

**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

**June 20, 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: J. Kopp, Z. Ellis, J. Foster, H. Henderson, U. Ward, J. Vue, C. Allen
Superintendent Gothard

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 Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

4. RECOGNITIONS

BF 33222 Acknowledgement of the Partnership between SPPS and Hiway Credit Union

Hiway Credit Union has been a longstanding partner of Saint Paul Public Schools. This partnership aligns with the District's long-term outcome of preparing all graduates for college, career and life.

With support from school leadership, Hiway Credit Union currently operates branches in four SPPS high schools: Como Park, Harding, Highland Park, and Johnson.

The Hiway – SPPS partnership includes a variety of student supports and educator opportunities, including paid student internships, financial literacy, educator externships, job site tours, student field trips, CTE Advisory Council membership, teacher grants, and more.

Hiway Credit Union has graciously offered to financially support the Saint Paul College Intro to Business course at the 3M Advanced Training Center in the 2023-24 school year.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>Jenelle Hill</u> | Budget concerns |
| 2. <u>Jacquelyn Propersi</u> | Budget cuts to school FY24 |
| 3. <u>Peter Hendricks</u> | FY24 Budget and Amendments to Sup't Contract |
| 4. <u>Pang Yang</u> | Envision |
| 5. <u>Pao Thao</u> | PreK |
| 6. <u>Lis Thao</u> | PreK move |
| 7. <u>Julia Yang</u> | Phalen PreK |
| 8. <u>Michelle Wall</u> | Transparency and accountability |
| 9. <u>Thomas Lucy</u> | Review of SPPS climate work for the 22-23 SY |
| 10. <u>David Kubes</u> | Overpayments |
| 11. <u>Leo Jackson</u> | Field usage |
| 12. <u>Christen Glass</u> | Field usage |
| 13. <u>Greg Egan</u> | Budget concerns |

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

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 23, 2023
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of June 6, 2023

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 23, 2023 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of June 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes

Director Foster	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of May 9, 2023

At the Committee of the Board Meeting on June 6, 2023, Superintendent Gothard welcomed everyone to the meeting, and provided a recap of the quarterly meetings with staff and leaders regarding federal pandemic dollars and accomplishments of the collected efforts and work. He also congratulated our 2023 graduates, and our resilient scholars and their hard work and perseverance, through a global pandemic that affected their high school career. He also provided a brief update on the weather and its impact on those in our buildings, as well as the district calendar. Board members requested information on the highlights from the quarterly meeting, and further information was provided on our successful reading strategies implemented with these funds.

Next, our Legislative Liaison presented updates on the 2023 legislative session, and the SPPS legislative agenda items. Board members requested further details on the student support personnel and the formula and implications, information on the cross-subsidies, and a note for the bill that allows districts to renew a referendum for a one-time instance.

Next, the Policy Update included details on the new proposed Policy 506.06 Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions and Student's Person. Questions from this presentation included the process for locker searches and boundaries in searching items within lockers, similarity of policies in other districts, data of searches, and items found on students over the age of 18 and current statutes. Overall, the Board approved moving this new, proposed policy to the three-reading process.

Next, the FY24 Budget update was presented. Discussion focused on the projection figures, goals of the Enrollment and Retention Committee, further details on the enrollment stabilization, use of ESSER funds and engagement as those funding sources close, further discussion of the FY25 budget process at an upcoming Committee of the Board meeting, and community and Board involvement in future budget cycles, as well as a follow-up request for disaggregated data regarding student achievement and proficiency.

Next, the Board conducted a work session on the proposed budget for the Board of Education, specifically. Line items were reviewed, with potential changes in communications/phones, professional development, board retreat funding, and travel/conferences. There was also a robust discussion on the potential of livestreaming Committee of the Board meetings. Further information was also requested on the status of the SEAB contract.

MOTION: Director Kopp moved that the Board accept the report of the Committee of the Board Meeting of June 6, 2023, and approve the recommended motions and minutes of that meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Director Henderson.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
 Director Kopp Yes

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

9. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

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

- January 3, 2023 | Annual Meeting: 4:30 p.m.
- January 17
- February 21
- March 21
- April 18
- May 23
- June 6 | Special - Non-Renewals: 4:00 p.m.
- July 18
- August 22
- September 19
- October 24
- November 14
- December 19

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

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

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Gothard noted the recent graduation ceremonies - 17 in total, and the memories, and limitless potential of our graduates. He noted the venues, traditions, and different ways that to personalize our students walking across the stage at graduation. It's often the best time of the school year as we wonder what our students are thinking, what they want to be, and if they feel prepared, and knowing what is out there for them. We show pride in the community, as we come together to celebrate our graduates, as we work to create the best opportunities for them. He thanked and congratulated our graduates, as well as all students, families, and staff for their support.

He also noted his experience at the first day of the CRI Expo, and thanked the presenters for a culturally responsive environment. Culturally responsive instruction is item 3a in the strategic plan and the adopted Ready for Rigor framework is a foundation of the event. He noted hearing teacher Chong Yang speak at

the event, and her poignant story and the journey of culturally responsive instruction. He thanked the Office of Teaching and Learning for planning this event. He also noted the student work on display and the opportunity to express themselves and their communities.

11. AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

A. Consent Agenda

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

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

1. Gifts

BF 33223 Acceptance of Gift from Adams Spanish Immersion PTO

That Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to allow Adams Spanish Immersion to accept this gift from Adams Spanish Immersion PTO. This gift of \$10,461.28 will be deposited into the intraschool fund 19-410-291-000-5096-U001.

BF 33224 Acceptance of Gift from Central HS PAC

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Central High School to accept this gift from the CHS Parent Advisory Council. This gift of \$10,000.00 will be deposited into the GT .

BF 33225 Acceptance of Prom Ticket Money from the Central PAC

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Central High School to accept these funds from Central HS PAC. \$19,907.32 will be deposited into the Prom intraschool fund 19-210-291-000-5096-P100.

BF 33226 Summer Leadership Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to allow Como Park Senior High School/MCJROTC to accept a monetary gift from North Star Marine Veterans Corp of \$6,000.00. The money will be deposited into the JROTC intra-school account, 19-212-291-000-5096-J001, and will be used for the above projects.

2. Grants

BF 33227 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Carlson Family Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant to the Carlson Family Foundation for the funds to expand Innocent Classroom; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33228 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from Hiway Credit Union Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from Hiway for funds to support the Intro to Business Course; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33229 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Minnesota Department of Education – Grow Your Own Grant - Pathway for Adults

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education to sustain the SUTR program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33230 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from The Minnesota Jewish Community Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The Minnesota Jewish Community Foundation; to support LEAP's social and emotional support to their students; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33231 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the USDA's Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Program (FVPP)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the USDA's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to provide fresh fruit and vegetables in the district; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33232 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to 3M – Creating Greater Access to Skilled Trades Careers in Saint Paul 2023-2024

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to 3M for the funds to sustain programming at the district-wide career pathway center; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33233 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to 3M – STEM Partnerships in Saint Paul 2023-2024

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to 3M to support school year and summer STEM programs in the 2023-2024 school year; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33234 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Allina Health's Charitable Contribution Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Allina Health for funds to support the district Wellness Initiatives; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33235 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to The Asian Organizing Youth Leadership Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the The Asian Organizing Youth Leadership Program for the funds to create a new club and train students to be leaders; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33236 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education – National School Lunch Program Equipment

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Education for funds to purchase kitchen equipment; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33237 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education; Part C American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds: Equity Loan Forgiveness and Retention Incentive Grants

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Education for the funds to support retention of Specialized Services and Early Childhood Special Education; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents

BF 33238 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Transportation – Safe Routes to School Boost Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for the funds to install a traffic garden at Phalen Lake; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33239 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Saint Cloud State University

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the 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.

BF 33240 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Sauer Family Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Sauer Family Foundation for the project Raising Readers; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents

BF 33241 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Trust for Public Land - Community School Yard Renovation Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Trust for Public Land to support the creation of a community school yard park; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

BF 33242 Amendment to Change Inc. Navigator Contract in SPPS for School Year 2022-23, 2023-24

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the expenditure of ARP funds in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for Navigators provided by Change Inc. for fiscal year 2022-23 and \$780,000 for fiscal year 2023-24. This amount supports the work of Navigators at Como, Gordon Parks, Harding, Highland Senior, Humboldt, Johnson, Washington.

BF 33243 Benefits Enrollment Decision Software Services with The Jellyvision Lab, Inc

That the Board of Education approve a contract with The Jellyvision Lab, Inc. for employee benefits counseling, effective October 1, 2023 at the proposed rates.

BF 33244 K-10 FASTBridge Reading Screener Renewal

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with FastBridge/Illuminate. The total cost for services will not exceed \$215,000.

BF 33245 ITB#A227657-A - Fresh Bakery Items

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of ITB#A227657-A to Bimbo Bakeries USA for furnishing and delivery of fresh bakery items for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025, for an estimated value of \$245,000 annually to Bimbo Bakeries USA.

BF 33246 Request for Authorization to Award ITB#A227746-A Large Equipment SY22-23

That the Board of Education authorizes the award of ITB# A227746-A Large Equipment to Culinex, Douglas Equipment, and Trimark-Hockenbergs Equipment for the values of \$124,642.44, 34,953.89, and \$96,497.78; respectively.

BF 33247 Request to Sign the Contract between Minnesota State and SPPS Pertaining to PSEO by Contract Courses Offered at the 3M Advanced Training Center

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the request to sign the contract between Minnesota State and SPPS pertaining to PSEO by Contract classes offered at the 3M Advanced Training Center

BF 33248 Request to Sign Concurrent Enrollment Contract with Saint Paul College

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 FY23.

BF 33249 Request for Proposal (RFP) 23-2667-JG Pupil Transportation Services School Year 2023-2024

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to award contract based on responses to Request for Proposal No. 23-2667-JG for additional Yellow buses for Student Transportation to Transit Team for school year 2023-2024, with no ability to extend the contract beyond.

BF 33250 Request For Proposal (RFP) Extension No.A20-0547-A Student Transportation for 2023-2024 School Year

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to award contracts based on responses to Request for Proposal No. A20-0547-A for Student Transportation for School Year 2023-2024, with no ability to extend the contracts beyond.

BF 33251 Request to Sign the Financial Accounting and Business Ethics PSEO by Contract Agreement with Saint Paul College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the PSEO by Contract Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul College for FY23.

BF 33252 Spending Accounts for FSA, DCFSA, and HSA with Optum

That the Board of Education approve a five year contract with Optum Financial, effective January 1, 2024, at the proposed rates

BF 33253 Construction Manager as Advisor Services for Farnsworth Upper HVAC Replacement (Project # 1030-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of construction manager as advisor services and pass through general conditions to Knutson Construction for the not-to-exceed fee of \$766,542.

BF 33254 Design Services for Farnsworth Upper HVAC Replacement (Project # 1030-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of design and construction administration services to ATSR for the not-to-exceed fee of \$449,375.

BF 33255 Procore Technologies Contract Renewal

That the Board of Education authorize award of the two-year contract renewal to Procore Technologies for the continued support of the District's construction projects at a cost of \$340,903 in FY24 and FY25.

4. Agreements

BF 33256 Annual Renewal Oracle Database Cloud Services Agreement with Collier and Vendor Related Services

That Board of Education authorizes District administration to enter into renewal services agreement and related support services as presented for a service period of 12 months in the amount of \$2,193,590 for FY 24.

BF 33257 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Laborers Local 563, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2023-2024

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom the Laborer's Local 563 is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024.

BF 33258 Approval of an Employment Agreement with United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers, Local Union No. 96, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2023-2025

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 employees in this school district for whom United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers, Local Union No. 96, is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2025.

5. Administrative Items

BF 33259 Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period April 1, 2023 – April 30, 2023

(a) General Account	#759869-760828	\$66,811,513.26
	#0004854-0004887	
	#7004750-7004783	
	#0008299-0008432	
(b) Construction Payments	- 0 -	\$2,494,493.73
(c) Debt Service	- 0 -	<u>0.00</u>
		\$69,306,006.99

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$44,719,323.62 and overtime of \$234,902.93 or 0.53% 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 October 31,2023

BF 33260 Recommendations for Exclusion of Students Non-Compliant with Minnesota Statute 121A.15 Health Standards: Immunizations

That the Board of Education exclude noncompliant students from school effective June 28, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

Human Resources Transactions

BF 33261 Transactions for May 1 - May 31, 2023

BF 33262 Designation of an Identified Official with Authority for Education Identity Access Management

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to authorize Cheryl Carlstrom, Cheryl.Carlstrom@spps.org, to act as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for Saint Paul Public Schools ISD 625.

BF 33263 Retirement Date Changes for Specific SPTRFA Members

That the Board of Education approve the retirement date change requests for the individuals noted herein.

BF 33264 Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Washington Technology Magnet and St. Paul- Johnson for Girls' Basketball

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

BF 33265 Property Insurance Renewal

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to renew a 12-month policy for property insurance coverage with Affiliated FM for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, at a cost of \$1,393,700.

BF 33266 Insurance Renewal - General Liability, Commercial Auto, Crime, Educators Legal Liability, Excess Liability, Law Enforcement Liability

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to accept a 12-month bundled policy for General Liability, Commercial Auto, Crime, Educators Legal Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, and Excess Liability coverage with Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, at a cost of \$1,493,531.

BF 33267 Rights & Responsibilities Student Handbook Revisions for SY2023-24

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the proposed revisions made to the Rights & Responsibilities Student Handbook for SY23-24.

BF 33268 Phase Gate Approval of the Griffin Stadium (Central High School) Electrical System Upgrade (Project # 3021-22-01): Gate #3 – Project Budget; Gate #3A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Griffin Stadium (Central High School) Electrical System Upgrade project (Project # 3021-22-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget; Gate Check #3a –Finance Plan Update, setting the final project budget at \$504,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

BF 33269 Facilities Department FY24 Purchases over \$175,000

That the Board of Education authorize the purchases listed for the Facilities Department anticipated to be over the \$175,000.

BF 33270 Maximum Hourly Rate Increases for Pre-Qualified Professional Consultant Construction Managers as Advisors

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to adjust the terms of professional consulting services in accordance with the Request for Qualifications No. A21-1305-A to incorporate new maximum hourly billing rates per the above table.

6. Bids

BF 33271 Phase Gate Approval of the Frost Lake Building Addition and Renovation (Project # 1100-19-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3501-JG for the Frost Lake Building Addition and Renovation project (Project # 1100-19-01) to Greiner Construction for a lump sum base bid of \$283,000.

BF 33272 Phase Gate Approval of the Griffin Stadium (Central High School) Electrical System Upgrade (Project # 3021-22-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3542-JG for the Griffin Stadium (Central High School) Electrical System Upgrade project (Project # 3021-22-01) to Hunt Electric Corporation for a lump sum base bid plus Alternates #1 & 2 of \$251,585.

7. Change Orders

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION - None

FURTHER AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

A. Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet & Hmong Language and Culture Middle School Name Change: Third Reading

BF 33273 Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet & Hmong Language and Culture Middle School Name Change: Third Reading

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff and families to present the third, and final, reading of this proposed name change.

The rationale was shared, as well as the criteria for the name change. The name options selected were:

- Cag Txuj – Cag means “roots” and Txuj means “knowledge”
- Huam Vam – Huam Vam in Hmong means “to prosper, “to grow”, or “to flourish.”
- Txuj Ci – Txuj ci in the Hmong language refers to the cultural knowledge of a people
- Pov Haum Txuj – Pov Haum in Hmong refers to a valuable and special rock or gem; it can often have protective and special powers Txuj refers to cultural knowledge and learning. Together, Pov Haum Txuj refers to the school as a very valuable and protected place for learning.
- Zaj Npau Suav – Zaj Npau Suav in the Hmong language means “The Dream”

Information on the engagement process was also shared. Voting results were also presented, with Txuj Ci and Huam Vam receiving the highest votes in the initial poll, and **Txuj Ci** receiving the highest amount of votes in the final round of voting.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue thanked the parents and families for their work. This is the result of generations of work in SPPS, and in thinking about our Hmong community, it is historic to have a school in SPPS in our language, and the Hmong language to represent the community, and he thanked everyone for their work.

MOTION: Director Vue moved to approve that the Board of Education accept and declare that the names of:

- Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet be changed to Txuj Ci HMong Language and Culture Lower Campus; and
- Hmong Language and Culture Middle School be changed to Txuj Ci HMong Language and Culture Upper Campus;

and authorize the Superintendent and his designees that all steps necessary to effectuate this change. Director Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

B. Proposed Increase in Fees for High School Sports Participation

BF 33274 Proposed Increase in Fees for High School Sports Participation

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present the Proposed Increase in Fee for High School Sports Participation. Background details were provided as well as guiding principles. A set of proposals was also shared, including the proposed fees for 2023-24 and for 2024-25. Details on the waiver process were also provided. A recommendation for the increase in student participation fees was also included.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Ellis thanked the team for their work on this item, and their thoughtfulness and kindness towards students and families.
- She requested further information on paperwork and forms or expectations for families with FRL and universal meals.
- She also requested details on how the costs will be covered. Response: The costs are covered by the athletic directors now, and the athletics fees allow for the purchase of equipment, and other items. We are able to “get by” on small athletics budgets, and search for equipment on sale of find ways to reuse

items. We continue to make it work. We will continue with our current process to ensure that all students interested in playing a sport are able to do so.

- Director Ellis also requested information on support for families to watch their student play at a game or event. Response: Gate revenue is a portion of athletic office budgets, and they are charged for stadium or gym events. Most sports do not have a ticket price to attend, except football, basketball, and volleyball, and swimming at Humboldt. The gate fee is also important to “fill the gaps” in athletic fees, and there are options for families to purchase season passes at reduced rates. We want to be inclusive of all students, and families to support their athlete, and not create a hardship for a family. We want to ensure the athletic fees are reasonable because we also want families to be able to attend the games.
- Director Ward noted that with the universal meal legislation, wondering if data from the FRL forms is still collected. Response: Yes, there is a great need for the that data to be collected. The MSHSL Foundation allocates funds back to schools’ athletic programs based on the FRL data.
 - Director Allen requested further information on the incentives to ensure families complete the form. Response: We continue to use the multifaceted approach, with the majority from schools, and there are competitions and encouragement for families to complete the forms. We also call families, as well as utilize technology, such as text messaging. Each year it increases.
 - Director Allen recommended to add to communications about the FRL form about how it adjusts our budget.
 - Principal Littles-Butler noted the term “Benefits Forms” to change the narrative of this form, and it is about more than lunch – it is a gauge where families are and how to support in different capacities.
- Director Henderson requested information on the waiver process. Response: We are currently working on the details of the process, but if a student qualifies for benefits, the athletic director will work with the student to start the waiver process.

MOTION: Director Vue that the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education approves the following increase in student participation fees:

Effective July 1, 2023:

- **Participation fees for any non-exempted sport will be \$30 if the student qualifies for free/reduced lunch and \$60 otherwise.**

Effective July 1, 2024:

- **Participation fees for any non-exempted sport will be \$40 if the student qualifies for free/reduced lunch and \$90 otherwise.**

Director Ellis seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

C. FY24 Budget Adoption

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services to present the FY24 Budget Adoption. The purpose of the presentation was reviewed, including the presentation and recommendation of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget for approval. Topics included timeline and parameters, revenue – all funds, expenditures – all funds, projected FY24 ending fund balances, summary of mail points, next steps: summer plans for budget engagement, and the final recommendation. Strategic investments were reviewed – in students, school, staff, and families and community. The engagement process was also reviewed, including engagement with students, community conversations with Marnita's Table, and 75 budget meetings with school and department staff.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- The Board noted a question about PreK and a section moving from their school to the Early Childhood Hub, and what are we doing to ensure we continue a pipeline to elementary school, as opposed to simply a place for one year, and then onto another building? Response: This is a good problem to have concerning enrollment, because it honors our families, and after working with the school and with Student Placement, we were able to honor the majority of families who applied. Phalen Lake and the EC Hub are working together for families to feel a part of the Phalen Lake community, in programming and activities, and for our PreK students to have a seat in the kindergarten program at Phalen Lake. We also worked with families and a survey for busing.
- Director Henderson noted a question on the public engagement plan regarding the budget for FY24, and if that plan will remain the same year after year. Response: We will use the study act, and have a plan for 24-25, ask for feedback on how it worked, and then refine as we go.
- Director Henderson noted the space to be asking stakeholders and what they want to see before the budget is approved, and to meet the needs of everyone involved.
- Director Allen noted the safety and security enhancement mentioned, and it is centered around extra surveillance for students, and wondering about professional development to improve the safety of our schools and when the change in culture will occur and expectations for all students to have a sense of belonging and connectedness. Response: Security cameras are enhancements, and allow us to install camera quality in areas. The increase in SSLs was also noted, and the creation of a plan to provide a group of individuals with the right training to build relationships with students, ensure campuses are safe and they have been effective.
- It was noted about the amount of training provided to our SSLs and training for staff throughout the district, and to be proactive, and meet students where they are and stay ahead of challenging situations. At the CRI Expo, everyday student routines were noted.
- Information was also requested on restorative practices and investments in that work within the budget. Director Allen provided additional information from the Minnesota Department of Education website on the topic of ensuring safe schools and the subcategory of restorative practices and provided a quote from their website regarding this topic. She noted hearing in listening sessions about the importance of this work, and its necessary for folks to feel safe and best practices. It is within the first tenant of the Ready for Rigor framework, and claim spaces for kids that are safe and where they feel ready to learn. There are also restorative practices opportunities this summer, and circle practices to design systems of relationships and accountability, and each is open to SPPS staff. There is a multifaceted approach, and foundational responsibilities we have for students, families and staff, and is included in the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, as a reference. Collaborative walk-throughs in each comprehensive high school also show the implemented systems and how to improve, and continuous improvements for buildings and feedback on their plans. The Office of Student Support was also noted, and their support in processing incidents and resources available, and continuing to add restorative practices opportunities. The capacity was also noted, and how to be a more restorative place for our scholars.
- Director Allen noted she appreciates the mindset, but in order for it to impact students, all people involved in the education process also need to have that mindset for students so they can feel and see it happening. In terms of establishing culture, there needs to be an understanding on restorative justices and practices, and tools for support. We have to fully invest in this work, and shift the

restorative mindset as a district as a whole with restorative leaders and equitable outcomes - it's important to understand to make investments in this direction. With punitive actions, we will achieve the same negative outcomes. Academic is not only behavioral. She noted the need to see significant investments in moving in this direction, and the ability to go through the healing process and to be accountable and change behaviors and then see the culture change.

- Director Ward noted that before he left on parental leave, he made a request to be presented with a plan for how to engage with the community more in the creation of the budget and how the Board can also help to shape the budget next year. This is a draft of how to get to that point, and he thanked the team for committing to a process to engage with the community.
- He noted that the other aspect of his request involved the Board's role in shaping the budget – and the different philosophies in the Board's role. Response: The Board sets the direction for the school district, and most expenditures are based on board-approved action, and collective bargaining agreements. The board's typical discretion is from a governance standpoint, and setting direction, and aligning the strategic direction with available resources.
- Director Ward also noted a question around trying to shape the inputs into the budget, rather than receiving a budget and making changes to what is presented. Superintendent Gothard noted the work of the Board as a whole, and the future community engagement for FY25, and hard decisions that will need to be made in the future – we are grateful for the current revenue, but have a lot of needs as well.
- Director Ward also noted further questions on the role of the board and expenditure changes in the budget. Superintendent Gothard noted that there are a number of staffing allocations, and the Board would then need to review all of them. He also noted that we are a \$1B organization that is dynamic – inputs change, and there are different program needs. This is the largest possible budget, and we need to be mindful of the structure and standards. We also have staffing ratios to consider.
- Director Ward noted that there is a possibility of an amendment to the budget, but there is not enough information to consider, with the budget book not containing all information, and the Board received it on Friday. It seems as though the Board is not given the opportunity to make potential changes under the current process – it is they receive the budget, ask questions, and then approve. It is frustrating for him because as he was coming onto the board and advocating for change. It seems strange to not have enough information to make decisions if the decisions make sense for the district. Director Ward also noted his hopes for the role of the Board in future budget processes, and hoping to receive it earlier. Superintendent Gothard noted that the Board receiving section allocations would not align with guidelines and would undermine the District in the allocation of \$1B. He also noted the new Chiefs within Human Resources and Financial Services, and their work and challenges. They were able to send out budget allocations to sites sooner, and create a dashboard with information, and allow principals to start interviews on May 5th. The team comes together and reflects – to do right for our kids and the community. Engagement and alignment will be a helpful practice in the work between the Board and Administration. Director Ward noted he is excited about how that could look, and how the Board could be more involved in shaping the budget.
- Director Allen agreed with the setting of a new engagement timeline, and it would be helpful to have information before the Board starts to receive emails regarding budget decisions at sites, as well as projected enrollment figures. Chief Sager noted that forecasts are compiled in January of the following year and there is analysis of seat counts in February, and then cohort survival method to determine forecasts. There was also further information provided on allocations to program leaders and principals.
- How much is invested in extracurricular activities and clubs for a strong sense of belonging for students? Response: About \$6.5M is invested in activities and engagement, and there are other items that offset some of the costs. We know activities and programs create engagement and belonging and it is a very important aspect of investment for our students and families.
- Director Ellis noted the investment in transportation in this budget. She also noted information shared in phone calls and conversations and information provided to the Board. She noted the need to understand budgetary decisions and the rationale for them to explain to the community. We need a way to be proactive and not reactive. Response: We can work on ways of finding information and the information that is shared. Examples of changes to the high school master schedule were shared – including the Ethnic Studies requirement and the impact on the schedule and staffing. Director Ellis noted the information that was shared with the Board on Friday regarding the budget, and trying to

piece together the information and asking questions, and understanding the documents and information.

- Director Ellis also noted the impact of a parent affected by budgetary decisions at their school, and the need to be proactive with information, and understanding the how and why and moving forward. She also noted restorative practices and contract language.
- Director Henderson noted that one of the confusing and frustrating aspects was being unable to identify when decision-making was happening, and the wanting to know and share with the community and stakeholder involvement. How have students and families shown up in the budget presented today? Response: Superintendent Gothard shared the number of FTEs and positions that are funded with ARP funding, and some will need to be offloaded in the future when the funds are no longer available, but some have done such compelling work, that we will find a way to continue, which may be at the expense of other areas. One other way is enrollment – we are +48 students, last year it was -469, and that is because of the practices we have in place. He also noted the expansion of PreK, and the impacts on the sections for Phalen Lake. He noted transportation and yellow buses investments, as well as safety. The East African Magnet school is another example, and hearing the demands from the community and positive reactions to this announcement and plan. We want schools to be inviting and physically and academically safe so students can feel like they can be their full authentic selves. It is about value statements, and collective actions.
- Director Kopp thanked her colleagues for the questions and conversation, and asked her colleagues that if they are requesting information or timelines, improved practices, to make a note and to send it to Board administration to collect and share with Administration on information that is needed. She also noted board awareness, and to be mindful of district decision information in conversations in community and to ensure an understanding of that information before sharing to not create confusion, or different information in the community. It would be a helpful practice for the Board, and further conversation on what that could look like, within the Board engagement with the budget. She also noted her personal experience in being a parent and advocating for her child's school. She recommended information on the budget process to create a true sense of understanding of school district funding and the broad process of how it works.
- Director Vue requested information on the unassigned General Fund – which is about \$75M. Response: That is the unassigned fund balance of 5.2% of the total General Fund that allows for flexibility, as opposed to a reserve account. Director Ward also noted that those funds serve as an emergency fund, if for example, the government shut down and there was no funding, as an ability to stay afloat for several months.
- Superintendent Gothard then read a prepared statement, which included information on engagement, collaboration with district leaders and principals, conversations in community about their values and hopes, with students, and our new East African Magnet School. This \$1B budget is an incredible investment in our young people. Next year, with the federal funds expiring, it will be different. He thanked the board members and students, families, and staff for this budget and making decision to get to this point. He appreciates the commitment, and will continue to work together to share with care and equity and student achievement at the forefront.
- Director Ward noted he has gone back and forth on this budget vote, and noted the exciting investments in our students, and advocating since he has been on the Board with our students in mind. At the same time, he is struggling to feel comfortable in voting in favor of this budget, as he did not receive the information requested, such as a detailed budget able to be analyzed and elevated for changes. He also noted a number of requested from community for an alternative budget that eliminated any cuts for staffing which was not received. He intends to vote no in hopes we can schedule a meeting later this month to answer those questions.

BF 33275

FY24 Budget Adoption

MOTION: Director Vue moved the approval and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Budget as presented. Director Kopp seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	No
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes

D. Action on the Superintendent's Contract

Chair Vue noted at the November BOE meeting, the Board approved a new three-year contract for Superintendent Gothard. This contract was entered into by both the District and Superintendent in good faith and with the best intentions of everyone involved.

In April, an issue was brought to the Board's attention regarding some of the terms regarding deferred compensation and whether those terms were consistent with state law. In reviewing the matter in greater detail and through discussions with Dr. Gothard, we – the Board AND Dr. Gothard – agree that we want make sure that his contract meets all federal and state requirements and that there is no question regarding anyone's intentions or integrity.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Ward requested more information on this action. Response: General Counsel Long provided more information, such as tax deferred compensation and the compliance with federal or state law, and the decision to propose changes with respect to deferred compensation in the contract.
- The amount of compensation does not change – it is simply shifting to make it compliant with law? Response: Yes, that is correct.
- There are no changes in so far as the dollar impact to the district or superintendent? It is just aligning with the law as best as possible in trying to fix how it was done previously? Response: Yes, that is correct.

BF 33276 Action on the Superintendent's Contract

MOTION: **Director Vue moved that the contract between the Board and Superintendent Gothard that was approved at the November Regular Meeting of the Board of Education be rescinded and replaced with the contract before you to be dated today. Director Kopp seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

10. INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

A. Policy Update

1. SECOND READING: Updates to Policies 204.01, 205.00, 206.00 and 210.00
2. SECOND READING: Rescission of Policy 213.00
3. SECOND READING: Adoption of New Policy 214.00
4. FIRST READING: Policy 506.06 Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions and Student's Person

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present the Policy Update. Background was provided on these policy updates, including the rationale for the proposed changes, an overview of the proposed changes to the selected 200-level policies, and links to the proposed updated language.

For the rescission of Policy 213.00 – Board of Education Professional Development, the rationale for the rescission is that it is redundant to Policy 211.00 – Board Member Development, and that the two paragraphs that compose Policy 213.00 are included in Policy 211.00.

For the proposed new policy 214.00 – Out-of-State Travel for Board Members, there is a requirement by state statute to have a policy on out-of-state travel for board members.

For the first reading of Policy 506.06 – Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person, the rationale for the proposal of this policy was reviewed, including that the District does not currently have an office Board policy as required per statute and that while this is a new District policy, the adherence is not new.

The purpose of the proposed policy was reviewed, as well as definition of “contraband.” Further information was also provided on lockers and personal possessions with a locker, desks, and personal possessions and student's person.

The full presentations, as well as the proposed changes to each policy, with changes in red, were also included in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- General Counsel Long provided details about the MSBA model policy regarding board member travel, and it was first originated based on the statute in 2005, and then the model policy was also revised in 2009.

C. Envision SPPS: Final Report

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present Envision SPPS: Final Report. The topics included Evaluation, General Implementation, and New Enrollment Initiatives. The evaluation timeline was shared, as well as evaluation areas and questions, including impact on students and families, sustainability of schools including enrollment, transportation analysis, and success of schools and programs in providing students with a well-rounded education. Further information was also provided on the impact on teachers and instructional staff, including staff retention analysis, principal interviews, and promising practices within school culture and staff cohesion and transition.

Within General Implementation, information was provided on Obama Elementary School and active choice and staff placements, as well as updates for Highwood Hills, LEAP, and Wellstone.

Within New Enrollment Initiatives, information was presented on enrollment and retention campaigns, PreK enrollment, East African Elementary Magnet School and the decision-making process, staff hiring and recruitment, and marketing and recruitment for the new school and program.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Foster requested further information on well-rounded education and the analysis of that topic.
- The impacts of transportation were also noted, as well as role of arts, languages, and the ongoing process for evaluating and improvement in those buildings. We now have a basepoint, and looking at our portfolio of schools to be realigned with numbers and moving forward. There is qualitative and quantitative data regarding well-rounded educations, and what does it mean now and how are we moving forward with gauging, assessing, and checking and building capacity.
- Director Kopp requested data on 23-24 projections for enrollment and Envision-affected schools – and wondering if they are stabilizing or shrinking, and data that could be sent to the Board.
- Director Kopp noted the opportunity for Envision impacted schools to look at the FMP 5-Year Plan and understanding those physical changes, and it's important to sit with communities and the great things happening, and there are also schools we are not seeing who have needs and that have arisen out of Envision, and the opportunity to express things important for them in the physical space, so it could be Envision Plus.
- Director Foster requested information on gauging ongoing access and opportunity to build well-roundness and continue to see improvements so all buildings are well-rounded and have opportunities. She also noted the process for this district, staff, families, and students, and well-rounded education and spaces for additional supports and opportunities will be a priority to watch and monitor, as well as the Board to rally behind this work, and community engagement.
- Thanks to Kara Arzamendia and Chief Turner for the presentation.
- Director Vue noted that while Envision may be over, there are still some loose ends, including the move of JJ Hill to the Obama building. There is still an opportunity to hear what is happening with buildings, and with Bruce Vento being re-built and capital projects reports.

D. Student Outcomes Focused Governance: Contract Update

Vice Chair Kopp and Chair Vue then provided information on this item. Since November, the intention has been to bring forward a contract at this meeting to begin the full implementation of Student Outcomes Focused Governance. We have been working diligently with the Council of the Great City Schools and their team. After exploring all possibilities, we were unable to arrive at a contract that both parties could feel good about proceeding with. They are grateful for the participation of this Board, Senior Executive Leadership Team, and others who were instrumental in the trainings, and the work around logic models and the legal aspects with General Counsel. Even during the budget discussion, we heard the language of Student Outcomes Focused Governance, and have noticed an increase in thinking about inputs, outputs, and outcomes. While we are not embarking on this journey at this time, we have built a foundation and common language to spend more time on student outcomes. We may develop our own framework in the future. Thanks to everyone for their participation, even through difficult conversations.

Director Allen thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for bringing this to the Board and opening our minds to the framework. She encouraged board members to look into other options, because while it was unfortunate we were unable to come to an agreement with CGCS, this is best practices for the board to adopt a framework. There is a Saint Paul way to build it for Saint Paul, and to broaden minds around engagement with community to determine what works.

Director Vue noted that even though we were unable to reach an agreement, goals and guardrails are important for our students, and to centralize the work of seven individuals. With the robust discussion around the budget, there were embedded priorities and goals, and ways for the Board to come together to do that work. Even though we were unable to reach a contract with CGCS, this work does continue and moves forward as we look to what our students know and are able to do.

Director Ellis also noted the importance of this work and decisions based on our students. She doesn't believe this was the only way, and we do need a way to move forward and thinking differently about how and what our students are learning, and resources and opportunities to map this work and process.

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas

- Director Foster requested information on the process for new hires to the district, including onboarding. Chief Pratt-Cook provided details on the progress and information provided to new employees, and the onboarding process. She also noted the process improvement work within Human Resources, and the process and systems changes and focus on the beginning of the school year.
- Director Ellis requested information on training and professional development around mandated reporting. She also requested information on the number of students in Special Education receiving compensatory hours from the past school year, and noted her feedback from community on this issue.
- Director Foster also requested information of current numbers of IEPs and Special Education data, and the alignment with dismissals and suspension rates.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Ellis noted her experience at graduation ceremonies and the Obama 100 Year celebration, and her personal connection to the Obama building. She is curious about the archives of yearbooks and school history, and how we are saving school and community information. She also acknowledged that on June 16th it had been one year since the passing of colleague, Darren Ginther and our thoughts remain of him and his family.
- Director Vue noted the Culturally Relevant Instruction Expo, and encouraged all board members to attend.

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 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