

**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

**May 24, 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. Vue, C. Allen J. Kopp, Z. Ellis, J. Foster, H. Henderson
Superintendent Gothard

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

4. RECOGNITIONS

BF 33181 Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Students

1. The Earn as You Learn Program provides students in SPPS high schools an opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications such as Microsoft Office, OSHA safety, customer service and sales, and other certifications.

This year, six students earned Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel certifications. Students who earn the three Microsoft certificates earn a fourth certificate indicating they are Microsoft Office Specialists:

- **Cyrie Nguyen** (9th grade) – Washington Technology Magnet
- **Niko Turnure** (10th grade) – Como Park Senior High
- **Nkaujhmong Vue** (11th grade) – Harding Senior High
- **Melody Yang** (11th grade) – Harding Senior High
- **Aymelee Xiong** (10th grade) – Como Park Senior High
- **May Saize Xiong** (12th grade) – Central Senior High

2. The Academy of Finance (AOF) is a Career Pathways program at Como Park Senior High. Students in the program earn articulated, concurrent and PSEO by contract college credits in their business classes beginning in tenth grade. AOF students who earn 16 college credits with the required final grades earn a business certificate from Saint Paul College.

This year, four seniors earned a business certificate from Saint Paul College. They are:

- **Chong Her**
- **Gael Manzi**
- **Jesiah Mason**
- **Liam Schwie**

3. **Shania Nichols**, a senior at Como Park Senior High, was named female athlete of the year at the 38th Annual Minnesota Indian Education Conference (MIEA) on Wednesday, April 19. She is a tremendous athlete and has been a varsity starter for Como Park High School since she was in eighth grade. Shania graduates this year and has already committed to playing college basketball at NDSCS. She was able to overcome injury to help her team become AAA Section 3 conference champions this year. Shania scored her 1,000th point this year as well.

4. **Central Senior High's Policy Debate** team has been continuously building on their competitive success, and this year was no different. Central has taken home trophies and speaker awards in each division throughout the season, and their success in the varsity division earned them an invitation to the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues championship tournament in Dallas this past March.

Central sent the teams of **Cayden Mayer** and **Maren Lien** as well as the team of **Eleanor Johnson** and **Kieran LeVitre**. Eleanor and Kieran nearly made the Octofinals, and Cayden and Maren just kept winning. They defeated teams from across the country in debates over the United State's involvement with The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and they made it all the way to the final round where they lost a close contest to a team from Port of Los Angeles High School. For their efforts, Cayden and Maren both earned \$5,000 scholarships, a level of national regard we haven't had in the program for quite some time, and an open invitation to come back and coach the team in the future.

5. In February, **Saint Paul Central's Ethics Bowl** team attended the Minnesota State High School Ethics Bowl competition. Two of the teams went undefeated through the tournament and met in the finals. The winning team then beat a team from Arkansas in the virtual divisional finals to advance to the 2023 National High School Ethics Bowl (NHSEB) tournament, which was held in early April at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The students competed well at the national competition and had a great time discussing challenging ethical issues.

The NHSEB promotes respectful, supportive, and in-depth discussion of ethics among high school students nationwide. By engaging high school students in intensive ethical inquiry, the NHSEB fosters constructive

dialogue and furthers the next generation's ability to make sound ethical decisions. The collaborative model of the competition rewards students for the depth of their thought, their ability to think carefully and analytically about complex issues, and the respect they show to the diverse perspectives of their peers. As a result, it enables students to practice and build the virtues central to democratic citizenship, thus preparing them to navigate challenging moral issues in a rigorous, systematic, and open-minded way.

The following seven students represented Central Senior High at the national tournament:

- **Rayyan Abdur Razzaq**
- **Miriam Garnaas**
- **Celia Johnson**
- **Li Le Kaplow**
- **Kamaria Milton**
- **Sadie Peterson**
- **Rachel Poppleton**

BF 33182 Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees

1. Multiple SPPS school counseling programs have recently earned Recognized American School Counselors Association (ASCA) Model Program (RAMP) designation from the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). The RAMP designation recognizes schools that are committed to delivering an exemplary school counseling program. Honorees are awarded for aligning their program with the criteria in the ASCA National Model, a framework for a data-informed school counseling program. Research findings indicate fully implemented school counseling programs are associated with a range of positive student educational and behavioral outcomes.

SPPS 2023 RAMP recipients are:

- Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented Magnet
 - Counselors: **Melissa Derby, Chi Fomafung and Zachary Nauschutz**
- Cretin-Derham Hall High School
 - SPPS Counselors: **Mike Brewer, Emily Kurmis, Thay Thao, Jane Treat Young**
- Frost Lake Elementary
 - Counselors: **Vanessa Amaya, Leena Callan, Emily Spofford**
- Saint Paul Music Academy (SPMA)
 - Counselors: **Paige LaQua and Keela Kuhlert**

Capitol Hill and SPMA are the first schools in Minnesota to re-RAMP, meaning they worked for this designation five years ago and again this year. Special shout out to the counselors at SPMA who received School of Distinction status for their exemplary score.

SPPS now has 11 RAMP schools - two of whom are reRAMP schools and four of whom are Schools of Distinction. Current SPPS RAMP Schools:

- Adams Spanish Immersion
- Battle Creek Elementary*
- Bruce Vento
- Capitol Hill Gifted & Talented Magnet - reRAMP
- Cretin-Derham Hall
- Eastern Heights
- Farnsworth Elementary Lower Campus*
- Frost Lake
- John A. Johnson
- Randolph Heights*

- Saint Paul Music Academy* - reRAMP

Click [here](#) for more information about our RAMP schools!

2. SPPS also has a school counselor who has achieved the ASCA Certified School Counselor designation for demonstrating school counselor knowledge in designing, implementing and assessing a school counseling program. School counselors who hold the ACSC demonstrate their commitment to the highest levels of professionalism, ethical practice and continuing professional development in their school counseling practice.

- **Lauren Smith**, Randolph Heights joins **Keela Kuhlert**, SPMA as Minnesota's only ASCA Certified School Counselors

3. **Jordan Iwan** is the new Dakota Language Teacher at Harding Senior High School this year. Jordan was awarded one of the K-12 Educator of the Year Awards at the 38th Annual Minnesota Indian Education Conference (MIEA) in April. He won the award because as the first-year teacher in his position he coached his language teams to win first and third place at a Redwing Dakota Language Tournament and also first and third place at the MIEA Language Quiz Bowl. This is a very difficult feat to accomplish for a new teacher in this position.

4. **Lisa Bellanger** from the SPPS Indian Education Program also won one of the K-12 Educator of the Year Awards from the MIEA this year. Lisa has spent the school year traveling to many schools to teach not only K-12 students, but staff and adults that interact with those students. She has educated others about Land Acknowledgement, water issues, culture and language. Lisa not only teaches in SPPS, but throughout the greater American Indian Community. She is a tremendous asset to the district and the community.

5. **Jim Rue**, a substitute teacher at Belwin Outdoor Science, has received the National Substitute Educator of the Year award. This award is a longstanding tradition at Kelly Education. To honor the important work of all substitute employees, our annual Substitute Educator of the Year program recognizes the amazing people who are making a difference in substitute teacher, paraeducator, and support staff roles. Nationwide Kelly Education and Teachers On Call currently employ approximately 73,000 teachers nationwide with approximately 6,000 specifically in Minnesota. We received more than 700 nominations from our partners across the country; from those, four winners were selected and Jim Rue was one of the four!

As a winner, Jim received a \$5,000 bonus, plus an additional \$1,500 to donate to the school of his choice, on behalf of Kelly Education. Jim has chosen that Belwin Outdoor Science receive this donation.

Nicola Soares, President of Kelly Education, says "Jim Rue is a true representative of the high-quality educators Kelly Education provides to its partner schools each day. He operates with high integrity and makes a clear difference in ensuring a successful learning environment exists in the classroom. We are proud to recognize his commitment with this honor."

Josh Leonard, Education Director at Belwin Outdoor says, "Jim enriches science education at Belwin through his own volunteer field research project on Blanding's turtles, a threatened species, in cooperation with the Minnesota DNR. He has a talent for transforming the forests and prairies into classrooms, while meeting Minnesota State Science standards and addressing student concerns and special cognitive and physical needs."

6. In support of SPPS Achieves strategic objective 3C, the Division of Schools established a formal instructional leadership program called SPPS Leadership Institute for aspiring assistant principals and principals. Our first cohort began during the school year 2020-21. We just concluded with our third cohort this school year

The purpose of the SPPS Leadership Institute is to 1) continue to foster innovation and creative-thinking in our future leaders, 2) retain a high potential employee cohort ready to lead SPPS and 3) grow a successor pipeline of leaders from within SPPS.

The Leadership Institute is an eleven-month program that includes a week-long foundations training during the first week in August and monthly trainings throughout the school year.

This year's costs were:

- a. Purchase of books for each cohort member (Dare to Lead by Brené Brown)
- b. Hired external consultant to present on equity-driven leadership for five sessions throughout the year.
- c. Purchase of plaques for each cohort member to honor their hard work, engagement and completion of the program.

This project meets the District strategic plan focus area of Effective and Culturally Relevant Instruction, Objective 3 (increase our capacity to meet the instructional needs of each learner), Initiative 3c (establish a formal instructional program).

We would like to recognize those who completed this year's program:

- **Mohamed Abdurahman** – Counselor, American Indian Magnet
- **Lauren Bolopue** – Assistant Principal, Capitol Hill Magnet
- **Magalenn Cotton** – Teacher, SPPS Online School
- **Amanda Fraley** – E2 Montessori Teacher, Crossroads Elementary
- **Joe Gwin** – Math Teacher, Battle Creek Middle
- **Julie Hutcheson-Downwind** – Indigenous Curriculum Integration TOSA, Office of Teaching and Learning
- **David Mrozek** – Learning Lead, Crossroads Elementary
- **Katie Shetka** – Learning Lead, Groveland Park Elementary
- **Jayson Spence** – Assistant Principal, Harding Senior High School
- **Terri Steen** – Assistant Principal, Journeys, Downtown School, Care and Treatment Programs
- **Kou Xiong** – Math Teacher, Hmong Language and Culture Middle School

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Arson King</u> | Implementing carbon-efficient bus routes w/ app for bus drivers |
| 2. <u>Eva Yang</u> | Leadership at Hmong Language/Culture Middle School |
| 3. <u>Selena Vang</u> | Leadership at Hmong Language/Culture Middle School |
| 4. <u>Lydia Pitts</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 5. <u>Amanda Coleman</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 6. <u>John Horton</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 7. <u>Sue Vang</u> | Leadership at Hmong Language/Culture Middle School |
| 8. <u>Vinc Her</u> | Leadership at Hmong Language/Culture Middle School |
| 9. <u>Sally Bauer</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 10. <u>ShaVunda Brown</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 11. <u>Maria Golden</u> | Transition Leadership, Safety and Programming |

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|--|---|
| 12. <u>Alexis Bylander</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 13. <u>Ayan Mohamad</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 14. <u>Amina Abdullahi</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 15. <u>Fowzia Mursal</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 16. <u>Farhiya Mohamed</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 17. <u>Mahmud Kanyare</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 18. <u>Brenna Proczko</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 19. <u>Jackie McNamara</u> | Solutions to the Problem |
| 20. <u>Ubah Dhamukle</u> | Support for East African Magnet |
| 21. <u>Therese O'Meara</u> | Leadership Concerns |
| 22. <u>Nash Stone</u> | Special Education Services, Leadership Concerns |
| 23. <u>Jeff Street</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |
| 24. <u>Allen and Benjamin Barnacle</u> | JJ Hill Montessori Budget Cuts |

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

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of April 18, 2023
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 10, 2023

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of April 18, 2023 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 10, 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

At the Committee of the Board Meeting on May 9, 2023, Superintendent Gothard welcomed everyone to the meeting, and congratulated Harding math teacher and coach, Michael Houston as Minnesota Teacher of the Year. He also shared a brief update on his student convening titled "How are the Children?" with high school students. He also provided an update on the recent vote by the Minnesota State High School League to fully sanction boys volleyball beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, with more details to follow. Board members requested details on ways the information from the "How are the Children?" series will be incorporated into future reports to the Board, as well as information from the Board's student listening sessions.

Next, an update on the work of Systemic Equity in SPPS was presented. Questions from the Board focused on the impacts of the Gender Inclusion and Racial Equity policies since their adoption, the importance to be specific in this work and for every staff member to be committed to systemic equity for our students. Information was also requested on the impacts of the policies and the work being done to create safe and welcoming spaces for students. Discussion also focused on the importance of professional development, as well as further details on the work of the equity coaches. The need for adaptive equity in buildings was noted, and the need to be bold in this work. Language around behavior was also discussed, as well the ways in which this work will decrease disparities. Questions also centered on ways in which we know we will achieve systemic equity in relation to the strategic plan.

Next, staff presented the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Administrative Response to the 23/24 Resolution. Further information requested included the timeline of the hiring of the intervention specialist, collaboration between schools, and monitoring progress and interventions in relation to each school's population. Details were also shared about staff recruiters for the District. The Board also noted the importance of the language around behavior and the importance of restorative approach in both language and actions, as well as mental health teams in buildings and being intentional about culturally appropriate mental health support. The use of ARP funds within this work was also clarified. More information was provided on the three levels of intervention support, and the meaning of attendance for students. PAC members also provided their perspectives on support for students, trust in the district for parents and families, supports in buildings, and a mindset guidance in teaching students, and the importance of bringing community into our schools. Another PAC member noted the challenges within a school building, and the necessary supports for both students and staff in order to increase figures for all students across the district. Another PAC member noted a suggestion to include framework from another program into our district that focuses on accepting feedback, following directions, and other skills. Information was also requested on the work going forward in the absence of ARP funds, which are set to expire, as well as the partnership with Bemidji State.

Staff then reviewed the Policy Update with the Board, which included proposed updates to several 200-level policies, a proposed rescission of Policy 213.00 - Board of Education Professional Development, the proposed adoption of New Policy 214.00 - Out-of-State Travel for Board Members, and discussion of Policy 209.00 - Development, Implementation and Monitoring of Policies. It was noted that the revisions for the various 200-level policies are based on Minnesota State School Board Association model policies and are designed to be more user-friendly. The rescission process also includes a three-reading process. Discussion also centered on the three-reading process itself, with timeline and process details, and importance of transparency. Consensus was to keep the process for three-readings as is, with a presentation and discussion at a Committee of the Board meeting, followed by three-readings at Regular Board of Education Meetings. The Board also supported moving forward with the updates to 204.01, 205.00, 206.00, and 210.00; moving forward with the three readings of the rescission of 213.00; and moving forward with the three-reading process of the adoption of 214.00.

MOTION: Director Kopp moved that the Board accept the report of the Committee of the Board Meeting of May 9, 2023, 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 Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Absent

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 began his announcements with information that May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and thanked our mental health and wellness staff and partners for their dedicated work. Throughout the month of May, there have been wellness opportunities and shared information on the green ribbon as

the international symbol for mental health awareness and encouraged all to wear the ribbon on May 24th. He thanked Kathy Kimani for her work in spreading the message across the district and in the community.

He also noted that Friday, May 19th, 2023 was designated as Michael Houston Day by Mayor Carter, and it was a wonderful surprise to Mr. Houston and his class.

He also noted that as mentioned earlier in Public Comment, there was a press conference for the new East African Elementary School last week. It was well-attended by all ages and levels of leadership. The media present was from around the world, and was broadcast internationally as well. Families are rejoicing with this decision and we are working to open the school. It was a positive day and we look forward to others.

He also noted that it was a beautiful day, weather-wise, in Saint Paul and Saint Paul Saints Education Day. While the continuation of the School Safety Parade is still in the works, students and staff still gathered at CHS Field for a baseball game and Superintendent Gothard was able to throw the first pitch - which was a strike. The Highland Park Senior High and Middle bands were also there. It was a lot of fun and great to see the Saints open their season and their entertainment.

Following the baseball game, he then went to the Intercontinental Hotel for an event hosted by the Rotary Club, where 170 middle school students were honored and recognized for their leadership. They were nominated by counselors and attended with their families. It is a wonderful tradition by the Rotary Club, and he thanked them. It is more than academic leadership, but staff also looked at leadership qualities and community service in students. He then capped the day with a meeting at Junior Achievement North.

Director Ellis noted that she was able to attend the presentation of the proclamation to Michael Houston, and that his class was in the middle of a math summative, and Mayor Carter recommended going into the classroom to present the proclamation in front of Mr. Houston's class.

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 Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

1. Gifts

BF 33183 AIMS Flipside Donation Acceptance

That the Board of Education authorize the acceptance and use of these funds for the American Indian Magnet School Flipside Program. This donation will be deposited into the intra-account 30- 005-505-499-5096-5933. per the accountant in charge of this fund.

BF 33184 Book Donation from University of St Thomas

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept this gift from the University of St Thomas.

BF 33185 Google Certification Exam Vouchers (Level 1 & 2)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept these vouchers to be utilized by SPPS staff interested in attaining Google Certified Educator status.

BF 33186 West St. Paul Commercial Club Class of 2023 Scholarship Gift

That the Board of Education authorize the acceptance a gift of up to 30 trees to be planted at the Rondo site.

BF 33187 Acceptance of Donation from Trust Point, Inc.

That the Board of Education authorize the funds from Trust Point Inc., in the amount of \$17,978, half of which are to be used by Bruce F. Vento Elementary School to purchase a book vending machine and books to fill it, and that those funds are to be put to code 19-449-291-000-5096- G501.

BF 33188 Acceptance of Donation from Protolabs

That the Board of Education authorize the funds from Protolabs to create the new Makerspace at Highwood Hills Elementary School to enhance the Polytechnic Program. Funds are to be put to code 19-496-291-000-5096-G501.

2. Grants

BF 33189 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Protolabs Foundation, a Signature Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The Protolabs Foundation, a Signature Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation; to support the Highwood Hills Elementary Polytechnic Program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33190 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation; to support the Culturally Responsive Instruction Expo event; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33191 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from Upper Midwest Emmy Foundation - Classroom Grants

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The Upper Midwest Emmy Foundation; to support Humboldt High School's project of creating two interview rooms; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33192 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education - Century Community Learning Center Programs (21st CCLC)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Education 21st CCLC program for the funds to support the Flipside Afterschool Program, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33193 Request for Permission to submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education - Century Community Learning Center Programs (21st CCLC)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Education 21st CCLC program for the funds to support the Flipside Afterschool Program, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33194 Request for Permission to Submit Grant Application to the Office of Senator Tina Smith

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the Office of Senator Tina Smith for funds to support the Braided Journeys program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33195 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Scholarship America - Voya Unsung Heroes Awards Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The Scholarship America -Voya Unsung Heroes Program; to support the Open Circuits Robotics team; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33196 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Second Harvest Heartland to Support the Summer Food Service Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from Second Harvest Heartland; to support the Summer Food Service Program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33197 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Green our Planet's Hydroponic Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Green our Planet's Hydroponic Program to support the creation of a hydroponic garden at ESTEM; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

BF 33198 ITB #A224279-DW - Renewal Petite Bananas

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of ITB #A224279-DW to Russ Davis Wholesale, Inc. for furnishing and delivery of Petite Bananas for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023 for an estimated value of \$245,000.

BF 33199 ITB#A227596-A: Prime Vendor Contract for Dairy and Juice Products

That the Board of Education authorize the establishment of ITB#A227596-A to BevSo for the furnishing and delivery of dairy and juice for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 for an estimated value of \$2,000,000 annually.

BF 33200 RFP#A218951-A: Renewal Prime Vendor for Groceries

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP#A218951-A to Indianhead Food Distributor for furnishing and delivery of groceries for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 for an estimated value of \$6,500,000.

BF 33201 RFP#A218951-A: Renewal Secondary Vendor for Groceries

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP#A218951-A to Sysco Western for furnishing and delivery of groceries for the period of July 1 2023 through June 30, 2024 for an estimated value of \$500,000.

BF 33202 RFP#A219429-A: Renewal Prime Vendor for Non-Food Supplies

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP#A219429-A with Trio Supplies for furnishing and delivery of non-food supplies for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, for an estimated value of \$600,000.

BF 33203 Contract for Conversion of Student Records to Digital Format

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the contract proposal with AMI Imaging Systems, Inc. for student records conversion in the amount of \$160,000.

BF 33204 Reauthorization of Saint Paul Public Schools Adult Basic Education to work in conjunction with and to act as fiscal agent for Literacy Minnesota and Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium (SPCLC) and related management contract for the consortium for the 2023-2024 school year. The cost of the management contract is approximately \$178,000.

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Literacy Minnesota for the Management Contract of the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium.

4. Agreements

BF 33205 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with United Association of Steamfitters, Pipefitters, and Service Technicians, Local Union No. 455, 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 United Association of Steamfitters, Pipefitters, and Service Technicians, Local Union No. 455, is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024.

BF 33206 Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625 and International Union of Operating Engineers, Local No. 70, Exclusive Representative for Custodians

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 enter into an agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment for International Union of Operating Engineers, Local No. 70; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

BF 33207 Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625 and International Union of Operating Engineers, Local No. 70, Exclusive Representative for Custodians

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 enter into an agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment for International Union of Operating Engineers, Local No. 70; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026.

BF 33208 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 FY23.

5. Administrative Items

BF 33209 Monthly Operating Authority

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

(a)	General Account	#758743-759868 #0004828-0004853 #7004715-7004749 #0008166-0008298	\$65,006,945.05
(b)	Construction Payments	- 0 -	\$3,045,944.16
(c)	Debt Service	- 0 -	<u>0.00</u>
			\$68,052,889.21

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$45,628,016.06 and overtime of \$461,547.99 or 0.64% of payroll

(d)	Collateral Changes		
	Released:	None	
	Additions:	None	

That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly identified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtimes schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Worker's Compensation Law falling within the period ending September 30, 2023.

BF 33210 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 May 31, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

Human Resources Transactions

BF 33211 Transactions for April 1 - April 30, 2023

BF 33212 Reauthorization of Saint Paul Public Schools Adult Basic Education to work in conjunction with and to act as fiscal agent for Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium (SPCLC) in providing basic skills, English literacy training, and occupational training classes through the Saint Paul Public Schools Adult Basic Education program and eight consortium members.

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Education for re-authorization of funding to provide Adult Basic Education and act as fiscal agent through the SPPS Adult Basic Education program and the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium.

BF 33213 Approval of Renewal of Membership in the Minnesota State High School League

That the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution to renew the School District's participating schools' membership in the Minnesota State High School League. The schools are: Central HS, Como Park HS, Harding HS, Highland Park HS, Humboldt HS, Johnson HS, Open World Learning (OWL) Community, and Washington Technology Magnet HS.

BF 33214 2023 Facilities Radon Testing Results

If optional radon testing is undertaken, the District is required by law to report the results to the Board of Education. This agenda item fulfills that reporting requirement.

BF 33215 Facilities Department FY23 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 33216 Maximum Hourly Rate Increases for Pre-Qualified Professional Architects

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to adjust the terms of professional consulting services in accordance with the Request for Qualifications No. A21-1401-A to incorporate new maximum hourly billing rates per the above table.

BF 33217 Project Budget Modification Request and Finance Plan Update for the FY22 Roof Replacement Program (Project # 0175-22- 01)

That the Board of Education approve the budget modification to the FY22 Roof Replacement Program - Project # 0175-22-01.

6. Bids

BF 33218 Phase Gate Approval of the Carpentry Plus project at Harding High School, Phalen Lake, Chelsea Heights Elementary, and Murray Middle School (Project # 0255-23-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3524-A for the Carpentry Plus project at Harding High School, Phalen Lake, Chelsea Heights Elementary, and Murray Middle School project (Project # 0255-23-01) to Morcon Construction Company, Inc. for a lump sum base bid of \$1,024,300.

BF 33219 Phase Gate Approval of the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at EXPO (Project # 0175-22-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3481 for the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at EXPO project (Project # 0175-22-01) to Central Roofing, Inc. for a lump sum base bid plus Alternates #1, 2 & 3 of \$2,001,694.

7. Change Orders

BF 33220 Change Order #2 for Pioneer Power, Inc. for the Mississippi ARP HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 4190-22-01)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent, Superintendent's Designee, or Executive Director of Operations and Administration to sign Change Order #2 for Pioneer Power, Inc. for the Mississippi ARP HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 4190-22-01) for the amount of \$214,597.

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION - None

12. AGENDA ITEMS THAT ARE INFORMATIONAL

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

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present the second 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 requested confirmation that this name change is for both Phalen Lake Elementary School, as well as Hmong Language and Culture Middle School. Response: Yes.

B. Policy Update

1. FIRST READING: Updates to Policies 204.01, 205.00, 206.00 and 210.00
2. FIRST READING: Rescission of Policy 213.00
3. FIRST READING: Adoption of New Policy 214.00

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Chuck Long, General Counsel, to present this presentation. He noted that for the 200-series policy updates, they are a grouping of policies that addresses board governance and board operations, and most of those policies are based on state statutes, and are requirements for the manner in which the Board conducts business. In their current form, the policies are short and sparse. The Policy Work Group discussed ways to make these policies more user-friendly while following the statutes, and to be more transparent and easier for those implementing the policies to understand. These are also based on MSBA model policies, which also include the guidance from state statutes. 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.

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

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue requested further information on the move in this direction for the selected 200-level proposed policy updates. Response: We are not looking to correct any errors included in these policies or change how any of the policies are implemented, but the proposed revisions are more about following the statutes as they are written and in order to help answer questions that arise during board business and operations – such as holding a special meeting, questions relating to conflicts of interest, etc.
- Director Allen thanked the team and Policy Work Group for their work, and noted that as we are implementing equity into the strategic plan, and it's important to also look at equity within policies and handbook with an equity lens. How has the Equity Department been involved with adjustments to policies? Response: We are working with the Equity Team, especially in reviewing out 100-level policies and 400-level student-related policies. The PWG, especially Director Ellis, has been very vocal and emphatic in reminding the team to not lose sight of equity issues from a student and staff perspective.
- Director Allen also requested information on how we are going back to review equity within policies that were recently reviewed or revised. Response: We are making adjustments as we review policies, with the goal of each policy to be reviewed every 3-5 years, and a more timely review,

including adjustments from the Equity Report. The student-level policies will be reviewed soon, and will be working with the Equity Team for their expertise. Superintendent Gothard also noted the consistent approach to reviewing policies with an equity lens in all we do, and to become a part of our work towards systemic equity.

- Is the 214.00 proposed policy drafted from MSBA, and the date that it was originated? Response: We can provide that information for the second reading.

C. School Safety Engagement: Findings and Analysis

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Kara Arzamendia, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, to present this information, as we worked as a team with the community to think through ways in which we could engage our communities on this topic.

The presentation included information on the safety engagement plan, and school safety engagement activities related to data collection in the district.

Within the topic of Data Collection and Findings, information was shared on data collection venues, including surveys, student listening sessions, community conversations, parent meetings, and school board listening sessions; survey procedures and response rates disaggregated by students (grades 6-12), parents/guardians (PreK-12), and all staff; and overall public participation.

Within Perceptions of Safety, overall findings were presented that included families and staff report better perceptions of safety at the middle and elementary school levels than high school; staff at middle and elementary schools report greater concerns of safety than families; and high school students report better perceptions of safety compared to families and staff. Further details were then shared on perceptions of overall high school safety, perceptions of overall middle and elementary safety, safety perceptions of students by location, student safety perceptions by bathroom type, student safety perceptions in the hallway, and student safety perceptions of transportation.

Within the topic of Physical Violence, overall findings of experiences with physical violence were shared, including families at middle and elementary schools report higher levels of physical violence than at the high school; most staff at the high school level report experiencing or witnessing physical violence; most students are not involved in physical violence at school; and that the greatest safety concerns for students, families and staff are weapons and student-on-student violence. Physical violence in school reported by families showed that almost one in four families report experiencing physical violence at school. Families at lower grade levels report higher incidents of physical violence. The high school student experiences with physical violence data was also presented, as well as high school staff experience with physical violence. The primary safety concerns from students, families and staff were also reviewed by school setting, stakeholder group, and top concern and second concern.

Within the Safety Ideas portion of the presentation, ideas were reviewed that had been submitted by students, families, staff, and school administration.

- On the safety survey, students selected a quiet space for them to go and increased mental health support staff as the top two options
- During listening sessions, students recommended identification cards to monitor entries and exits, calming break rooms for students to reset, and restorative practices when conflicts arise;
- Increased mental health supports and consistent consequences for behavior were in the top three choices for students, families and staff

- School administrators met with members of the Board of Education and recommended School Resource Officers (SROs) because they do not have training on how to disarm people with weapons, and more cameras and security to monitor doors and hallways

Similarities across these groups were also reviewed, with increased mental health supports and consistent consequences as the highest ranking; more security cameras and more security staff ranked lowest.

The next topic within the presentation focused on Safety Policies, Measures, and Procedures. The summary of this section included:

- More awareness about Send a Tip is needed. The people who know about it are willing to use it.
- Students and staff know and understand different security procedures
- Most students feel comfortable interacting with security staff and think having these staff in schools is a good idea.
- Overall, students are supportive of SROs
- SROs were a higher ranked choice on the safety survey from high school staff compared with middle and elementary staff
- Families ranked SROs as the third highest choice
- School administrators discussed the need for SROs

Further data was then presented on these areas, as well as overall findings which include:

- Feeling unsafe is more common among staff and families than students
- The greatest safety concerns for students, families and staff are weapons and student-on-student violence
- Students report bathrooms, hallways and traveling from school as top safety concerns
- Most students have not experienced physical violence
- Families report that most students in their family across all grades levels have not experienced physical violence
- Most staff have experienced or witnessed physical violence
- Most students and families are not aware of Send A Tip
- The majority of students and staff know and understand safety procedures in their schools
- Most students and staff, including school administrators, support security staff and School Resource Officers (SROs) in buildings
- Increased mental health supports and consistent consequences for behavior were in the top three choices for students, families and staff as improvements that could be made toward safer schools

The next area included Focus Areas, which included a review of system adjustments such as introduction of digital hall passes, collaborative walkthroughs of high schools, return of yellow buses, Office of Neighborhood Safety collaboration, calming rooms at 30 schools for students and 8 for staff (ARP funds), inclusive restrooms at Como, Humboldt and Johnson, and enhanced security measures. Focus areas from findings included importance of Send A Tip, bathrooms and halls, presence of security staff, and continue to expand opportunities for trusted student/adult relationships.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Henderson requested further information on the 8% engagement rate for parents and families. Response: The survey was available in the five languages of English, Spanish, Somali, Hmong and Karen. Notifications were sent out through district communications and newsletters, and the survey was one of many opportunities for families to provide feedback, in addition to

listening sessions, PAC meetings, and focused conversations. It was noted that for general response rates market research shows between 10-30%, and we were a little under that for families, and a little over that figure for staff and students.

- How are we continuing to communicate with stakeholders and collect feedback as items are implemented, and continuing the conversation? Response: This is a baseline and the beginning of the conversation, and there are also student convening with students. We anticipate that next year, they will continue and may look different. We are also expected to receive the feedback from Marnita's Table and other PAC meetings as well. As we engage with parents and families, safety topics will also come up in those conversations.
- Director Henderson also requested information on the rationale for holding listening sessions with students but not staff. Response: We wanted to prioritize students first. Staff did participate in the conversations throughout community in the listening session at Washington Tech, Marnita's Table and a high response rate to the survey.
- Director Henderson also requested information in how we are sharing the information on the role of SSLs. Response: Our primary mission with our School Safety Liaisons is to build relationships and ensure that students feel comfortable talking with them. One of the items that SSLs are encouraged to do is to visit classrooms, attend events so that more folks can meet them and know that they are helpful. Most SSLs know the students in the building. It was also noted that SSLs attended the Hmong Parent Meeting to highlight their work.
- Director Allen noted the language around bathrooms to be inclusive of all.
- She also requested information on the percentage of students who took the survey, when all students have an iPad.
- She also noted the possibility of safety ambassadors in buildings so that students will safe to use the bathroom.
- Director Allen also requested information on the focused information and targeted conversation in the survey around SROs. Response: The survey was designed with some understanding of what we believed folks had interest in learning and SROs continued to be at the top. We did not realize that SROs would come out so far fown the list. The survey was created at one time, and it's not accurate to look at the results in the matter of first results, and then follow-up questions.
- Director Allen also requested more information on the development of the survey and timeline. She also noted that there was not a slide about restorative justice, yet that was a theme from the listening session at Washington Tech. We are falling behind in this work, even as the nation is moving toward restorative practices.
- She also requested further information on this data disaggregated by grade, ethnicity, and gender. It was noted that while gender was not included as a disaggregate, it will be an important item to include in future surveys.
- Director Allen also requested information on the alignment of this data with our discipline policy, which leaves the autonomy to the building leaders and the student handbook that refers to the consequences of actions. Director Allen encouraged all to set the culture and expectations, and that students will step up to them.
- Director Ellis requested further information on the notes and information from Marnita's Table.
- She also requested clarification on the survey data regarding Metro Transit.
- She also requested details on the data for physical violence reported by families, and it was across all grade levels.
- She also noted that within the primary safety concerns from students, families and staff, the larger question is what, as a district, are we currently doing, what had we been doing, and what are we going to do moving forward. Superintendent Gothard noted that a lot is reacting to information, and we need to think of solutions to problems together.

- Director Foster noted the point that ¼ reported physical violence in their school. That is a very high number.
- She also noted the 8% engagement rate for families, and other high percentages, and knowing that it can be done. Where is the will from leadership, and staff to make it happen? Data is important. There is also the fear from staff in participating. For the emails being sent, an update on passwords for families will be helpful, such as at conferences.
- Director Foster also requested information on how we take this information and action steps. Response: This is the first attempt in this information, and we needed a starting point. Chief Turner noted that surveys and information techniques may be different next year – as we have changed our FRL form process in order to increase the response rate. We need to be careful not the mandate, but offer the survey as a choice. We also need to sit with this information for a moment, and make shifts where we can, such as with bathrooms, and transportation. Superintendent Gothard noted that the two highest reported findings are feeling unsafe in bathrooms and hallways, and we are addressing those immediately with a digital hall pass and usage across the district. The walk-throughs are also looking at ways to do better and consistently. We are also working on ways to communicate to families so they know what to expect into the next school year. He also noted increased partnerships, including with Metro Transit, different strategies and best practices for our elementary schools, and looking at mental health supports and positions. This has to be priority, and if staffing is unavailable, we need to see partnerships to deliver services and prioritize funds for this urgent work. Chief Turner also noted that it is important to note information on trusted relationships with adults could be any staff member in the school or program.
- Director Kopp noted the importance of creating trusted relationships and collaborative walk-throughs. Students know the qualities of the person with whom they feel safe, and there is an opportunity there to understand that more and what those folks are doing to support our students.
- Director Foster noted the importance of student leadership, and how we are elevating and empowering our students to be leaders in their buildings to create the change they want. We need to give them power, autonomy, and control to be creative and move with support from folks in buildings.
- Director Vue noted his main takeaways, including the increase in mental health supports and consistent consequences, the feelings of unstructured times such as in hallways, bathrooms, and on transportation. Ideally, he'd like to see something from the Superintendent to tell community what will be different next year. Superintendent Gothard noted that his request of the Board is to work together for 3-5 takeaways to serve as direction to him and his administration. We also need a clear communications plan for 2023-2024SY, and need a response rate that is higher from students.

D. FY24 Budget Development Update

MOTION: Director Allen moved to amend the previous approval of the agenda (in order to reschedule the agenda topic of the FY24 Budget Development Update to another date due to the timing.)

The motion did not received a second. Therefore, the motion failed.

Director Foster requested information on the timeliness of the presentation. Chief Sager noted the presentation is an update on the work to date, and noted it should be about 10-12 minutes. Director Allen requested if there will be another presentation regarding the FY24 Budget prior to the vote on the budget in June. Chief Sager noted that there will be another presentation at the Committee of the Board Meeting

on June 6th, and in the board packet available on June 16th, and then a final vote at the June 20th Regular Meeting.

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services, to present the FY24 Budget Development Update. The topics included in the presentation were:

- Provide an overview of the FY24 budget process to date
- Provide an update on the impact of recent legislative changes to school funding
- Provide an overview of key parameters and assumptions for the FY24 budget development
- Provide information on the anticipated changes to the FY24 general fund

The timeline of the FY24 budget process and progress to date was reviewed, as well as the prevailing themes from the Superintendent's District-Wide Administrators Meeting survey. An overview of the timeline was presented, with site allocations sent to schools on March 24, meetings with principals and programs from April 12-19, and site budget plans submitted to Finance on April 21. The outcomes of the site allocation process were also reviewed, with positive feedback received, as well as four objectives achieved. Details were also shared on the department budget allocation process with the timeline. Next steps include a presentation at the June 6th Committee of the Board Meeting, the recommended budget included in the Board packet on June 16th, and a presentation and vote on the FY24 Budget at the June 20th Regular Meeting. An overview of the timeline was also shown.

The current assumptions and parameters for FY24 were discussed including the state funding formula, enrollment, employment contract agreements, unemployment insurance and Family and Medical Leave, and continued investments and opportunities, and alignment with the Board policy of at least a 5% fund balance. Key drivers to school district budgets were shared. The results of the budget parameters were also shown, with a total of \$51.7 new state revenue for FY24. The results of the budget parameters were also shown, including a -\$76.3M in total investments and offsets. Details were also shared on the FY24 anticipated ending General Fund balance for May 17, 2023, and highlights of the FY24 budget.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Allen requested further information on the investments and building allocations, as well as projected enrollment and proficiency scores in order to tie the budget to achievement data, and ensure the equity in the strategic plan and investing in spaces where students need support.
- Further information was also requested on the ESSER funds and maintaining those initiatives when those funds expire. The alignment with Student Outcomes Focused Governance was also noted as a platform about how our students are doing.
- More information was also requested on a three-year projection. It was noted that for enrollment, we are projecting a less than 1% changes, which may show signs of stabilization and will be helpful with the forecast, as well as the upcoming budget. We will have that 3-5 year projection in the fall with the actual results of FY23 audit for the baseline.
- Director Allen noted this is an important topic, and encouraged prioritizing agenda topics, as it was 10:30 p.m. when this topic was presented at the meeting.
- Information was also requested on the budget meetings and engagement. Response: This year, the engagement feedback was indirect and informal. There are new educational opportunities, and the East African Magnet School was a budgetary decision. Another example is safety and security, and we have allocated funds towards those programs. It is also common practice for principals and leaders to take their allocations and meet with their teams to decide their school budget. For

budgetary decisions with ESSER funding, there is a more formalized engagement process, as well as a more formal process for any voter referendum initiative and bond referendums.

- Director Allen noted the decision to open a new school occurred very quickly, and that more spaces should be engaging for all if an immediate response is possible.
- Director Foster also requested a review of the acronyms within ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) funding. There was ESSER 1 which expired, ESSER 2 which will expire in September 2023, and ESSER 3, which is sometimes referred to as ARP, or American Rescue Plan. More details were also provided on the use of these funds, including WINN strategies, community partnerships, student certifications (as reported in the Recognitions), middle school model, bilingual seals, and family and community engagement work.
- Director Foster also requested further information on the FTEs allocated within the budget, which will be available for the next presentation at the upcoming June Committee of the Board meeting.
- Director Henderson requested information on involving stakeholders in the budget process and decisions. Is the expectation that every school has had conversations about their budget? Response: The site and programs received their allocations and they work with their teams, and it is common practice for schools to engage their site team, but also stakeholders. This year, we are essentially keeping all in the space and improving others; there is not a lot to discern because we are not in a deficit year. Chief Turner noted the parameters that were used to build the budgets, and at the school level, a lot of items are predetermined based on enrollment and projections. There may be \$20,000-\$30,000 of funds remaining, and it may seem disingenuous to take that budgeted amount to the community, because the path has been predetermined by contract, state mandates, special education supports, ELL, and predetermined for food service. The engagement with the community needs to be more on understanding the process, and support on the forefront. Director Kopp noted that it may be a worthwhile annual event to engage the community on the budget process, and to be more proactive and trusting in the information.
- Director Allen requested information on funding for field trips, which is allocated per building. She noted this is important within the holistic approach for mental health and emotional support. There are other ways outside “typical therapy”, including joy and being able to be outside and connect with indigenous roots and to the earth.
- Director Ellis requested that the information be available sooner, ideally the week of the Committee of the Board meeting
- She also requested more information on the total new state revenue of \$51M, and the flexibility in those funds, especially in alignment with the current investments.

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas

- Superintendent Gothard noted that there were technical issues with the livestream of the meeting, but it was fully captured and will be posted as soon as possible.
- Director Allen noted that the Committee of the Board meeting is on June 6th, and the request for budget information is by June 9th. Superintendent Gothard noted that he will verify with the team on the availability of the information.
- Director Vue requested further information on school safety and continued conversations for future meetings.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Ellis noted her experience at Bite of Reality at Focus Beyond, as well as visiting the llamas. She also noted the first Karen play to be performed in the state, and that students from Johnson and Washington Tech were able to read scenes from the play and

talk about the importance of folktales and stories. She also noted her time at Central and visiting with students showcasing their personal projects. She also reminded the Board and community about the Critical Ethnic Studies Student Showcase on June 10th from 9am-2pm, where selected students in Critical Ethnic Studies will be highlighting their projects. She also noted the 62 SPPS students who are Wallin Scholars.

- Director Vue noted that he, Director Foster, Director Ellis, and Director Ward visited Harding on Friday to celebrate Michael Houston as Teacher of the Year. On behalf of the Board of Education, Director Vue congratulated Mr. Houston for his success and that we are so proud of him.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Director Vue moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Ellis and Director Foster seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 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