

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

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

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**April 18, 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: U. Ward, C. Allen, J. Vue, J. Kopp, Z. Ellis, J. Foster, H. Henderson  
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 with one change - to move item 12-A - Informational Agenda Items: Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet & Hmong Language and Culture Middle School Name Change: First Reading to precede Further Items that Require Board Action. The motion was seconded by Director Ellis.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

**4. RECOGNITIONS**

**BF 33149** Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees

Four SPPS Educators are finalists for Minnesota Teacher of the Year. **Michael Houston, Molly Keenan, Sorcha Nix and Fathimath Eliza Rasheed** have been named finalists for the 2023 Minnesota Teacher of the Year award.

Dave Gundale, Principal at Open World Learning (OWL), says that Sorcha Nix, a science teacher, has been teaching in SPPS for the past eight years. She has worked at both OWL and Murray Middle School. Sorcha has taught everything from Biology to Robotics and supported the theater department at Murray Middle School and the jazz choir at OWL. Sorcha's passion and focus is on incorporating the arts into science, social emotional learning, and creating high expectations for students. She is an invaluable member of the OWL faculty.

Craig Guidry, Assistant Principal at Harding Senior High School, says Michael Houston has dedicated his entire 19-year teaching career to the students of Harding. In addition to being a beloved math teacher, Michael has also spent a majority of his career at Harding as a track and field and head football coach. His love of teaching and coaching is evident in the countless positive relationships he has built with his students over the years, and his dedication to Harding has been further evidenced by his many leadership roles.

Michael has served as the math department chair, College & Career Readiness team member, learning team facilitator, union steward, Disrupting Systems of Oppression/Developing Student Leaders advisor, and senior class advisor. Michael has garnered the respect and admiration of his colleagues to the extent that he was named Teacher of the Year at Harding in 2016. This accolade subsequently led to a nomination for Minnesota Teacher of the Year in 2017, in which he was also named a finalist. Harding is lucky to have Michael Houston on its staff, and we offer him our many congratulations and best wishes on this very well-deserved honor.

Harding Principal Be Vang says it is an honor to say a few words to recognize Molly Keenan and illustrate why she is a Teacher of the Year finalist.

In her own words, Molly's "personal feelings and belief about teaching are grounded in responsibility to the ancestral past, recognition and respect for present conditions, and developing young people for their personal and collective future." Be says that walking into her classroom, one can: witness students enthusiastically engaged in lessons that allow students to understand who they are and where they can see themselves in the future; experience a learning environment where all students feel a sense of belonging and have the opportunities to demonstrate their talents and develop skills to courageously tackle learning in a predominately white education system; tell that there is a strong mutual respect between teacher and students and understanding of everyone's unique lived experiences and the gifts they bring to the shared learning space.

Molly knows the importance of agency and self-agency. In all the capacities she serves--teacher, club advisor, mentor, friend--she guides students in becoming advocates for equity. Molly cares deeply for our students and wants to leave an equity-driven impact. With or without this Teacher of the Year award, know that you are already making a difference for our students.

Principal Chreese Jones said Fathimath Eliza Rasheed has been an essential part of the Global Arts Plus learning community for 13 years as a theater teacher. Ms. Rasheed is a trained actor, dancer, playwright and director. These gifts and talents have shaped the experiences of our staff, scholars and families with a focus on connecting and providing access for all. She recently took on the role of Arts Integration Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA), in which she is making an even bigger impact on the schools interdisciplinary programming, schoolwide collaborations and rich artist relationships.

Fathimath is a strong and resourceful advocate for all scholars. She has committed herself to removing barriers for scholars to have full experiences in the arts. For example, in the face of the pandemic, she

spearheaded efforts to keep the tradition of all school gatherings and musical productions alive within the Global Arts Plus community. She has brought the experience of full student run productions such as “101 Dalmation Kids,” “The Jungle Book” and “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory”.

Overall, 11 teachers from across the state have been named finalists in Education Minnesota’s annual award. A panel of leaders in the areas of education, business, government and nonprofits selected the finalists from a group of 44 semifinalists. The 2023 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be named Sunday, May 7.

**BF 33150** Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Students

**The Open World Learning (OWL) Community Archery Team** won first place in the state archery championship traditional bull’s eye target category in Duluth, Minnesota, on Saturday, March 25. This is the first state championship for the OWL archers. The team has more than 50 archers ranging from grades 6-12. This past season, the OWL archers competed in eight tournaments and finished in the top five in a few of them, but had not won one outright. At the state tournament, the team competed against 25 other high schools, mostly large rural high schools, that included over 1,800 archers. What transpired that day by the OWL archery team was a team effort that resulted in the highest team score recorded this year in Minnesota and the top 30 in the nation. The OWL Archery team is coached by Tom Totushek and Donald Post.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <b><u>Abbey Ogg</u></b>         | Climate policies in schools                     |
| 2. <b><u>Laura McClary</u></b>     | Small scale climate-focused facility projects   |
| 3. <b><u>Suwiys Abdirahman</u></b> | Injustice at Central regarding the EA community |
| 4. <b><u>Khulia Pringle</u></b>    | Student Outcomes                                |
| 5. <b><u>Pamela Marentette</u></b> | Student Outcomes Focused Governance             |
| 6. <b><u>Roxanne Draughn</u></b>   | Student Outcomes Focused Governance             |

**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 Ellis.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

**7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of March 21, 2023

**MOTION:** Director Vue moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of March 21, 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of April 11, 2023

At the Committee of the Board Meeting on April 11, 2023, Superintendent Gothard welcomed everyone back from Spring Break, and noted that our focus is on fourth quarter and a strong finish to the school year. He thanked board members, staff, families, and community for the Marnita's Table event and provided details on the attendance and next steps from this event. He also thanked the Senior Executive Leadership Team for their work in preparing for the 2023-2024 school year, including budget allocations to buildings and work in hiring teachers and staff for the next school year.

The first presentation was the Request for Permission to Participate in the National Opioid Settlements. A brief summary on the background of this item was discussed, including the communication to board members from Attorney General Keith Ellison. Several school districts are being asked to participate in this settlement. While the District is not a party to the settlement, by signing onto the agreements, the opportunity is opened to apply for grants in the future. Questions and discussion from the Board focused on the waiving of rights to bring suit against the named companies in the settlement, other obligations to signing the agreements, further information on the potential grants as a result of this settlement agreement, and that more information will be shared on the process for the grants as a result of this action. The Board then approved School District participation in the National Opioid Settlements and authorize the Board Chair (or designee) to execute all necessary documents to ensure participation, including the Amended Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement and the Settlement Agreement Participation Forms.

The next presentation was the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Revised Budget. Questions from this presentation included further information on the impacts to the food service fund from the universal free lunch program and information on those reimbursements to the District, and next steps as the Board considers the upcoming Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget. The Board approved the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Revised Budget as presented.

Next, the Board discussed the review of the contract for Student Outcomes Focused Governance. A robust discussion was held amongst board members, including follow-up on information requests regarding this work, the impact of the upcoming elections, community engagement, timeline of the contract, the flexibility built into the contract for the Board to do this work, community experts to help in this work, and further discussion on next steps. The Board then reviewed the Student Outcomes Focused Governance manual as presented by the Council of the Great City Schools and voted on each line within the manual to keep as is, change, or remove.

**MOTION:** Director Kopp moved that the Board accept the report of the Committee of the Board Meeting of April 11, 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 Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes
Director Henderson	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

**MOTION:** Director Vue moved to confirm the date of the Special Meeting regarding Non-Renewals and Committee of the Board Meeting on June 6, 2023. The Special Meeting will begin at 4:00pm, and the Committee of the Board Meeting will begin at 4:30pm. Both meetings will be held in Conference Room 5A. The motion was seconded by Director Kopp,

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

**10. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Superintendent Gothard began his announcements, by sharing his experience in visiting schools with Mayor Carter, including their visit to Nokomis. They are hoping to visit one school each month. At Nokomis, they were able to share in dance, a science class focusing on eagles and falcons, a song performance by students from their spring concert. It was a great visit and opportunity to focus on our work. He thanked the principal and staff.

Superintendent Gothard went on to share an update on the partnership between SPPS and HeadStart, and that there are currently 1000 students on the waiting list for PreK. It is our goal for every 4 year old, and 3 year old, to have access to PreK programming in SPPS, and to build the foundation of SPPS.

He went on the share his visit with the Secretary of Career and Technical Education from the U.S. Department of Education, and their visit to the 3M Career Center at Saint Paul College, as well as discussion on the Districtwide Career Pathways program, and how both programs represent the community, and the funding for these opportunities. The highlight of the visit was hearing from students and their individual journeys. He also highlighted the recent news story about engineering students with Medtronix, a medical devise company in Saint Paul. We embrace the opportunity to innovate and create a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environment for students to be a clear bridge to future pathways.

**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 Foster seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

1. Gifts

**BF 33151** 2023 Gift Acceptance from the Olga B. Hart Education Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the awarded gift.

**BF 33152** Gift Acceptance from Great River Greening for Tree Planting

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

2. Grants

**BF 33153** Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation (Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood - SPPN)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation to support families and children at Freedom Schools in SPPS; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 33154** Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from The KidsGardening and Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from The KidsGardening and Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation; to support the Frost Lake Elementary Preservation of the Pollinators project; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 33155** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to 3M Gives – Open SciEd

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to 3M Gives for the funds to design and implement a training series for the implementation of Open SciEd; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 33156** Request for Permission to Submit Grant Application to the French-American Cultural Exchange (FACE) Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the FACE Foundation for funds to support the district-wide French Immersion program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 33157** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Education to provide Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Education for the funds to provide assistance to students who need additional academic or behavioral support; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 33158** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to MN State Colleges and Universities/Minnesota Department of Education

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the MN State Colleges and Universities/Minnesota Department of Education for funds to expand CTE programming in the district; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

**BF 33159** Cybersecurity Solution: Multifactor Authentication (MFA)

That the Board of Education authorize administration to approve the proposal from DirSec for the purchase of Cybersecurity solution Multifactor Authorization from Okta in the amount not to exceed \$278,175.

**BF 33160** Security for Athletics/Activities

Authorize funds in the amount of \$88,000 to cover SPPD services through June 30, 2023.

**BF 33161** Xello Contract Renewal

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a three-year contract with Xello.

**BF 33162** Purchase equipment from School Health totaling \$174,048.86 via Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to purchase equipment from School Health to address student health needs totaling \$174,048.86 via Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding.

**BF 33163** Districtwide Playground Services Agreement Contract Extension

That the Board of Education authorize the one-year extension of RFP A216612-A Districtwide Playground Services for Willow Creek Nursery, LLC dba E3 Services for the estimated amount of \$375,000.

4. Agreements

**BF 33164** Partnership Between University of Minnesota and St. Anthony Park Elementary School

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

5. Administrative Items

**BF 33165** Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period February 1, 2023 – February 28, 2023

a) General Account	#757665-758742 #0004800-0004827 #7004691-7004714 #0008060-0008165	\$62,754,188.79
b) Construction Payments	- 0 -	\$2,822,834.66
c) Debt Service	- 0 -	<u>\$0.00</u>
		\$65,577,023.45

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$44,841,563.37 and overtime of \$242,274.41 or 0.14% 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 August 31, 2023.

**BF 33166** 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 April 26, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

**Human Resources Transactions**

**BF 33167** Transactions for March 1 - March 31, 2023

**BF 33168** Revision to Policy 415.00 Discrimination, Harassment, Violence and Retaliation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the revision to Policy 415.00 Discrimination, Harassment, Violence and Retaliation.

**BF 33169** Phase Gate Approval of the Farnsworth Aerospace Upper HVAC Replacement Project (Project #1030-23-01): Gate #2 – Project Charter; Gate #2A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Farnsworth Aerospace Upper HVAC Replacement project (Project # 1030-23-01) at Phase Gate Check #2 – Project Charter; Gate Check #2a – Finance Plan Update.

**BF 33170** Phase Gate Approval of the Early Childhood Hubs Age Appropriate Play Site Improvement (Project # 0278-23-01): Gate #3 – Project Budget; Gate #3A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Early Childhood Hubs Age Appropriate Play Site Improvement project (Project # 0278-23-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget; Gate Check #3a –Finance Plan Update, setting the final project budget at \$480,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

**BF 33171** Phase Gate Approval of the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at EXPO for Excellence Elementary, Groveland Park Elementary, Wellstone Elementary, and Johnson Senior High School (Project # 0175-22-01): Gate #3 – Project Budget; Gate #3A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at EXPO for Excellence Elementary, Groveland Park Elementary, Wellstone Elementary, and Johnson Senior High School

(Project # 0175-22-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget; Gate Check #3a – Finance Plan Update, setting the final project budget at \$3,717,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

**BF 33172** 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 #3 – Project Budget; Gate #3A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Carpentry Plus project at Harding High School, Phalen Lake, Chelsea Heights Elementary, and Murray Middle School (Project # 0255-23-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget; Gate Check #3a – Finance Plan Update, setting the final project budget at \$1,238,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

#### 6. Bids

**BF 33173** Phase Gate Approval of the FY23 A/V Replacement Program at Central High School and LEAP at John A. Johnson (Project # 0680-23-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3423-JG for the FY23 A/V Replacement Program at Central High School and LEAP at John A. Johnson project (Project # 0680-23-01) to RAK Construction, Inc. for a lump sum base bid of \$440,073.

**BF 33174** Phase Gate Approval of the Creative Arts ARP HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 2170-22-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3388-JG for the Creative Arts ARP HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 2170-22-01) to Kraft Mechanical, LLC for a lump sum base bid plus Alternate #1 of \$1,447,600.

**BF 33175** Furniture Acquisition Award for John A. Johnson Renovations for LEAP project (Project # 1140-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of furniture for the John A. Johnson Renovations for LEAP (Project # 1140-23-01) to ACRE for a lump sum base bid of \$268,080.

**BF 33176** Phase Gate Approval of the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at Groveland Park Elementary, Wellstone Elementary, and Johnson Senior High School (Project # 0175-22-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A23-3422-JG for the FY22 Roofing Replacement Program at Groveland Park Elementary, Wellstone Elementary, and Johnson Senior High School (Project # 0175-22-01) to Morcon Construction, Inc. for a lump sum base bid plus Alternate #1 of \$1,714,120.

#### 7. Change Orders

**BF 33177** Change Order #1 for Morcon Construction Corporation, Inc. for the Education and Operations Services ARP Kitchen HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 4000-22-01)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent, Superintendent's Designee, or Executive Director of Operations and Administration to sign Change Order #1 for Morcon Construction Corporation, Inc. for the Education and Operations Services ARP Kitchen HVAC Upgrades project (Project # 4000-22-01) for the amount of \$301,819.

**ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION - None**

**B. Further Items that Require Board Action**

1. Riverview Name Change: Third Reading

**BF 33178** Riverview Name Change: Third Reading

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Principal Licon-Gervich to present the third and final presentation of the Riverview Name Change. Details included in the presentation included the rationale for the change, options presented, engagement process, and voting results. The proposed name change is: Riverview Spanish/English Dual Immersion Program.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

**QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- Director Henderson thanked the team and the community and families for this work. Communities know what it means to be included and brought along in every step of the process. It's exciting to see us building this process with students and families, for what they want to see in their building, and the space and environments to it. She thanked the team, and students with signage.

**MOTION:** Director Vue moved to approve that the Board of Education accept and declare that the name of Riverview West Side School of Excellence be changed to the new name of Riverview Spanish/English Dual Immersion Program, and authorize the Superintendent and his designees that all steps necessary to effectuate this change. Director Ellis seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

2. Policy Update
  - a. THIRD READING: Policy 716.00 Advertising in the Schools

**BF 33179** THIRD READING: Policy 716.00 Advertising in the Schools

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Erica Wacker, Director of Communications, and Aquanetta Anderson, Assistant Director of Family Engagement & Community Partnerships, to present the third reading of the policy update to Policy 716.00 – Advertising in the Schools. Details included the rationale for the overall changes, which include that it was last updated in April 2012, does not meet current partnership

standards and best practices; current language is overly limiting, unclear and not consistently implemented; and the need to update to clarify impacts on partners, vendors and prospective advertisers. Proposed changes and rationale for those changes within the policy were also reviewed, as well as a link to the proposed updated policy.

**QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:** None

**MOTION:** Director Vue moved to approve the revisions to Policy 716.00 Advertising in the Schools. Director Foster seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

3. Student Outcomes Focused Governance: Implementation Timeline

**BF 33180** Student Outcomes Focused Governance: Implementation Timeline

Director Vue and Director Kopp then led the Board through an implementation timeline for Student Outcomes Focused Governance, including:

- Quarter 1 – Planning for Community Engagement
  - April – June 2023
  - Theme: Preparation
- Quarter 2 – Community Engagement Roll-Out
  - July – September 2023
  - Theme: Implementation
- Quarter 3 – Synthesis of Information and Adoption of Goals and Guardrails
  - October – December 2023
  - Theme: Deployment
- Quarter 4 - Development/Adoption of Monitoring Calendar and Potential Offramp of SOFG
  - January – March 2024
  - Theme: Continuous Improvement

Further details within each were also reviewed. The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

**QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- Director Allen requested information on the monitoring and check-ins with Administration regarding Board engagement. Why is it not constructed and monitored by the Board in those decisions? Response: We will still need support from Administration in terms of doing this work, the data collections, and storing of information, and revisiting once complete. In terms of the “what and how” – that’s the Board’s decision. Administration is the supporting role.
- There was also discussion on Administration’s role in preparing the Board for what we already know, and what will need to be asked in community engagement.

- Director Ellis also noted the support from Administration that will be needed, including childcare and transportation, as well as support for families with interpreters.
- Director Henderson echoed comments from the Committee of the Board meeting, discussing new folks on the Board after the elections in November, and pushing the timeline out.
- She also requested information on the amendments discussed and our partnership with the Council of the Great City Schools, including the contract. Response: The contract is around the framework, and based on their response to our amendments, and the scope they are willing to work with us is to adopt goals, and the contract will reflect that; the length of the contract was two years, and it is now one year.
- Director Henderson also requested further information on the cost of the contract – if we are now doing a scaled-down version, why is the cost still the same? If there was a dramatic decrease, she struggles to see how it equates to \$20,000 of coaching. Response: In all likelihood, it wouldn't, but it is difficult to quantify the amount of hours we will need; we think we will need less than that. In estimating the costs, we looked at the contract stretched out over a year for regular payments – it is not to exceed \$20,000, and is difficult to know exactly how many hours will be needed. We do want to make sure we are committed to doing this work before asking the Council, our team, the Board team, and leadership to do this work, if we are not committed to the timeline.
- Director Henderson also reiterated the questions around the adoption of goals and guardrails with different votes and communities and board members, especially following the November election. Director Ward echoed these points, including for the new board members who represent the community and if those folks come onto the Board after this big decision to move forward together, it takes away the ability to impact. He agreed that it makes sense to adopt the goals and guardrails after the election. Director Allen also agreed – she noted that currently there is not representation on the Board from the West Side, and agreed that pushing out the final vote would be beneficial, and a process to come up with new ways to incorporate folks running for the school board into the process moving forward.
- Director Kopp noted that the goals and guardrails will be created with input from the community – the elections will not change that because the community does not change. This transcends the election.
- Director Allen noted that the time to engage and discuss what was heard to form the goals and guardrails, and if there are objections, there are spaces for conversations.
- Director Vue noted that he understand the rationale for waiting, but those folks are not here yet, and there are seven folks who are currently here.
- Director Allen noted that it is not one board seat, but four board seats that are up for election.
- Director Kopp noted that she has observed in the past months is the agreement to spend more time discussing student outcomes, and we need a framework to this. In board meetings, about 7% of the time is spent discussing student outcomes – that means 93% of the time is spent on everything else. The adoption of goals and guardrails allows us to increase that time discussing student outcomes. This Board cares about students and how students are doing in SPPS.
- She went on to reiterate that it is the continuity of focused efforts of the Board and Superintendent. The goals and guardrails can be presented to any superintendent, current or future, to show what is important to the community. We can also use the data from SOFG to show the community our progress.
- She also thanked the community for their input; the coaches at the Council of the Great City Schools for their flexibility and adapting; her Board colleagues, the Superintendent, General Counsel's Office, Sherry Carlstrom, Leah Corey, Sarah Dahlke and Kaying Thao, and Director Vue for their work. She closed with deep appreciation for her colleagues and their conversations, and is hopeful

we can approve this implementation timeline to get to work and do the work that can make a difference for our young people.

- Director Foster reiterated that we need to put kids first, and in speaking of the urgency of populations who are underserved, it is our responsibility to do this work. We need consultants to push us, guide us, and keep us accountable to the work being done.
- Director Ward thanked his colleagues for the rich conversation at the previous Committee of the Board Meeting, and the amendments that were proposed to the framework. He also thanked Director Vue and Director Kopp for their discussion with CGCS, and honoring the spirit of the conversation to bring something back to the Board that remains true to what was discussed in that meeting. The hesitancy around this framework is where it appears to be restrictive and could prevent the Board from doing work that the community believes is important and where folks feel it is important for the Board to engage. Engagement will be an opportunity for the Board to hear and speak, and be held accountable to the community. He is looking forward to doing this work, that is really powerful, impactful, and gives us the chance to ensure we are talking about the most important thing – how our students are doing. He thanked the team for their work, for engaging in conversations, and as difficult as it has been, the way to make this something he is excited to move forward with together.
- Director Ellis noted previous conversations about this work with former Board Chair, Marny Xiong. She also noted at previous CGCS conferences, where other districts were doing great work in Ethnic Studies, and understanding that things do not happen fast. In her time on the Board, she has walked into initiatives that were already in place, and was able to ask questions, converse, and understand those as she grew in her role as a board member. With the potential of four new board members, the work of the District is not going to stop just because there are four new board members, and it shouldn't. They will need to ask the questions, because this District is large, and there is a lot of great work happening. Our students struggled through the pandemic, and we are working on that. We recognize we want everything to happen fast, because our students have one chance at their education, and the longer it takes us to do things, they're not okay. The Board will change – but the mission of the Board will stay the same. Anything worth doing is worth doing well – recognizing that with a district of this size, everything will take time, but we need to be committed as a Board to determine how to engage with community better and ways to do that, and be in dialogue about the work. We cannot keep doing the same things and expecting different results, and we need to talk about this work as a Board.

**MOTION: Director Vue moved to approve this Student Outcomes Focused Governance Implementation Timeline. Director Kopp and Director Ellis seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

## 12. AGENDA ITEMS THAT ARE INFORMATIONAL

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

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Principal Xiong, Principal Thor, Xang Her, Mee Moua, and Maggie Bruecken to present the first reading (of three total) of Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet & Hmong Language and Culture Middle School Name Change presentation.

The rationale for the proposed name change was shared, as well as name change criteria. Name options and meanings of each were also reviewed. The team also discussed the engagement process and timeline of engagement. The voting results were also shared, including the vote to narrow the options to two names, and the final votes. The proposed name change is Txuj Ci HMong Language and Culture. Pronunciations and meaning of the name were also reviewed.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

**QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- Director Vue noted this is historical work and thanked the team for bringing it forward.
- He requested more information as to the rationale for the important to include both Green and White HMong in the name. Response: The HMong language has two dialects, and there are some differences in the words and pronunciations. It is important to honor both. In the HMong Dual Language program, we do teach both, and all books are translated in both dialects. It is a way to honor both dialects, and feel the name should also reflect that. There is a good representation of students who speak White HMong and those who speak Green HMong, and we wanted a name for everyone to own and to be proud.
- Director Allen noted her excitement about the name change, and provided details on Edward Phalen, and how he was a soldier who murdered another in Saint Paul, and then fled to California. She is against uplifting those who were not great heroes in our community. With brutal names tied to our buildings and land, it continues to breed violence. She thanked the team for the opportunity for those positive action for the school, and one that our children deserve.
- She also requested information on student voice in the process. Response: This process started pre-COVID with the HDL Envision task force and we met for two years to create the plan, and determined we would like a name change to reflect our programs. For student involvement, we reached out to students and families for their input on the name – all names were submitted by students and families.
- Director Foster noted that in inclusivity, and our community members who have made Minnesota their home, to have a name of their school in their home language is powerful. She thanked the team for their work, and acknowledged the strengths of our families, their lived experiences and acknowledgement of the past – we all stand on sacred and Native land, and as we restore back to the way they should be, we talk about inclusivity and bringing other folks who have come onto this land and contributed to spaces in society to build a better Saint Paul. She thanked the team for their work, and for continuing to push all of us, and for showing up with the authentic selves in spaces and places where families feel welcome.

B. Opioid Crisis and Stock Naloxone

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Mary Langworthy, Director of Health and Wellness to present on the Opioid Crisis and Stock Naloxone presentation. The presentation included details on definitions and data of opioids and opioid use, data around substance use and overdose, and information on MN Statute 604A.04 – Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention. Details were also shared on naloxone and its use in quickly reversing an opioid overdose, stock naloxone protocol, and training. Next steps were also reviewed, including trainings, continued review of policies, and continued education and partnerships. Other considerations, such as a bill that was introduced to the legislature requiring schools to maintain a supply of opiate antagonists, was also reviewed.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

#### **QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- Director Allen thanked the team for this presentation, and noted it is a sad time to be at this place in society. She shared the work of her non-profit organization that provides training for Narcan administration and stop-the-bleed after gunshot wounds to citizens to save lives. We are in a crisis right now with opioids and fentanyl and our young people and the violence in our streets – anything to help prepare our young people and teachers, and community members to have the tools to save a life is beneficial.
- Director Ward also thanked the team for their work. This is a personal topic for him. Earlier this year, he was speaking with social workers and the conversation was discussed. This program sounds amazing and he thanked everyone for their discussion and information. It is sad, but exciting because this is work to save lives, and is incredibly important and grateful.
- Director Ellis requested more information on staff training in buildings. Response: We do want to initially focus on health staff and staff in SEM, as they play a key role, and definitely want to expand in the future. If a staff member knows of an overdose, and they are trained to give this medicine independently, and is also an option.
- Superintendent Gothard requested information on the shelf life of this medication. Response: The shelf life is 1-2 years, and will be replenished from the organization with free supplies. The settlement agreement also increases the opportunities to keep replenishing our supplies, and there's also legislation for potential funding if the resources are not available. We are not worried about the shelf life or supply anytime soon.
- Director Foster requested information on past and current practices. Response: In any emergency, a nurse is involved with a nursing assessment, including vital signs and assessing the scene. If they suspect an overdose, 911 is called, with CPR and EDD if available. If someone with naloxone training is available and able to help, they are also called. We do have great response times from 911 to our buildings, which is a key ingredient.
- How often are we seeing this occur in our buildings? Response. There are daily reports in our high schools, with high rates this year in particular. We are seeing regular use, and from there, we support students to get help and support, and referrals to rehab and recovery and involvement from families as well. It's definitely a concern.

### **13. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

#### **A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas**

- Director Foster requested information on arts programs in SPPS, including an audit of programs to know what exists in our district, and where we see those programs growing, and the hope to see this information by the end of the year.
- Director Allen requested information on the work of the Equity Team, and the implementation of their work with decisions in each department.
- Director Kopp requested a student-outcomes focused report on literacy.
- Director Vue requested clarification on the upcoming Envision SPPS Update.
- Director Ellis requested information on a Critical Ethnic Studies program update, including current status, and pilot program, as we prepare for the second year of this program.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Ellis thanked the students who participated in the listening sessions, and the conversations. She also noted her attendance at the Highland Park Iftar Dinner on March 27<sup>th</sup>, organized by the Muslim Student Association. She also attended the Chelsea Heights Science Fair, as well as the Critical Ethnic Studies Family Forum. She also provided an update on her experience at the AMSD meeting, and the current education bills at the legislature.
- Director Henderson also noted her time at the Iftar event, as well as her experience at the student listening sessions, and the Chelsea Heights Science Fair.
- Director Kopp also noted her time at the Chelsea Heights Science Fair Awards Ceremony, and it was great to see the projects of students, and students cheering for each other.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 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