. It was the final stop on his five-state bus tour to celebrate their Raise the Bar initiative and strategic focus on supporting the 15,000 public school districts across the country. He then reviewed the key areas of the Raise the Bar plan, and its alignments with our work in SPPS. He noted the multilingualism component of Txuj Ci, and Secretary Cardona's excitement for the celebration of multilingualism, and our WINN strategy. Ray Hart from the Council of the Great City Schools also joined for the visit, and we appreciate their support, and advocacy for federal support for E12. He also noted the night before the visit, parents had the opportunity to meet with the Department of Education, and they were very impressed with our parent groups, level of educators, and collaboration in SPPS. He thanked the Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships for supporting our PACs about accelerating learning in literacy, and SPPS Reads! The DOE staff returned to Washington D.C. with real examples of staff connections with parents and students. With the first week of school, it was a great celebration to share what all of us love about this district, and our kids, staff, and community.

Director Foster appreciated the report, and noted it is important that as we look at education as a fundamental human right, that we continue to say that every staff position matters and every staff position plays a role in the outcomes for students. She thanked everyone for their work.

11. AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

1. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of all items within the consent agenda withholding no items for separate consideration. Director Ellis seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

1. Gifts

2. Grants

BF 33373 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from Arizona State University

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant award from Arizona State University and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33374 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the MN Humanities Center

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the MN Humanities Center; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33375 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education's Direct Admissions Pilot Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from Minnesota Office of Higher Education's Direct Admissions Pilot Program to fund the MN pilot program in 14 high schools; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33376 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education's Concurrent Enrollment Introduction to Teaching Grant

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from Minnesota Department of Education's Concurrent Enrollment Introduction to Teaching Grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33377 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development - Bridge to Career Pathways Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from the MN DEED's Bridge to Career Pathways Grant; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33378 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development - On Ramp to Career Pathways Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from the MN DEED's On Ramp to Career Pathways Grant; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33379 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the US Department of Education's Education Innovation and Research (EIR) Grant

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from the US Department of Education's EIR Grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33380 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the US Department of Education's Full Service Community Schools Grant

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from the US Department of Education's Full Service Grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

BF 33381 Approval for a Contract that Exceeds \$175,000 with Dr. Tracey Benson for the 2023-2024 School Year

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve a contract that exceeds \$175,000 with Dr. Tracey Benson for the 2023-2024 school year to support systemic equity professional development with Principals and Assistant Principals in SPPS.

BF 33382 Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Junior Achievement North pertaining to JA Finance Park

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Junior Achievement North for JA Finance Park for the 2023-24 school year.

BF 33383 K-5 Step Up to Writing

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Voyager Sopris Learning. The total cost for services will not exceed \$475,000.

BF 33384 Mental Health Partnerships

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the mental health partnerships authorized by the Office of School Support.

BF 33385 Request to Sign Concurrent Enrollment Contract with of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Contract between Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and Saint Paul College for FY24.

BF 33386 Request to Sign the Contract with RealTime Talent for CLNA Support Services

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract between RealTime Talent and SPPS for FY24.

BF 33387 Request to Sign Income Contract with Saint Paul College for MATH 0910 (Introductory Algebra)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Income Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul College for FY24.

BF 33388 Request to Sign Income Contract with Inver Hills Community College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Income Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Inver Hills Community College for FY24.

BF 33389 Service Contract with Learning A-Z to Purchase RazKids Plus

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Learning A-Z RazKids. The total cost for services is to not exceed \$300,000.

BF 33390 Request for Permission to Participate in an Affiliation Agreement with the University of Minnesota Dietetics Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to execute an affiliation agreement with the University of Minnesota Dietetics Program for the term specified above.

BF 33391 Request to Sign Contract with Construction Careers Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Construction Careers Foundation for the 2023-24 school year.

BF 33392 Design Services for Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping, and HVAC Replacement Project (Project # 4260-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of design and construction administration services to U+B Architecture and Design, Inc for the not-to-exceed fee of \$562,800.

4. Agreements

BF 33393 Request to Sign Memorandum of Agreement with Minneapolis College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Memorandum of Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Minneapolis College for FY24.

BF 33394 Request to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding with St. Catherine University for CNA Programming

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract with St. Catherine University for FY24.

BF 33395 Request to Sign Student Teaching Agreement with Northwestern University St. Paul

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Student Teaching Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Northwestern University St. Paul.

BF 33396 Request to Sign Student Teaching Agreement with University of Wisconsin River Falls

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Student Teaching Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and University of Wisconsin River Falls.

5. Administrative Items

BF 33397 Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period July 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023

a) General Account	#763238-764110 #0004960-0004988 #7004861-7004894 #0008725-0008882	\$58,637,208.22
b) Construction Payments	-0-	\$4,054,101.04
c) Debt Service	-0-	<u>000.00</u>
		\$62,691,309.26

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$13,753,157.77 and overtime of \$117,342.82 or 0.85% of payroll.

- d) Collateral Changes
Released: None
Additions: None

That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Worker's Compensation Law falling within the period ending January 31, 2024.

BF 33398 Recommendations for Exclusion of Students Non-Compliant with Minnesota Statute 121A.15 Health Standards: Immunizations

That the Board of Education exclude noncompliant student(s) from school(s) effective September 27, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

Human Resources Transactions

BF 33399 Transactions for August 1 – August 31, 2023

BF 33400 Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Johnson, St. Paul Como Park, St. Paul Harding and St. Croix Lutheran for Boys Hockey

Authorize the Superintendent (or Designee) to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship for Girls' Basketball with St. Paul- Washington Technology Magnet and St. Paul- Johnson.

BF 33401 Revision to Policy 102.00 Equal Opportunity/Non Discrimination and Policy 401.00 Equal Employment Opportunity

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the revisions to Policy 102.00 Equal Opportunity/Non Discrimination and Policy 401.00 Equal Employment Opportunity.

BF 33402 Settlement of Claim

That the Board of Education approve the Settlement Agreement in the above-referenced matter; authorize its Superintendent to sign the Settlement Agreement; and authorize School District administration to perform the Settlement Agreement.

BF 33403 Phase Gate Approval of the Wilson (fka LEAP) School Concrete Replacement (Project # 4270-22-01): Gate #3 – Project Budget

That the Board of Education approve the Wilson (fka LEAP) School Concrete Replacement project (Project # 4270-22-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget, setting the final project budget at \$465,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

BF 33404 SPPS Builds Phase Gate Title Simplification

That the Board of Education accepts this report on the title revision to the SPPS Builds phase gate check agenda items.

BF 33405 Maximum Hourly Rate Increases for Pre-Qualified Professional Engineers, Technology Consultants and Landscape Architects for Small Projects

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to adjust the terms of professional consulting services in accordance with the Request for Qualifications No. A21-1417-A to incorporate new maximum hourly billing rates per the above table.

BF 33406 Phase Gate Approval of the E-STEM Chiller Replacement (Project # 2210-20- 01): Gate #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out

That the Board of Education accept the financial report provided for E-STEM (Project # 2210-20- 01) at Phase Gate Check #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out.

BF 33407 Phase Gate Approval of the Humboldt Senior High School Athletics (Project #2142-22-01): Gate #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out

That the Board of Education accept the financial report provided for Humboldt Senior High School Athletics (Project # 2142-22-01) at Phase Gate Check #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out.

BF 33408 Phase Gate Approval of the Phalen Lake Hmong Studies (now Txuj Ci) HVAC (Project # 1200-19-01): Gate #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out

That the Board of Education accept the financial report provided for Phalen Lake Hmong Studies (now Txuj Ci) HVAC (Project # 1200-19-01) at Phase Gate Check #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out.

BF 33409 Phase Gate Approval of the Washington Technology Magnet Athletic Site Improvements (Project # 4040-19-01): Gate #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Closeout

That the Board of Education accept the financial report provided for Washington Technology Magnet Athletic Site Improvements (Project # 4040-19-01) at Phase Gate Check #5.2 – Project Final Fiscal Close-out.

BF 33410 Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MN DOT”) Proposal to Purchase Rights to District Property

That the Superintendent (or designee, including Tom Parent, Executive Director of Operations and Administration) execute and approve MN DOT’s proposal to purchase property and temporary easement and construction rights to a portion of the District property located at and around 975 Snelling Ave S, St Paul, MN 55116 in the amount of \$4,375.00 for replacement of signals, highway purposes, lane conversion, and improvement of sidewalks around the District’s property, and to seek a county board resolution releasing the use restriction that affects the Highland Track and Field parcel..

6. Bids

BF 33411 Phase Gate Approval of the Wilson (fka LEAP) School Concrete Replacement (Project # 4270-22-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award

That the Board of Education approve the award of the Wilson (fka LEAP) School Concrete Replacement project (Project # 4270-22-01) to RAK Construction for a lump sum base bid of \$342,725.

7. Change Orders

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION - None

FURTHER AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

1. Resolution Relating to Extending a Tax Increment Financing District for the Minnesota Event District in the City of Saint

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services, to present the Resolution Relating to Extending a Tax Increment Financing District for the Minnesota Event District in the City of Saint. Pertinent facts shared included information on tax increment financing, this proposed extension, the capital improvements, and that there is no negative impact to the school district property levy as a result of this TIF. The letter of request from the City of Saint Paul was also noted, as well as the proposed resolution, which states:

**APPROVING MINNESOTA LAWS 2023, CHAPTER 64, ARTICLE 8, SECTION 4
RELATING TO EXTENDING A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT**

FOR THE MINNESOTA EVENT DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL

BE IT RESOLVED By the School Board of Independent School District No. 625 (the “School District”) as follows:

1. It is hereby determined that:

(a) Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 64, Article 8, Section 4 (the “Special Law”) authorized the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota to extend the duration of the Downtown and Seventh Place (For the Minnesota Event District) Tax Increment Financing District by 10 years to 2033, subject to certain terms and conditions;

(b) the Special Law is effective upon approval by a majority vote of the City Council of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota (the “City”), a majority vote of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, and a majority vote of the School Board of Independent School District No. 625 (the “School Board”), and the filing of a certificate with the Minnesota Secretary of State, all in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1782, subd. 2 and 645.021, subds. 2 and 3; and

(c) the School Board has determined that is in the best interest of the School District and its residents to approve the Special Law.

2. The Special Law is hereby approved in all respects.

3. School District staff are authorized and directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the City for filing with the Secretary of State.

The full presentation and supporting materials can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTION/DISCUSSION:

- Director Henderson request further information on the minor impact on the levy that was mentioned. Response: There is a unique levy in Saint Paul that pertains to severance, which has a slight adjustment related to TIFs.
- Director Ward requested further information on the explanation of how this TIF does not impact revenue for the district. Response: The school district property tax levy is set by statute, and also includes the number of pupils and state aid – those are the key drivers. This TIF has virtually no impact on revenue as the properties surrounding the TIF district make up the difference in taxes.
- Staff from the City confirmed that in a TIF district, the tax burden is spread throughout the remaining property owners. There are 58 TIF districts in the City of Saint Paul. None of them results in lower revenue for SPPS.
- It was noted this is a specially legislated TIF district that Saint Paul sought to extend for 10 years, and the legislature mandated an affirmative from the City, County and School District. That special legislation is only applicable to this one situation.
- Director Ward requested information on the rationale for the County to be held harmless in this TIF. Response: The legislation required that the County be held harmless because the County didn’t want to take the tax burden that would be spread out across the entire county.
- As a reiteration from the Committee of the Board meeting, this TIF is for properties owned by the City, not a private interest, and to increase economic development around the public entities in downtown.

- Further information was also provided on the amount “captured” within the TIF, with comments in the plan of the tax rate. The school district’s portion is \$1.5M each year, and the City is about \$2M per year, with the County held harmless. Further discussion was also held on the impact per person in the city, and the impacts if this would not pass, including that the City would need to make up that revenue.
- Director Ward noted this is an investment in public entities that do a lot of good for the city.

BF 33412 Resolution Relating to Extending a Tax Increment Financing District for the Minnesota Event District in the City of Saint Paul

MOTION: Director Vue moved to approve that the School Board continue to partner with the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County to approve the resolution and extend the TIF District for the City of Saint Paul as presented, including approval of the resolution titled “Approving Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 64, Article 8, Section 4 Relating To Extending A Tax Increment Financing District For THE Minnesota Event District In The City Of Saint Paul”. Director Ellis seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

2. Pay24 Levy Ceiling Certification

Director Vue noted that this item was a placeholder on the agenda, and while we are currently waiting for information from the State, this agenda item has been removed, and a special meeting will need to be scheduled. Superintendent Gothard noted that this meeting will be to set the ceiling maximum in which the levy can go no higher, and the levy will be certified in December, following the Truth in Taxation hearing also scheduled for early December.

MOTION: Director Vue moved to approve a special meeting of the Board of Education regarding the Pay24 Preliminary Property Tax Levy Certification to commence on Friday, September 29, 2023 beginning at 11:00am in Conference Room 5A of the District Administration Building located at 360 Colborne Street. Director Ellis and Director Foster seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

3. Naming the Harding Senior High School Auditorium in Honor of JoAnn Clark

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Jackie Turner, Executive Chief of Administration and Operations, to present this topic. Information within the presentation includes the purpose – to acknowledge JoAnn Clark for the great work and many years of service she has given to the community, as well as committee members on this project. The dedication timeline was reviewed, with the plaque presentation on October 16, 2023 prior to the HBCU college tour at Progressive Baptist Church, and the JoAnn Clark Auditorium Celebration on February 17, 2024 at the Thinking College Early Fair at Harding High School.

QUESTION/DISCUSSION:

- Director Foster noted that when COVID-19 hit, this district faced substantial losses - many became sick and there were tough times. In naming spaces for folks, too often we give them credit and celebrate them when they are gone - she wants to be able to celebrate JoAnn Clark and give her flowers. On the East Side and all over Minnesota, and in the legislature, as well as folks in DC, folks know JoAnn Clark. She is an incredible advocate for our students in SPPS, and in her partnership and vision, she has provided a movement for access and opportunities for our Black students, and created a pathway for them when there was not one. Her work has not stopped, and her daughter Annette is poised to be the next champion of this work. She is progressive in this work and with the church community. JoAnn does not waver in her work. She stands fast and fights for our students in SPPS; she is a cheerleader for the district. This is a way of celebrating her life, her works of paving the way, and being innovative for Students of Color. She recommended that the Board support the renaming and give her flowers and thank her for her legacy in real time in this life to enjoy and appreciate it.

BF 33413 Naming the Harding Senior High School Auditorium in Honor of JoAnn Clark

MOTION: Director Vue moved that the Board of Education approves the request to name the Harding Senior High School auditorium in honor of JoAnn Clark. Director Foster seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

10. INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

A. Summer Learning and First Week of School 2023

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present Summer Learning and First Week of School 2023. He noted his pride in the team, and while we are past the pandemic, we have not slowed down in our work, and maintain the sense of urgency in service of our students and each other, and we are seeing the results of those efforts. Details on summer enrollment figures were shown, including 12,719 students. Further information was also shared on PreK-12 Summer Learning, including a summer literacy focus, PreK-4 Summer Stars, themed summer programs, 5-8 Summer Quest, 9-12 high school credit recovery, 9-12 online credit recovery, and 11-12 high school credit recovery. Information was also presented on student

data for high school credit recovery, including summer learning success impacts in content areas, and demographics. Details were also shared on special education extended school year. Community Education summer programs were also detailed in this report, including a video, summer enrollment summary and program information, CDF Freedom School, Adult Basic Education. Discovery Club, and ECFE. Further information on the 2023-2024 SY Opening Week Update was also shared with details from Student Placement, Nutrition Services, Transportation, and HR.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Ward noted this is an exciting update. In hearing concerns from folks at Harding about the lack of yellow buses, and the high rates of the entryway being chaotic with the different arrival times, have we heard how the reintroduction of yellow buses has impacted those concerns? Response: We can provide that data and feedback from secondary principals, including the requested anecdotal data.
- Director Foster requested information on the universal free meals, and the reasons to complete the FRL form. Response: We are focusing on the educational benefits form, because there are additional benefits for students, including discounted athletic fees, and other options and opportunities for students. This form also impacts Title funds for schools, and additional programming available based on the number of students who qualify for educational benefits. There is also usually a friendly competition by schools on the completion rates of the return of this form by families, and incentives for schools and support.
- Director Foster reiterated that while there are universal free meals, the forms support information for other categorically eligible funds that schools can receive, and the more forms that are returned, the more opportunities for eligibility and resources. She encouraged the community to complete the form, and if support is needed, staff in the schools are able to help.
- Director Ellis requested further information on credit recovery. Response: We have three different programs to support credit recovery during the school year, including school-based EDL, evening high school and others. A student who is failing a class will continue with the course and continued to be supported in that learning. There is a differentiated approach for 9th and 10th graders in that there are 3 classes in 2 sessions in summer learning. For 11th and 12th graders, there are benchmarks that need to be passed, but the limit of credits to earn is off, and is a motivator for rising seniors or hopeful graduates.
- Director Ward highlighted the hiring numbers that were presented, and that they are exciting to see. He thanked Chief Pratt-Cook and her staff also.
- Director Foster noted this District is doing things different and we are seeing those changes and outcomes, and the Board is grateful and appreciative of this work that is happening for change. We go back to adult behaviors that change in order to see different outcomes. We are versatile in building relationships and understanding our families and to be adaptable in practice and pedagogies that are working with our young people.
- Director Henderson noted the welding video included in the presentation and that when students are engaged in the material and connected, with a tangible experience, and wondering about what the next step is, and how to bring that back into the school year, while still developing the skills to all studies? Response: At the core of the development of classes like that, it is because of a student credit deficit, and those “cool rooms” were seen by students, but they maybe needed to go to another room for support classes. These classes open the door for them to get back on track for credits, and it also helps to have access to caring adults, such as counselors.

- Director Vue appreciates the summer learning opportunities and its growth in recent years, and his personal family experiences with summer learning.
- He also requested further details on yellow buses to Como High School and the timeline and expectations for that. Response: We are working with contractors to ensure they are able to continue to recruit and retain additional drivers to have that capacity. Once that is finalized, the administrative team will then look at the timing for transition, which could be either second semester or waiting until Fall 2024. The goal is to bring Como back to yellow buses.
- Director Vue also requested further details on the work of HR talent acquisition. Response: We were proactive this year, and included established relationships with HBCUs and a number of other colleges, as well as participation in over 100 recruitment activities, with intentionality in relationships in community, as well as early contract for teachers, and hiring and retention bonuses for selected positions. We are using data to make decisions on where to shift hiring efforts, and looking at the previous five years in attrition and hiring rates. Superintendent Gothard also provided details on the Como Park Senior Hiring Fair. Chief Pratt-Cook noted that that through the job fairs, over 6,000 applications were screened to establish a qualified pool of candidates. More information was also provided on the principals' role at hiring events.
- Director Vue also noted the important role of the Food Truck at parks and events across the city. Chief Turner provided more details on the logistics of the food truck and the wonderful meals they create and distribute throughout the city.
- Director Ellis noted a question about the online credit recovery opportunities – is it only for SPPS students, or is it open to those outside of SPPS? Response: It is open to anyone who would qualify for credit recovery.

B. Policy Update

a. FIRST READING: Policy 413.01 - Chemical Use and Abuse

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Kathy Kimani, Director of Office of Student Support, and May Langworthy, Director of Student Health and Wellness, to present this First Reading. He also noted it is Ms. Langworthy's final board meeting, and we wish her nothing the best in her future as she moves into another role outside of SPPS; her final day at SPPS is October 4. He also recognized Becky Schmidt as Interim Director of Health and Wellness. Information on the policy included the rationale for the policy update, committee members and their work on these proposed revisions, and a review of the proposed changes to reflect MSBA model policy language.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

b. FIRST READING: Policy 501.03 - Student Dress Code

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Pat Pratt-Cook, Executive Chief of Human Resources, to present this First Reading. Information included the rationale for these proposed changes, a review of currently language compared to the Policy Work Group's rationale for changes, and details on the new proposed language.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue commented on the great work on behalf of the Policy Work Group for bringing these proposed changes before the Board.
- Superintendent Gothard noted there has been national coverage around hairstyles and discipline of a student in another state, and it is troubling on so many accounts. This policy states how we are working with students and supporting them with this policy for the well-being and acceptance. He also noted in spending time with students, including statements around hijabs, and learning about our customs and ways children are raised, and it's important to model and lean into that and embrace it, and find opportunities to inform the community. Through policy, it shows our support and as an educational tool to support students, staff, and families.

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas

- Director Ward requested an update on the data from exit surveys for families – including reasons for leaving the district and why, and concerns that led them to that decision.
- Director Ellis requested a presentation about adult programs in the district, including data on adult learners and the number with young people in SPPS.
- Director Ellis also requested information about the ARP grants to community partners, with the end of the ARP funds in 2024.
- She also requested information as a follow-up from Public Comment on the invoice for the community football team.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Ellis provided an update of the events she has recently attended including the 25-year luncheon, a facilities tour, summer graduation, including wondering about the 159 students who graduated at that event and the steps. She also recognized Hispanic Heritage Month, and that she was able to attend the Harding/Humboldt football game versus Two Rivers at TCO Stadium, and thanked Dr. Little-Butler for singing the national anthem. She also recapped her time in schools these first few weeks of the new school year, and recognized our Transportation team, as well as building teams, including clerks for updating families on the location of their students.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Director Vue moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Ward seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Absent
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the original Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by:

Sarah Dahlke

Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102**

**September 29, 2023
11:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Vue called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: U. Ward, J. Vue, C. Allen, Z. Ellis, H. Henderson
Superintendent Gothard

J. Kopp and J. Foster were absent.

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Director Vue moved to approve the order of the main agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Allen.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Absent
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Absent
Director Henderson	Yes

IV. 2024-2025 School Year Preliminary Property Tax Levy Certification

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services, to present this item.

The basics of the levy were reviewed, including that school levy authority is established in law, that the Pay24 school levy funds are for the 2024-2025 school year, and that local property taxes account for approximately 20% of the SPPS budget. Information on the determination of property taxes was also provided, including state legislature, taxing jurisdictions, and the county assessor. Major factors impacting property taxes were also shared, as well as factors impacting school levies. The major levy categories, including General Operating, Pension/OPEB/Contractual, Facilities, and Community Service,

were also presented. The levy recap was also provided, including the proposed percent change of 1.73%. SPPS's five-year trend for annual property tax levy were shared. The property taxes as a percent of the General Fund for comparison of school system to General Fund Revenue from Property Taxes were also reviewed. Debt service tax revenue per student comparisons were also shown. Details on MDE's calculations were provided, including that the levy amounts presented today may be different than the amount presented at the Truth in Taxation meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, 2023 beginning at 6:00 p.m., because MDE continues a detailed review to ensure accuracy in the levy system.

The Pay24 levy calendar was also reviewed, including the start of the process in August-Early September with the District submission of levy information to MDE, and ending with the December 30th certification of the Pay24 levy to Ramsey County.

Details of the requested action include:

- Set the date for the Truth in Taxation and Budget Hearing for December 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. (Committee of the Board meeting that evening)
- Approve the maximum amount authorized by MDE for the 23 Pay 24 property tax levy
- This will provide the District with the greatest flexibility as MDE makes adjustments ahead of the final certification in December.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue requested information if there is a scenario where a district would not approve the maximum allowable taxes payable. Response: School boards do have that as an option, but we cannot see a scenario where this school board would want to do that. The only exception may be in a community where property taxes have increased exponentially and property owners would be taxed so much as a result, and the city, county, and school district may underlevy to help offset that. It would be very rare. Superintendent Gothard noted that the opposite may occur, when districts go to the voters to increase the operating levy, which is common.

BF 33414 2024-2025 School Year Preliminary Property Tax Levy Certification

MOTION: **Director Vue moved to certify the maximum allowable levy for taxes payable in 2024 as presented and that the School Board to set the required annual Truth in Taxation Hearing date for Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM. in Conference Rooms A and B of the District Administration Building at 360 Colborne. (There is a Committee of the Board meeting scheduled for that evening, so there will be break at 6:00 p.m. to move to Conference Rooms A and B). The motion was seconded by Director Henderson.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Absent
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Absent
Director Henderson	Yes

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Vue moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Director Ellis.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Absent
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Absent
Director Henderson	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the original Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by:

Sarah Dahlke
Secretary to the Board, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD MEETING
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102**

**October 10, 2023
4:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Vice Chair Kopp.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: J. Kopp, J. Vue, J. Foster, H. Henderson, U. Ward
Superintendent Gothard

Z. Ellis arrived at 6:17 p.m.

Staff: K. Thao, C. Long, A. Collins, Y. Vang, S. Schmidt de Carranza, S. Dahlke,
T. Sager, J. Turner, S. Gray Akyea, J. Danielson, A. Kunz, E. Wacker, C.
Green, P. Pratt-Cook, C. Anderson, K. Kimani, K. Morris, L. Corey, B.
Schmidt, H. Nistler, T. Parent, J. Vollmer, E. Oguz, A. Anderson, P.
Matamoros, D. Abrams, S. Dahlke

Community: S. Dziuk, L. Bolton, A. Deleena

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Director Kopp moved approval of the Order of the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Allen. It passed by acclaim.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Gothard began the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting. He provided a recap of his recent time at the MASA conference in Duluth, and the many ties to Saint Paul from colleagues across the country. It was also great to check-in with others and learning about the different challenges from other districts across the state, and how our challenges align or are different from others. It was a humbling experience to support leaders in this way, and a great opportunity to come together and work together.

5. 3DE

Superintendent Gothard welcomed Jodi Danielson, Director of Schools and Learning, Elias Oguz, Principal of Washington Tech, and Sara Dziuk, President and CEO of Junior Achievement North to present this report. He provided the history and background of this initiative, and the need for the high school experience

to be relevant and meaningful. He also noted the partnership with the County and City in this program. The purpose and vision of 3DE was reviewed, including to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy, and the vision for a high school model to break through traditional barriers and redesign the framework of education from the inside out. A short video was shown that featured students. Further details on the program were also shared, including that it is a hands-on, project-based instructional model where students learn together to develop solutions to real-life issues and integrated core competencies. The case method models were reviewed for 9th and 10th grade, as well as 11th and 12th grade. Benefits to staff were also reviewed, as well as implementation in SPPS, including that all 9th graders at Como Senior and Washington in SY24-25, promoted during School Choice, and a scale-up plan to add one grade each year at each school. The timeline for readiness, student outcomes, and funding details were also presented, as well as partnerships for this program.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Henderson requested more details on the logistics of the program and how it will work in a school. Response: Principal Oguz noted that various options have been discussed, including an elective in 9th grade, or integrated into an existing course. At this point, it is proposed to be a specific course with AVID-like strategies to integrate the 3DE instructional model for 9th graders embarking on their high school journey. Year 1 will include all 9th graders, who will then continue it through 10th, 11th, and 12th grade, and adding a new cohort of a grade level of 9th graders each year. The logistics of the 10th grade level of 3DE are to be finalized, but will be similar, and may be an elective. There are decisions still to make for grades 10-12 and how that will look.
- Is the expectation that every 9th grader will be a part of this? Response: Yes. It is an instructional model, not a requirement for graduations. We want students to want to be a part of this, and Principal Oguz provided his experience as a high school principal. High school students are looking for meaning in their learning, and grounding in what they are learning. This is preparation for their career or job in the workforce, and the goal of world's best workforce, and the relevance and alignment with career opportunities. This program provides the missing link and to bring business partners to the schools so that students can see them at the same level.
- Is it exclusively business partners involved? Response: We are looking to engage the entire community. Through the case studies, there will be different industries and careers, entrepreneurial businesses, hospitality, trades, healthcare, education, non-profit, and government work. This is to create a path to choices for life, and for students to be able to gain exposure to the full community.
- Considering that buildings have connections with the trades, or such as a CNA program, how is this complementing those, and not taking away from them? Response: We have discussed that, especially with Washington Tech and Como and how the programs fit together. 3DE leans into the 9th grade experience to exposure of a wide range of careers, and in identifying the opportunities, many are at the upper grade levels or college credits with criteria to meet before enrolling in that course. This is an opportunity for students to explore a wide range of careers and identify what they want to research more and in specific details. The model is explicit in the expectation that all students represented are participating, and the whole grade model is really helpful, with percentages of students in IB programs, or students with specialized services or multi-lingual learning to be represented equitably in the program, and does support the range of choosing various career pathways.
- What can educators expect or need to know? Who will be trained? Response: Specific educators will receive the full training, and in implementing the program in the first year, there will be weekly structures for teachers across grade levels to meet and understand the implementation of the

model, and also to reflect on their core course areas. There will be a specific teacher who is trained in the 3DE model, but also attends weekly meetings and sharing with the overall staff to integrate components into the core subject areas. Generally all staff will be trained to a certain degree of the 3DE model before implementation, with specific teachers receiving the full training.

- How were the schools chosen? Response: District leaders were interviewed to listen to their thoughts on the program, including principals. We also wanted to be conscientious where schools may have the capacity to pilot this program. There were conversations to gauge the capacity, interest, desire, and fit, and between Washington Tech and Como, with Principal Oguz's enthusiasm, innovation, and vision, and Como with the Academy of Finance perspective, both principals want to engage with students in this way.
- Director Henderson also requested future information on the cost and what it looks like as we "scale up" and further details on "scaling within the community."
- Would classes be taught by existing or additional staff? Response: Existing.
- What is the sense from the broader school community about how they feel about this change and its implementation? Response: We have met with staff and had conversations with teacher leaders and leadership team, and they welcomed the idea, found it to be innovative and liked the ideas. As continued conversations, we meet with the entire staff, and bring in 3DE staff to present and understand case studies, and culminating with student presentations and work on the solutions. Staff has a good understanding of the program, and for the most part, everyone is excited.
- Who is the WEM Foundation? Response: It is the Whitney and Elizabeth MacMillan Foundations, which is a private foundation in Minnesota. They are sunsetting next month, and as they are working towards that sunset, they identified promising organizations to invest in, and made this investment.
- Further details were requested on the cost for SPPS for this program. Response: There is no cost because the funding is from private philanthropy. In the future, based on enrollment and results, they may be an opportunity for cost sharing. As we've seen in other districts, and the shift in attendance, enrollment, and results, there may be opportunities to secure additional funding for the district and help with those costs, as with more scale, the costs will be driven down.
- Director Ward noted that this program seems really exciting for a lot of reasons, including highlighting and making instruction relevant and real, and seeing how it is applicable in the real work is interesting.
- He also noted a concern about the corporations that are providing the challenges and shaping the instruction, and the process for selecting them, and ensuring they are not "bad actors", and what is being done to safeguard? Response: As we look at the cases and opportunities, there are national cases that are included in all schools – with an example as the Arby's case across a school at the same time and then national competition. The national cases are developed by curriculum experts, and implemented and updates. We identify volunteers to launch and deliver the cases, and Junior Achievement partners with 10,000 volunteers, and schools in learning labs and volunteers to support students, and leverage the corporate and community networks to identify volunteers. The other half of cases are committed to looking at diversity of industries and background as they are brought into the program. We have heard that STEM-related cases are requested by schools, and also the possibility of governmental cases such as public safety, voting, housing, and environmental cases. There are also entrepreneurial and small business cases, or those in healthcare and trades – to ensure that students are able to see skills that are transferable to a variety of companies and industries. This will focus on the diversity and bringing in volunteers who are representative of the students to ensure the strongest experience for them.

- More information was requested on “bad actors.” Director Ward noted those companies with extreme pollution in neighborhoods, or the video showing companies notorious for treating workers poorly or funding extremist, right-wing organizations, which is concerning.
- Further details were provided on the national cases, and that students may partner with local volunteers in the community – such as the Arby’s example and partnering with Chef Bono, and how phenomenal it is to work with students to support them based on their own experiences. The cases are instructional as to how an educator exchanges material with a student and opportunity for teachers to use their backgrounds and skills.
- Director Ward noted that he understands the folks doing the instruction are not working for the corporation, but it feels like an advertisement for the company to students. There may be a situation where SPPS families are impacted by a case corporation and it’s being promoted in the school system, which would be upsetting to many, and may be something to look into with this program.
- Superintendent Gothard noted that this is a partnership including partnering with business in our city, and others across the country, with hundreds of partnerships. This will also follow policy to ensure we are doing right for our students
- Director Vue requested further information on the 3DE staff and leaders at the school sites. Response: At each high school, there will be a director of school leadership role, and the district will influence and hire – that leader will not be paid by the District, and will oversee the implementation of the model. There will also be a director of cases who sources the volunteers and coordination of the cases, and working across buildings and supporting teachers and the student experience. This role will also be influenced by the District, but the position will not be on the district payroll, and will be a position through Junior Achievement. The Director of School Leadership will be in the school building every day. Other roles will be between schools and shared. It is similar to Achievement Plus programming and those partnerships, as well as AVID, where there is differing degrees of oversight in the buildings. With two schools doing this work, it is a strength as a team with Principal Oguz and Principal Brown.
- Director Kopp noted a few questions, including how this way of learning embeds those skills, and about students who may arrive later including in 10th, 11th, or 12th grades and supports for them. Response: We have heard that it takes 1-2 cases before students are immersed and understanding the role and to embrace this new way of learning. In the second case, students are engaged and working with their peers and teachers in different ways. As we think about the cases, students are learning new skills and exposed to different ideas, and those are then also woven into the other subject areas. Educators in different departments are able to reinforce the learning in the 3DE class. The competencies that are learned in 3DE are critical for success in this model, but also in their life, and students are able to attend class ready to engage and be comfortable in the same ways as the 3DE class. A recollection of a recent trip to visit a school with the 3DE model in Houston was shared, and the ways students were engaging with one another in an Algebra class.
- From what was observed, this sounds like a cultural change? Response: Yes, the changes can be felt in the hallways, in classes, and student engagement. In one school, for the first year, first semester, there were referrals of 97 students in the 9th grade. Half of the grade is in 3DE, and only 9 of those referrals were students in the program, and there was not a single referral after September 30th. For the changes that are seen in students in the 3DE model, there are changes in the entire school, and that connection and change is seen very quickly.
- The core competencies are built-upon each year, and they continue to level up. Those students who join later in the program, after 9th grade, receive those core competencies and very quickly join their peers.
- Director Foster noted that in the core competencies are tied to effectiveness for students’ future, and know they will be critical for both school and in the workforce. Students will continue to grow

and feel equipped to graduate with this experience and strength. The history of these skills was also noted, and their place in past curriculum. It was also noted that with the current leadership of the country, we need our young people to embrace the idea that they can become proficient in anything they want to do in their future.

- Questions around the teacher evaluation and effectiveness were noted. Response: We are having conversations with staff and building leaders, and focusing on the child. The engagement with 3DE looks at teachers to ask questions about the engagement in their classroom and how they are feeling. 3DE and Junior Achievement are not evaluating teachers – they are asking about the teaching and engagement, and also asking students about their engagement.
- With the young people designing the work, will they be compensated by the partnerships for their great ideas? Response: The cases developed are not actual cases, but are developed by the curriculum team - the solutions and products proposed are not linked to the partners actions. The cases may not be tied directly to the company or partner, but it is the exposure to the types of industries and issues.
- Director Allen noted that she understands that, but feels the partners will use the ideas presented.
- Examples of work were also noted – in thinking about how to engage with students on solutions, and how to work with the City or County to dig into items like education, voter turn-out, and environmental topics.
- Will there be discussion around intellectual property? Response: We don't know the answer to that yet, and anticipate it will be a part of the program.
- How will this program engage ELL and SPED students? Response: Washington Tech is 40% ELL students, and we believe this level of engagement and participation and co-teaching with classes to access the materials, discussions, and relevance to ensure students are more engaged in the learning environment. This will be more hands-on, problem-based, project-based learning materials and visual. This is a model of learning to expose students, where learning is amplified and enhanced. This same perspective also applies to students in SPED. An example of the current Federal 3 ASD program with a business model for a coffee cart at the school was also shared.
- Director Foster thanked the team for this program in talking about bringing our schools into the 21st century. She thanked Junior Achievement for being a collaborative partner, and looks forward to its future in SPPS.
- Director Ward thanked Mr. Shepard for his work with the coffee cart.
- Director Kopp requested information on the 12th grade capstone project. It would be interesting to bring forth projects that are important to students and meaningful. Response: We have a lot of local cases, and are looking to school partners, topics, industries, and cases for students and the topics in which they are interested. We are actively recruiting case partners and growing our number of cases to see where the interests lie and bring them together.

6. BUDGET ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY VALUES

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present Budget Engagement and Community Values. He noted that we are entering the budget season, and have been tasked to do more engagement, and those opportunities will be shared tonight. It noted it will be a challenge – there is a historic investment in education, but it is making up for the past years of underfunding, and there's also the expiration of ESSER funds in 2023. The engagement objectives were reviewed, including round 1 of gathering feedback regarding how to communicate effectively about school and district budgets, gathering a set of community values to inform the resource allocation process, and provide a basic understanding of school district and school buildings budget. Round 2 will include building trust between community stakeholders and the district by communicating back how gathered feedback was used to make resource allocation decisions

and influence communications around the budget. Details were also shared on community engagement focus group sessions in October 2023, as well as information on the All PACs Meeting session. Information was also shared on the public input surveys from staff, families, and students grades 7-12. Details were also presented on the District Finance Advisory Committee, members, and the application process.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Foster noted concerns about the upcoming engagement sessions and the different areas of the city. How are we ensuring all families have access and opportunities for these engagement sessions? Response: The anticipated timeline is tight, but we want to be transparent, and had extremely good success with opportunities at Progressive. We will be adding opportunities at Highland and Jie Ming, and West Side schools.
- Survey opportunities were also noted, and the questions that pertain to all. Administration was also asked to move up the timeline, and in order to get information to senior leaders and the values, the 15th of November is likely the deadline for survey responses.
- The resources and logistics for engagement sessions were also noted. It was also noted that it has been heard that the team will add at least 2 more budget sessions – including on the West Side, East Side, and particularly for African-American families.
- Director Allen noted the ideas of Zoom opportunities, or through StreamYard.
- Director Henderson noted questions on what comes after the engagement sessions. Response: Following engagement, the next step is to use the information from the meetings and incorporating what was heard – for example hearing that yellow buses are a value – and turning that information into a real budget scenario and the costs associated.
- It was noted the importance of ways for buildings to have a space or box to input what they value. We are hoping that communities encourage families to complete the surveys, as well as staff. A board member noted engagement opportunities for students to encourage their family to complete the survey – through extra credit or centered in Foundations class.
- It was noted that the conversations on the impacts of ARP funds and giving them tools to give voice to these tough decisions about what they enjoy and love about their schools. Community members may be upset about talking about the broad idea of values, when they want to discuss programs that are directly impacts, and real programs funded by ARP dollars.
- Director Kopp noted the importance of being clear about the output of the budget engagement sessions, and to be mindful, thoughtful and candid.
- Director Ward noted confusion on the conversations about collecting values versus collecting spending decisions. Response: For example, yellow buses as a value. We imagine families would state getting to school safely as a value.
 - He noted where the line is drawn for these conversations, as he thinks there should be space for the community to state what they would like to spend more funds, rather than values.
 - It was also noted that the role of the Board needs to be defined in the creation of the budget, and the role of authority in making decisions and scenarios. We don't want the decisions to fall on families, where one group gets something, but another loses something. We need to be careful in language and defining expectations. Director Ward noted he does not agree, and the Board should be making decisions.
- Director Allen noted she would like to see clear and transparent information around strategies that worked before ARP funds, strategies implemented with ARP funds and the outcomes, including WINN strategies. She would like to see it laid out clearly for the public and the Board about

strategies that are used for learning loss. Response: Chief Turner noted a process with our Office of Equity, Strategy, and Innovation to look at our partnerships and values and their alignment.

- Director Ward raised a question on what is being collected during the engagement. Response: At this level in the first phase, it will be about values, and then that data will be turned into programming information. Director Ward noted concerns about the vagueness of the questions, and it may not be as specific as families and community members had hoped. Chief Sager noted that typically when going through this process, the detailed information is also included and specific examples are sent. There are themes that are generated, and are aligned to the strategic plan.
- Director Ward requested clarification on the information for sessions and that they are open to all.
- Superintendent Gothard thanked Mr. Pablo Matamoros from the Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships to consider meeting in elementary and middle schools to be more inclusive.
- Director Vue noted questions on the timeframe, including the middle of November for Phase 1, spring of 2024 for Phase 2, including March/April before Spring Break.
- He also noted questions on the public input survey questions, and to ensure the same questions are being asked in the survey and focus groups.
- Ms. Gray Akyea also provided examples on the survey questions, including broader questions and iterations of the same questions for parents, students and staff.
- How are we using information from the safety conversations from last year? Response: All of the data will be used collectively for the budget.
- The Team noted they are tasked with looking to add a couple more meetings, as well as an online meeting option.
- Surveys will be sent out October 23-31, 2023.
- Director Ellis noted concerns on the questions.
- Director Allen noted it will be important to ask parents if their child participated in a strategy on the survey.
- Chief Turner noted the questions will be probing questions. Dr. Gray Akyea also provided more details and examples of survey questions.
- Regarding DFAC, Director Ward requested information on the application and rubric by which to decide the committee. Response: It will incorporate interest in the process, as well as background in leadership, business, finance, which are helpful but not exclusive. Individuals with a sense of community involvement and engagement and positive relationships will be considered, as well as problem-solving skills. We'd also like to hear from individuals who haven't been involved previously, with new voices and new perspectives.
- The role of this group in Finance business was also discussed, including as a financial advisory group, involved in the audit review and corrective action plan, investment strategies, property tax levy and inputs, parameters around the budget process, and financial planning for facilities, as well as future considerations for a voter-approved referendum. There will be about 4-6 meetings per year. It will be mainly dialogue and discussion, and mainly consensus.
- Director Allen noted concerns about the "balance" of participants on the committee, and the criteria. As a balanced group, she would like to see it be representative of the demographics of students served in SPPS. There are four positions for community members. It was noted that if we are not seeing the representation and voices in the applications by October 3, the application submission deadline will be extended. It was also noted that Ramsey County County Manager also sent out a message to the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee group to inform them of this new group to send to their constituents as well. Director Allen noted that gender should also be considered in the group composition.

- Director Ward noted this is exciting, and appreciates the work in trying to address the concerns board members shared and avenues to share in the budget process. However, there is an aspect that is not resolved, which is how the Board interacts with the budget.
- Director Vue encouraged Administration to use a different name than District Financial Advisory Committee, specifically “District” in the name. He noted we need to be grounded in the district we serve, and in SPPS, and in the political sphere, “district” has been used to alienate certain folks in the district. Chief Turner noted that Chief Sager will be empowered to determine a different name.
- Director Foster thanked everyone for the robust conversations.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Director Kopp moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Henderson seconded the motion. It passed by acclaim.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the original Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by:

Sarah Dahlke, Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

TOPIC: Future Meeting Schedule

2023 Regular Meeting Schedule

Time: 5:30 p.m. (unless noted otherwise)

Location: Conference Rooms A and B – 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102
(unless noted otherwise)

- January 3, 2023 (Annual Organizational Meeting)
- January 17, 2023
- February 21, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- May 23, 2023
- June 6, 2023 (Special Meeting – Non-Renewals) | 4:00 p.m. | Conference Room 5A
- June 20, 2023
- July 18, 2023
- August 22, 2023
- September 19, 2023
- October 24, 2023
- November 14, 2023
- December 19, 2023

2023 Committee of the Board Meeting Schedule

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Conference Room 5A – 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

- January 3, 2023
- February 7, 2023
- March 7, 2023
- April 11, 2023
- May 9, 2023
- June 6, 2023
- August 9, 2023 – Wednesday
- September 5, 2023
- October 10, 2023
- November 8, 2023 – Wednesday
- December 5, 2023

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

TOPIC: Future Meeting Schedule

2024 Regular Meeting Schedule

Time: 5:30 p.m. (unless noted otherwise)

Location: Conference Rooms A and B – 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102
(unless noted otherwise)

- January 9, 2024 (Annual Organizational Meeting)
- January 23, 2024
- February 20, 2024
- March 19, 2024
- April 23, 2024
- May 21, 2023
- June 11, 2024 (Special Meeting – Non-Renewals) | 4:00 p.m. | Conference Room 5A
- June 18, 2024
- July 16, 2024
- August 20, 2024
- September 17, 2024
- October 22, 2024
- November 19, 2024
- December 17, 2024

2024 Committee of the Board Meeting Schedule

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Conference Room 5A – 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

- January 9, 2024
- February 6, 2024
- March 6, 2024 - Wednesday
- April 2, 2024
- May 7, 2024
- June 11, 2024
- August 7, 2024 – Wednesday
- September 10, 2024
- October 8, 2024
- November 6, 2024 – Wednesday
- December 3, 2024

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Accept Gift from North Star Marine Veterans Corp

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Como Park Senior High School/MCJROTC would like to accept a monetary gift of \$5,000.00 from North Star Marine Veterans Corp.
2. Como Park Senior High School/MCJROTC was designated to receive the gift because of the storage container and the MCJROTC Como Park Cadets participation.
3. This donation was awarded to the Como Park Senior High MCJROTC in the amount of \$5,000.00.
4. This item will meet the District strategic plan focus area of ensuring high academic achievement and improved environment for MCJROTC students.
5. This item is submitted by Sgt. Major James Kirkland, Acting Marine Instructor, Como Park Senior High School; Dr. Diana Brown, Principal; Dr. Kirk Morris, Assistant Superintendent; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to allow Como Park Senior High School/MCJROTC to accept a monetary gift from North Star Marine Veterans of \$5,000.00. The money will be deposited into the JROTC intra-school account 19-212-291-000-5096-J001, and will be used with the above projects.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Acceptance of Gift from Randolph Heights PTA

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. \$21,714.30 was gifted to Randolph Heights Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year to be added to 19-545-291-000-5096-G502.
2. Randolph Heights will use the funds to install a projector and sound system for student enrichment.
3. This project will meet the District strategic plan focus area of Effective and Culturally Responsive Instruction.
4. This item is submitted by Tim Williams, Principal; Nancy Páez, Assistant Superintendent; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the gift from Randolph Heights PTA.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Accept Gift from TKDA

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Farnsworth Aerospace Lower would like to accept a donation from TKDA.
2. The monetary donation is for \$5,500. Funds will be used to purchase additional speakers for our sound system, and STEAM Materials for our school/students.
3. This donation will meet the District's SPPS Achieves Framework (Effective and CRI, College and Career Readiness, and Family Community Engagement).
4. This item is submitted by Christine Vang, Principal, Farnsworth Aerospace PreK-4 School; Adam Kunz, Assistant Superintendent; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the funds from TKDA, in the amount of \$5,500. Funds will be used to purchase additional speakers for our sound system, and Hands-on STEAM Materials for our school/students.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Air and Space Forces Association's AFJROTC Grant

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Air and Space Forces Association AFJROTC Grant was established to promote aerospace education throughout classrooms and to enhance students' ideas on how aerospace plays a prominent role in today's and tomorrow's society.
2. The AFJROTC program at Johnson Senior High School has prepared an application for funds to create a competitive drone team, including drones, equipment, and materials to build a course.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is for \$250.
4. This project will support the strategic focus area of College and Career Readiness.
5. This is a new grant-funded project.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Air and Space Forces Association AFJROTC grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit Grants to Assistance League Minneapolis/St. Paul's Operation School Bell Links to Learning Grants

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Assistance League Minneapolis/St. Paul's Operation School Bell Links to Learning grants are used to fund enrichment projects outside the standard curriculum. The grants have been used to fund field trips, guest artists and authors, community gardens, cooking classes, access to new technology, culturally specific books, math manipulatives, and more.
2. Approximately 40 staff members at multiple schools have applied to receive funding through this program to supplement the work they do in their classrooms. This includes American Indian Magnet School, Belwin Outdoor Science, Central High School, E-STEM Middle School, Farnsworth Aerospace - Upper, Frost Lake Elementary, Global Arts Plus - Upper, Humboldt High School, Maxfield Elementary, Riverview Spanish/English Dual Immersion, and Wellstone Elementary.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the projects. Each grant has a maximum award of \$1,000, for a total of approximately \$40,000 all together.
4. This project will support the strategic focus areas of Effective and Culturally Responsive Instruction and Positive School and District Culture
5. These are new grant-funded projects.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jacqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit grants from Assistance League Minneapolis/St. Paul's Operation School Bell Links to Learning Grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education's Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) makes this funding available to Minnesota local education agencies (LEAs) and publicly funded early childhood educational programs for the purpose of building educator and leader capacity to implement evidence-based Structured Literacy practices in order to increase the literacy outcomes for all Minnesota students, especially those who are consistently underserved.
2. The CLDS funding will allow for 100 SPPS educators to participate in the Early Childhood LETRS professional learning. Participants will include ECFE, ECSE and Pre-K educators to ensure consistent implementation across all Early Childhood. In addition, district leaders such as Principals, Assistant Directors, Supervisors and Program Managers will participate furthering the capacity and understanding of early childhood literacy instruction.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is for approximately \$159,900 over one year.
4. This project will support the strategic focus area of Effective and Culturally Responsive Instruction.
5. This is a new grant-funded project.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Education's Comprehensive Literacy State Development grant; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board's Teacher Mentorship and Retention of Effective Teachers Grant

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) makes this competitive state grant funding available to develop, sustain, or expand teacher mentorship, induction, and retention programs under Minnesota Statute §122A.70, especially those serving teachers of color and American Indian teachers.
2. SPPS will use this grant funding to bolster existing efforts for teacher mentorship and retention. This work will include providing additional stipends to mentors, offering professional development, financially supporting professional learning community affinity groups, and expanding induction support models within schools. All of these efforts will especially prioritize the support of teachers of color and American Indian teachers.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is for approximately \$462,160 over two years.
4. This project will support the strategic focus area of Systemic Equity, as well as Positive School and District Culture.
5. This is a new grant-funded project.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant from the PELSB's Teacher Mentorship and Retention of Effective Teachers grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit Grant Applications to Project Lead the Way

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the nation's leading provider of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs. Through world-class K-12 curriculum, high-quality teacher professional development, and outstanding partnerships, PLTW is helping students develop the skills needed to succeed in the global economy. PLTW is currently accepting grant applications for projects that support initial implementation or expansion of Project Lead the Way programming in K-12 schools.
2. Saint Paul Public Schools Office of College and Career Readiness has prepared applications for funds to implement PLTW programming throughout the district. The goal of this project is for students to develop the STEM skills needed to succeed in the global economy. Staff at the program researched this grant opportunity, and applications were submitted for the following schools: Central High School, Farnsworth Upper, Highland Middle, Highland High School, Johnson High School, and Washington Tech Magnet School.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The average grant for each of the six schools is approximately \$10,000, for a total of approximately \$60,000.
4. This project will support the strategic focus area of College and Career Readiness.
5. This is a new grant-funded project. The project period is 12 months.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Project Lead the Way; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Saint Cloud State University

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Saint Cloud State University provides grants that support professional development among teachers of Mandarin and culture-infused activities within schools that teach Mandarin.
2. Saint Paul Public Schools Office of Teaching and Learning has prepared an application for funds to support student and teacher activities in Mandarin language classes. The goal of this project is to provide cultural enrichment opportunities to students so that they can better understand and appreciate Chinese culture as well as the language.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for this project. This grant is for approximately \$10,000.
4. This project aligns with the district strategic plan focus area of Effective and Culturally Relevant Instruction by supporting Mandarin language classes.
5. This is a recurring grant-funded project, now in its sixth year.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Innovation Office Director; Stacey Gray Akyea, Executive Chief of Equity, Strategy and Innovation; and Jacqueline Turner, Executive Chief of Administration and Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Saint Cloud State University to support academic and professional development activities in Mandarin language classes; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit Grant Applications to the St. Paul Chapter of the Awesome Foundation

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Awesome Foundation is a global community made up of local philanthropic boards which award \$1000 at a time. The St. Paul chapter funds projects through monthly micro-grants. These micro-grants, \$1000 or the local equivalent, come out of pockets of the chapter's "trustees" and are given on a no-strings-attached basis to people and groups.
2. Saint Paul Public Schools staff from the following schools will submit applications to fund projects ranging from orchestra instruments to greater audio accessibility: American Indian Magnet School, Four Seasons A+ Elementary School, and Washington Technology Magnet School.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. Each grant is for approximately \$1,000, for a total of approximately \$3,000 with a single year term.
4. This project will support the strategic focus areas of Systemic Equity and Positive School and District Culture
5. These are new grant-funded projects.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit grant applications to the St. Paul Chapter of the Awesome Foundation; to accept funds; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community contributes to causes, organizations, and tribes across the region, state, and country—and is among the top charitable givers in Minnesota and Indian Country as a whole.
2. Saint Paul Public Schools' American Indian Education Program has prepared an application for funds to support a Circle of Support night. Teens and their families are invited as a means of engagement with SPPS, Indian Education, and Native community agencies/organizations. This funding would help provide families with a cultural incentive themed around an alternative Thanksgiving meal, with a goal of providing urban, Native families with exposure to Indigenous foods.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is for approximately \$2,000 to be used in the month of November.
4. This project will support the strategic focus areas of Systemic Equity, Positive School and District Culture, and Family and Community Engagement.
5. This is a new grant-funded project.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jaqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the US Department of Education's Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The US Department Education's Perkins Innovation and Modernization grant is designed to build capacity among secondary education, postsecondary education, and workforce development systems to expand access to career-connected high school programs for more students.
2. SPPS will use these grant funds to expand our current Districtwide Career Pathways Program (DCPP) for all high school students. This includes strengthening and connecting our offerings in four main focus areas of dual or concurrent enrollment programs, work-based learning opportunities, in-demand and high-value industry-recognized credential attainment, and ongoing career guidance and academic counseling. This work will also increase equitable access to all services, using effective strategies to eliminate or mitigate barriers to successful participation by all students.
3. Saint Paul Public Schools will serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is for approximately \$6,653,757 over five years.
4. This project will support the strategic focus area of College and Career Readiness.
5. This is a new grant-funded project.
6. This item is submitted by Abraham Teuber, Grants Assistant; Leah Corey, Director of the Innovation Office; Stacey Gray Akyea, Chief of Equity, Strategy & Innovation; and Jacqueline Turner, Chief of Administration & Operations.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit to the U.S. Department of Education's Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Partnership Contract between Right Track and Saint Paul Public Schools

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. This MOU details the overall partnership between the City of Saint Paul's Right Track Youth Employment Program and SPPS. This contract also includes the jointly-created Data Sharing Agreement.
2. Right Track has been a longstanding partner of SPPS. Right Track is Mayor Carter and the City of Saint Paul's youth employment initiative. Right Track's goal is to build a diverse future workforce while supporting young people and their families now. Right Track and SPPS collaborate on school year internships, 3M STEP, and summer internships and professional development for young people in SPPS.
3. This contract represents the overall partnership between SPPS and Right Track. Annually, SPPS and Right Track will also submit individual contracts for the school year, 3M STEP, and summer internship programs.
4. This programming aligns with the District's long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.
5. This item is submitted by Carita Green, Executive Director of College and Career Pathways and Student Supports, and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools & Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Partnership Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Right Track until June 2027.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Concurrent Enrollment Contract with Saint Paul College

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Request to sign Concurrent Enrollment Contract with Saint Paul College.
2. This partnership supports students from the following high schools: AGAPE, Como Park, Gateway, Harding, Highland, Humboldt, Johnson, and Washington. This agreement provides students the opportunity to earn Saint Paul College credits per semester course. These rigorous course options help prepare students for college and career, and also save students/families tuition dollars by allowing them to take college courses while in high school. Concurrent Enrollment courses may be available at any SPPS high school; SPPS instructors must meet the required credentials as determined by Saint Paul College staff.
3. This has been an ongoing partnership with a similar request approved last year; this will be an annual request.
4. Fees paid to Saint Paul College are at the rate of \$3,000 per concurrent enrollment course. The projected cost for all courses for the 2023-24 school year is \$51,000.00.
5. This partnership aligns with the SPPS Achieves long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.
6. This item is submitted by Carita Green, Executive Director of College and Career Pathways and Student Supports; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools & Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul College for FY24.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Contract with Daugherty (Partner Agency), pertaining to the Access Point Program

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. This is a request to sign the contract with Daugherty (Partner Agency), pertaining to the Access Point Program.
2. This program brings together high schools, partnering higher education institutions and partnering companies in an alliance that provides students with a highly structured IT technical curriculum that has been validated by hiring companies as the right focus for their jobs. Students have the opportunity to earn at least nine college credits through a PSEO course offered in collaboration with Minneapolis College. Students will have a paid apprenticeship slated to start in October 2024 and last between 4 to 8 months. Additional student support with appropriate non-profits will be coordinated with Daugherty and Higher Education.
3. This request is for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years with the potential to become an annual request. This is a PSEO course and school funding implications are the same as any other PSEO course. There is no additional charge to SPPS for programming.
4. This partnership aligns with the SPPS Achieves long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.
5. This item is submitted by Carita Green, Executive Director of College and Career Pathways & Student Supports and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools & Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Daugherty for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Contract with the Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. This is a request to sign a contract with the Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest.
2. The Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest “is an educational institute dedicated to developing professional tradespeople, advancing their skills, and certifying their qualifications in the Upper Midwest.” Their “diverse, inclusive programming provides lucrative, exciting career pathways for high school students, seasoned workers, and everyone in between.”
3. This request is for the 2023-24 school year with the potential to become an annual request. The total cost for this school year will not exceed \$15,400 (\$2200/student).
4. This partnership aligns with the SPPS Achieves long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.
5. This item is submitted by Carita Green, Executive Director of the Office of College and Career Pathways & Student Supports and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools & Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and the Finishing Trades Institute for the 2023-24 school year.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Contract with ProCare Therapy for Contracted Special Education Staffing Support at River East and the District at Large

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. RiverEast Elementary and Secondary School is a specialized Setting 4 special education school that serves students who receive special education services. Over the summer of 2023 and into the beginning of the school year, building and district administration has been unable to fill vacant positions, despite hiring incentives and holding building-specific job fairs. In order to meet the needs of students at RiverEast, it is critical that these positions be filled as soon as possible with highly-qualified staff with training and experience supporting students with significant emotional/behavioral needs.

In addition to the needs at RiverEast, there continue to be special education teacher vacancies in several schools within SPPS. Currently, we have 20 vacant teacher positions that we have posted yet been unable to fill despite hiring incentives, marketing positions, and repeated recruitment efforts. ProCare has several special education teachers that could be assigned to SPPS schools for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year. Given our legal obligation to provide special education services to students, the district is seeking to contract with ProCare to provide special education teachers to the district to ensure we are meeting the needs of students.

2. ProCare Therapy is a staffing agency that specializes in placing candidates in schools and has staff currently available to be assigned to RiverEast. We are requesting that the district sign a contract with ProCare Therapy so these positions can be filled for the 23-24 school year. At the end of the 2023-24 school year (or following the procedures for early termination of the contract with ProCare, which is 30 days), these positions would revert back to being filled as regular SPPS employees. Positions filled by ProCare would be considered paraprofessionals and/or Registered Behavior Technicians.
3. This contract is currently planned for SY23-24 but may be needed for future school years if staffing shortages continue to be as severe.
4. The cost for a Registered Behavior Technician and/or paraprofessional is \$50/hr. The cost of substitute special education teachers is \$75/hr. As positions remain unfilled at RiverEast and elsewhere in the district, the need for 7 full-time paraprofessionals/RBTs and up to 3 special education teachers may be needed for the rest of the school year, totalling \$730,000.
3. This project will meet the District strategic plan focus area(s) of Program Evaluation and Resource Allocation and Positive School and District Culture.

4. This item is submitted by Heidi Nistler, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Services;
Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve this contract.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Contract with Soliant for Social Work Staffing

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Since the pandemic, we have experienced a workforce shortage specific to school social work positions.
2. We currently have about six open permanent social work positions and no coverage for staff on leaves of absence etc. This means that students with social work on their IEPs do not receive their required services, leading us to provide extensive compensatory services over the summer.
3. We hope to fill our social work positions and utilize Soliant temporarily until we can do so.
4. We would like to begin this partnership for 3.0 FTE positions at a do not exceed amount of \$300,000.
5. This project will meet the District strategic plan focus area of Positive School and District Culture as well as Effective and Culturally Relevant Instruction
6. This item is submitted by Michelle Viera Keleny, Social Work Coordinator; Heidi Nistler, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Services; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Contracted Services Agreement between Soliant and Saint Paul Public Schools.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Design Services for Multi-Site Electrical System Replacement at Harding and Central High School (Project # 0651-23-01)

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. This agenda item seeks approval to award design and construction administration services for the Multi-Site Electrical System Replacement at Harding and Central High School (Project # 0651-23-01).
2. In alignment with Board and Procurement protocols, a Request for Qualifications (No. A21-1401-A) was issued Spring of 2021 to establish a slate of Board approved consultants with a standard contract form. The selected consultants were approved by the Board on June 22, 2021. The District will use this slate to issue targeted solicitations with Requests for Proposals (RFP) for specific projects. RFP responses are reviewed using consistent metrics and a consultant is selected for award of contract.
3. This contract provides design and construction administration services for the Multi-Site Electrical System Replacement at Harding and Central High School project.
4. The Project phase gate schedule is currently:

Gate # and Description	Date
#1 – Master Planning	March 23, 2021
#2 – Project Charter (Predesign)	Not applicable for projects of this size
#3 – Project Budget	February 2024 (anticipated)
#4 – Contract Award	May 2024 (anticipated)
#5.1 – Project Close-Out	September 2025 (anticipated)
#5.2 – Final Project Summary	September 2026 (anticipated)

5. A summary of the current project budget is as follows:

Rough Order of Magnitude Estimate	Current Obligations	Invoiced to Date	Percent Invoiced
\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0%

6. The following vendor was selected:

	<u>Not-to-Exceed Fee</u>
Emanuelson-Podas.....	\$200,300

7. A summary of current and anticipated funding is as follows:

Funding Source	Amount
LTFM FY24-26	\$5,000,000

8. This project meets the District Strategic Plan goals by aligning resource allocation to District priorities.
9. This item is submitted by Tom Parent, Executive Director of Operations and Administration; Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services; and Jackie Turner, Chief Administration and Operations Officer.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize award of design and construction administration services to Emanuelson-Podas for the not-to-exceed fee of \$200,300.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Construction Manager as Advisor Services for the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping and HVAC Replacement project (Project # 4260-23-01)

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. This agenda item seeks approval to award Construction Manager as Advisor services and pass through general conditions for the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping and HVAC Replacement project (Project # 4260-23-01). The Board approved Gate Check 2 on February 21, 2023 indicating the Board's direction to issue a request for proposal (RFP) to secure said services.
2. In alignment with Board and Procurement protocols, a Request for Qualifications (No. A21-1305-A) was issued early 2021 to review the qualifications of existing consultants and expand the slate of Board approved consultants. The selected consultants were approved by the Board on March 23, 2021. The District this slate to issue targeted solicitations with Requests for Proposals (RFP) for specific projects. RFP responses are reviewed using consistent metrics and a consultant is selected for award of contract.
3. This contract provides all profession consultant Construction Manager as Advisor services and pass through general conditions for the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping and HVAC Replacement project.
4. The Project phase gate schedule is currently:

Gate # and Description	Date
#1 – Master Planning	March 23, 2021
#2 – Project Charter (Predesign)	February 21, 2023
#3 – Project Budget	December 2023 (anticipated)
#4 – Contract Award	April 2024 (anticipated)
#5.1 – Project Close-Out	September 2026 (anticipated)
#5.2 – Final Project Summary	September 2027 (anticipated)

5. A summary of the current project budget is as follows:

Rough Order of Magnitude Estimate	Current Obligations	Invoiced to Date	Percent Invoiced
\$10,200,000- 11,200,000	\$0	\$0	0%

6. The following vendor was selected:

	<u>Not-to-Exceed Fee</u>
H+U Construction	\$640,237

7. A summary of current and anticipated funding is as follows:

Funding Source	Amount
Capital Bonds FY23-FY27	\$1,065,401
LTFM FY23-FY27	\$9,588,600

8. This project meets the District Strategic Plan goals by aligning resource allocation to District priorities.
9. This item is submitted by Tom Parent, Executive Director of Operations and Administration; Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services; and Jackie Turner, Chief Administration and Operations Officer.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize award of construction manager as advisor services and pass through general conditions to H+U Construction for the not-to-exceed fee of \$640,237.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign Concurrent Enrollment Joint Powers Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Request to Sign Concurrent Enrollment Joint Powers Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato.
2. This agreement provides SPPS students from Como Park Sr. High School, Harding Senior High School, and the Districtwide Career Pathways Center (located on the Saint Paul College Campus), the opportunity to earn college credit by successfully completing the Concurrent Enrollment courses. Concurrent coursework helps prepare students for college and career, and also saves students/families tuition dollars by allowing them to take college courses while in high school.
3. This will be an annual request.
4. Fees paid to Mankato are at the rate of \$3,300.00 per concurrent enrollment course per semester. An additional fee of \$110/student applies for any courses over 30 students. The total cost for the 2023-2024 School Year is \$14,850.00.
5. This partnership aligns with the SPPS Achieves long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.
6. This item is submitted by Carita Green, Executive Director of College and Career Pathways and School Supports; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools & Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Joint Powers Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Minnesota State University, Mankato for FY24.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625, Saint Paul Public Schools, and Minnesota Teamsters Local 320, Exclusive Representative for Nutrition Services Employees

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. New Agreement is for a three-year period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026.
2. Contract changes are as follows:

Wages: Effective August 26, 2023, steps 2 & 3 will be frozen and all other steps will increase by 2.0%; current steps 4,5,6, and 7 will be eliminated; current step 8 will be retitled as step 1; current step 9 will be retitled as step 2; current step 10 will be retitled as step 3; current step 11 will be retitled as longevity step 4 (5 years); current step 12 will be retitled as longevity step 5 (7 years); current step 13 will be retitled as longevity step 6 (10 years) and new longevity step 7 (15 years) will be added at \$.50 above step 6. Effective June 29, 2024, increase salary schedule by 1.75%. Effective June 28, 2025, increase salary schedule by 1.75%.

Sick Leave: Effective January 1, 2024, after completion of the first 48 hours of sick leave, sick leave may be used for any of the reasons outlined in the Article 7, Section 4 of labor agreement.

Insurance: Effective January 1, 2024, this group will move to non-cafeteria plan design and the District's monthly contribution of \$750 for single coverage is increased to \$765; the District's monthly contribution of \$1,325 for family coverage is going to \$1,285. Effective January 1, 2025, the District's monthly contribution of \$765 for single coverage is increased to \$780; the District's monthly contribution of \$1,285 for family coverage is increased to \$1,300. Effective January 1, 2026, the District's monthly contribution of \$780 for single coverage is increased to \$790; the District's monthly contribution of \$1,300 for family coverage is increased to \$1,310.

Severance: Effective January 1, 2024, if an employee notifies the Human Resource Department three (3) months in advance of the date of retirement and requests severance pay and if the employee meets the eligibility requirements set forth in 16.2 above, he or she will receive a District contribution to the District 403(b) Tax-Deferred Retirement Plan for Sheltering Severance Pay and Vacation Pay in an amount equal to \$14.50 for each hour of accrued, unused sick leave, up to 1,460 hours to a maximum of \$21,170. Effective January 1, 2025, increase amount from \$14.50 to \$15.50 of each hour accrued, unused sick leave, and increase max from \$21,170 to \$22,630.

Effective January 1, 2024, Nutrition Service Supervisors who notify the Human Resource Department three (3) months in advance of the date of retirement and requests severance pay and if the employee meets the eligibility requirements set forth in 16.2 above will receive a District contribution to the District 403(b) Tax Deferred Retirement Plan for Sheltering Severance Pay and Vacation Pay in an amount equal to \$16.50 for each hour of accrued, unused sick leave, up to 1,460 hours to a maximum of \$24,090. Effective January 1, 2025, increase amount from \$16.50 to \$17.50 of each hour accrued, unused sick leave, and increase max from \$24,090 to \$25,550 and include Nutrition Service Assistant 2 to be eligible.

The employee must have completed ten (10) years of service with I.S.D. 625. Time served as an employee of the City of Saint Paul does not count toward this service requirement.

Holidays: Effective July 1, 2023, Christmas Day and Juneteenth will be added to the list of holidays with pay, for employees that are eligible in accordance with the article rules.

Vacation: Effective July 1, 2024, updated vacation accrual table:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Hours of Vacation</u>
1 st year through 3 rd year	.0808 (168 hours)
4 th year through 7 th year	.0841 (175 hours)
8 th year+	.089285 (185 hours)

3. The District has 287 employees in this bargaining unit.
4. The estimated new total package costs for this agreement have been calculated as follows:
 - in the 2023-24 budget year: \$213,481.00
 - in the 2024-25 budget year \$184,005.00
 - in the 2025-26 budget year \$186,531.00
5. This item will meet the District target area goal of alignment.
6. This request is submitted by Patricia Pratt-Cook, Chief of Human Resources and Talent Management; Jim Vollmer, Assistant Director of Employee and Labor Relations; Daniel Wells, Labor Relations Manager.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those nutrition services employees in this District for whom the Minnesota Teamsters Local No. 320 is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625 and Minnesota Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees Local No. 320 Representing Teaching Assistants

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. New Agreement is for a three-year period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026.
2. Contract changes are as follows:

Wages: Effective November 4, 2023, bus duty premium pay will no longer be in effect in the labor agreement and the additional pay is incorporated into the salary schedule. Effective June 29, 2024, increase salary schedule by 2.0%. Effective June 28, 2025, increase salary schedule by 1.75%.

Benefits: Effective January 1, 2024, for each eligible employee covered by this Agreement who is employed full time and who selects employee insurance coverage, the Employer agrees to increase the single coverage contribution amount from \$650 to \$665 per month. For each eligible full-time employee who selects family coverage, the Employer will increase the contribution amount from \$1,265 to \$1,280 per month.

Effective January 1, 2025, for each eligible employee covered by this Agreement who is employed full time and who selects employee insurance coverage, the Employer agrees to increase the single coverage contribution amount from \$665 to \$680 per month. For each eligible full-time employee who selects family coverage, the Employer will increase the contribution amount from \$1,280 to \$1,295 per month.

Effective January 1, 2026, for each eligible employee covered by this Agreement who is employed full time and who selects employee insurance coverage, the Employer agrees to increase the single coverage contribution amount from \$680 to \$695 per month. For each eligible full-time employee who selects family coverage, the Employer will increase the contribution amount from \$1,295 to \$1,310 per month.

Employer Contribution Amount: Married Couples: Effective January 1, 2024, this provision shall only apply to those employees' currently participating and no further enrollments will be permitted. Should a current enrollee opt out after January 1, 2024 re-enrollment at a subsequent date will not be permitted.

Long Term Disability Insurance: Effective January 1, 2024, the District shall provide long-term disability insurance for employees covered by this agreement who are eligible for full time benefits as defined in Section 1.3 of this article.

Short Term Disability Insurance: Effective January 1, 2024, the District shall provide employees the ability to purchase short-term disability insurance for employees covered by this agreement who are eligible for full time benefits as defined in Section 1.3 of this article.

Working Conditions: Prior to the start of the school year during opening week, all Teaching Assistants shall be provided up to eight (8) hours onsite, face-to-face time with teachers and support staff, who provide services to the students who will be on the Teaching Assistants caseload.

Sick Leave: Effective January 1, 2024, after completion of the first 48 hours of sick leave, sick leave may be used for any of the reasons outlined in the Article 7, Section 4 of labor agreement.

Holidays: Effective July 1, 2023, Christmas Day will be added to the list of holidays with pay, for employees that are eligible in accordance with the article rules. Employees who work summer school, shall be eligible for holiday pay for Juneteenth.

Compensatory Leave: Compensatory leave time for winter and spring breaks will be in effect for the 2023-24 SY. Effective January 1, 2024, employees will commence earning vacation as outlined in the Vacation Leave memorandum of understanding, but unable to use said leave until the first day of the 2024-2025 SY. Effective July 1, 2024, the leave as outlined in 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 from the CBA will no longer available for use.

Vacation: Effective July 1, 2024, updated vacation accrual table:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Hours of Vacation</u>
1 st year through 3 rd year	.0808 (168 hours)
4 th year through 7 th year	.0841 (175 hours)
8 th year+	.089285(185 hours)

3. The District has 428 FTE's in this bargaining unit.
4. The new total package costs for the agreement are estimated as follows:
 - in the 2023-24 budget year: \$1,337,896
 - in the 2024-25 budget year \$617,656
 - in the 2025-26 budget year \$540,587
5. This item will meet the District target area goal of alignment.
6. This request is submitted by Patricia Pratt-Cook, Chief of Human Resources and Talent Management; Jim Vollmer, Assistant Director of Employee and Labor Relations; Daniel Wells, Labor Relations Manager.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment for teaching assistant employees in this school district for whom the Minnesota Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees Local No. 320 is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Approval of the Employment Agreement for the Assistant Director of Labor Relations effective October 16, 2023

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The terms and conditions of employment for the Assistant Director of Labor Relations are set forth in an individual employment agreement to avoid any potential conflict of interest with other labor contracts. Fringe benefits are substantially consistent with the terms established for the members of the Unrepresented Plan of Saint Paul Public Schools. The Assistant Director of Labor Relations employment agreement will be effective October 16, 2023.
2. This item will meet the District strategic plan focus area of Program Evaluation and Resource Allocation.
3. This item is submitted by Patricia Pratt-Cook, Executive Chief of Human Resources.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education approve the employment agreement with the Assistant Director of Labor Relations effective October 16, 2023.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Request to Sign School Social Work Internship Agreement with Bethel University

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Request to sign the School Social Work Internship agreement with Bethel University.
2. SPPS has one of the most extensive school social work programs in Minnesota. SPPS strives to continue to hire school social workers to work with our diverse student population. Formal partnerships with social work programs that share our commitment to equity are essential to this process.
3. We hope to extend this partnership into the future, This new partnership will be reviewed annually in collaboration with Bethel Faculty.
4. There is no cost to SPPS for this partnership.
5. This project will meet the District strategic plan focus area of Positive School and District Culture.
6. This item is submitted by Michelle Viera Keleny, Social Work Coordinator; Heidi Nistler, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Services; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to sign the School Social Work Internship Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Bethel University.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Right of Entry Permit at Riverview with the City of Saint Paul

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. SPPS wishes to access City property at El Rio Vista Recreation Center, located at 142 Congress Street East, for the purpose of installing a Gaga Pit.
2. The agreement term will be one (1) year commencing September 1, 2023 and terminating August 30, 2024.
3. City programs may utilize the Gaga Pit with written approval from SPPS. When not programmed, the Gaga Pit may be used by the general public for its intended purpose.
4. SPPS will maintain the turf inside and immediately surrounding the Gaga Pit. City will continue to maintain the turf outside of the Gaga Pit. Upon termination of agreement, SPPS will repair any turf damage.
5. This agreement is at no cost to the District.
6. This agreement meets the District strategic plan goals by aligning Program Evaluation and Resource Allocation to District priorities.
7. This item is submitted by Tom Parent, Executive Director of Operations and Administration, and Jackie Turner, Chief of Operations and Administration.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Education authorize the execution of the Right of Entry Permit between the District and the City of Saint Paul at Riverview.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Partnership and Regrant Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and The Trust for Public Land

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) was awarded a grant from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) to undertake a community schoolyard project, and is regranteeing a portion of the grant to the District for a schoolyard project at Maxfield Elementary School.
2. TPL is a non-profit organization that creates parks and protects lands for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.
3. The District and TPL will partner to improve the schoolyard at Maxfield in a manner that centers health, equity and climate.
4. The term of the Agreement will commence upon execution and continue through May 30, 2026.
5. TPL will regrant the District the sum of \$150,000 to implement outdoor nature-based capital improvements at the Maxfield Elementary School schoolyard.
6. This project aligns with the District strategic plan focus area by aligning resource allocation to District priorities.
7. This item is submitted by Tom Parent, Executive Director of Operations and Administration, and Jackie Turner, Chief Administration and Operations Officer.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education authorize the execution of the Partnership and Regrant Agreement between the District and The Trust for Public Land for outdoor nature-based capital improvements at Maxfield Elementary School.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: 10/24/2023

TOPIC: Monthly Operating Authority

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. The Board of Education must authorize and approve all expenditures of the District.
2. The Board of Education must ratify any changes in collateral that have been previously approved by the Assistant Treasurer.
3. This item meets the District target area of goals alignment and sustainability.
4. This item is submitted by Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period August 1, 2023 – August 31, 2023

(a) General Account	#764111-765038	\$40,097,574.26
	#0004989-0005012	
	#7004895-7004938	
	#0008883-0009005	
(b) Construction Payments	- 0 -	\$17,638,365.50
(c) Debt Service	- 0 -	<u>32,455.00</u>
		\$57,768,394.76

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$12,604,842.88 and overtime of \$59,936.12 or 0.48% of payroll.

(d) Collateral Changes

Released:

None

Additions:

None

2. That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Worker's Compensation Law falling within the period ending February 29, 2024

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: October 24, 2023

TOPIC: Recommendations for Exclusion of Students Non-Compliant with Minnesota Statute 121A.15 Health Standards: Immunizations

A. PERTINENT FACTS:

1. Minnesota immunization law (M.S. 121A. 15 Health Standards for Immunizations) requires that in order for a child to enroll in child care, early education programs, or school a parent must show they have received immunizations or an exemption.
2. Immunizations help protect children against disease or reduce the impact from that disease.
3. There are students in the District who are not in compliance with M.S. 121A.15 Health Standards for Immunizations. Noncompliant lists are reviewed and updated regularly.
4. Parents/guardians with a noncompliant student have been informed of required missing immunizations. They are provided information about immunization law, immunization resources and have been informed about medical or conscientious exemption options. Contacts are made via mail, phone and email and in home languages. Parents/guardians have had a minimum of 30 days to comply with the law after they are informed that their child is non-compliant.
5. Once in compliance (required immunization received or proof of meeting exemption requirement is provided) then students are allowed to return to school and programming.
6. This project will meet the District target area goals by ensuring high academic achievement for all students.
7. Requested by Rebecca Schmidt, Interim Director, Health and Wellness; Heidi Nistler, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Services; and Andrew Collins, Executive Chief of Schools and Learning.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education exclude noncompliant student(s) from school(s) effective November 1, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

