I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Schumacher, Mr. Marchese, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Foster, Mr. Brodrick, Mr. Vue, Ms. Vanderwert, Superintendent Gothard, Ms. Cameron, General Counsel, Ms. Dahlke, Assistant Clerk

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved approval of the Order of the Main Agenda as published. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ellis.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

IV. RECOGNITIONS

BF 31032 Acknowledgement of Staff

The Board welcomed the new leaders to the district and congratulated them on their new positions. Dr. Kate Wilcox-Harris, Chief Academic Officer, introduced each new leader and their role.

New leaders to the district and staff new to their roles:

- Joe Gothard, Superintendent
- Fatima Lawson, Principal, Highwood Hills Elementary
- Gail Ghere, Interim Director, Office of Specialized Services
- Paul Holm, Assistant Director, Office of Teaching and Learning
- Myla Pope, Assistant Director, Office of Equity
- Yeu Vang, Director, Office of Multilingual Learning
- Efe Agbam, Assistant Superintendent, PreK-5 schools
- Beth Putnam, Assistant Director, Alternative Education
- Bee Lee, Principal, Jackson Preparatory
- Lourdes Flores-Hanson, Principal, L’Etoile du Nord French Immersion
- Karen Duke, Principal, St. Anthony Park Elementary
- Sharon Hendrix, Principal, Galtier Community School
- Gene Ward, Assistant Principal, Farnsworth Aerospace 5-8 Upper
- Deb McCain, Assistant Principal, Highland Park Senior High School
- John Andrastek, Assistant Principal, Highland Park Middle
Nate Gibbs, Assistant Principal, American Indian Magnet
Sue Vang, Assistant Principal, Phalen Lake Hmong Studies Magnet
Doua Vang, Assistant Principal, Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented
Ma’Lene Walker, Assistant Principal, Battle Creek Middle
Jaime Morris, Assistant Principal, Wellstone Elementary
Maura Brink, Principal, J.J. Hill Montessori
Norman Bell, Administrative Intern, Maxfield Elementary
Abdisalam Adam, Administrative Intern, Highwood Hills Elementary
Deanna Spanjers, Administrative Intern, Highwood Hills Elementary
Theresa Jackson, Assistant Principal, Nokomis Montessori
Jasmine Smith, Assistant Principal, RiverEast Elementary and Secondary
Susan Bofferding, Assistant Principal, Focus Beyond

V. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with the exception of Items C1 -- Additional Content Filtering, C4 -- Information Security Logs and Events, C6 -- Sanneh Foundation Dreamline Program 2017-18SY, and C8 -- Request for Permission to Contract with Saint Paul Youth Services for Behavioral Specialist Program Support which were pulled for separate consideration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marchese.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
Mr. Schumacher Yes
Mr. Marchese Yes
Ms. Ellis Yes
Ms. Foster Yes
Mr. Brodrick Yes
Mr. Vue Yes
Ms. Vanderwert Yes

VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of July 11, 2017

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of July 11, 2017 as published. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marchese.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
Mr. Schumacher Yes
Mr. Marchese Yes
Ms. Ellis Yes
Ms. Foster Yes
Mr. Brodrick Yes
Mr. Vue Yes
Ms. Vanderwert Yes

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee of the Board Meeting of July 11, 2017
Tom Parent, Director of Facilities, provided an in-depth review of the Facilities Master Plan, including the successes of FY2017, the outcomes of the FMP governance committee meetings, as well as key directions. The current FMP plan will positively affect the learning environments of 8,750 students in the district. It was approved at the July 11th, 2017 Board of Education meeting to submit the Long Term Facilities Maintenance 10-Year Plan application and documentation to the Minnesota Department of Education.
Katie Sterns, consultant from Winning Students, LLC, provided a review on Phase 1 of the Enrollment Growth Project, which includes outlining goals and analyzing the research thus far. The research states that parent satisfaction is the key to success and SPPS needs to market our district in such a way to increase the number of students in our schools. A recommended timeline with action steps was assigned to different times within 2017 and 2018, as well as non-specific timeline action items. The Superintendent, Board, and staff will use these recommendations, along with others, to determine the next steps regarding enrollment for St. Paul Public Schools.

Laurie Olson, Director of Security and Emergency Management, presented an overview on our School Resource Officers. The contract negotiations with the St. Paul Police Department have a very student centered approach – we want to do what’s best for our kids, while making our schools safe and a comfortable learning environment. Our SROs and Community Support Liaisons will continue to work together to ensure our schools are a safe and secure climate. She was asked to present the research and findings at the August 15th, 2017 Board of Education meeting with a vote following to approve the SY2017-2018 SRO contract.

MOTION: Ms. Ellis moved the Board accept the report on the July 11 Committee of the Board meeting and approve the minutes of that meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marchese.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Schumacher       Yes
Mr. Marchese         Yes
Ms. Ellis            Yes
Ms. Foster           Yes
Mr. Brodrick         Yes
Mr. Vue             Yes
Ms. Vanderwert       Yes

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Back to School Report
Dr. Gothard introduced Chief Operating Officer, Jackie Turner to present the Back to School Report for the 2017-2018 school year.
The district is ready to welcome students this year. There has been a lot of progress, and there is work yet to do. There is a team approach to covering many areas in the district. Saint Paul Public Schools is ready to welcome our 38,000 students back to school.
An overview of the state of readiness was provided from all operations departments. Human resources has been doing an excellent job filling vacancies, and there are very few yet to fill before school starts. The vacancies include teaching assistants, educational assistants, and teachers. It is a very small percentage of the overall number and is on par with vacancies this time last year. Regarding technology, we are a 1:1 district with personalized learning. We have improved the timeline and anticipate iPads to be in the hands of students within a couple weeks of school. We are not working alone on this; our community partners are helping to get this technology into the hands of students, which is where they should be. Students have been using their iPads for papers and assignments, but say that without a keyboard, it can be difficult to write a paper. Keyboard features will be added. Library Go! has also been deployed, so all students will have access to a virtual library. Students and teachers will be able to use this service with their ID.
Regarding professional development, our Administrator’s Academy happened in early August; all principals and administrators met for a day of learning. Superintendent Gothard led the group through input of strategic plans going forward, including a model of plans for the next five years. We’re excited to welcome 150 new teachers on August 21st. We have increased training for teachers and peer learning.
From a financial aspect, the operations team is always ready and prepared to support the Finance team. Training on the new procurement system will allow us to be able to understand how to issue POs and contracts with the new system. Legislative funding allows us to assign ten additional MLL FTEs to provide additional support for EL Levels 3 and 4 at the secondary level.

Over $230 million is dedicated to improving the learning environments of our students and providing higher quality programming options to our schools and community. While we will be ready for the school year, a fair number of construction will still be taking place while students are in schools. Our contractors and partners understand what we need to be ready. Student safety is our number one priority and student learning second. Each school will have a construction process team to guide us through those sites, and the lines of communication will be open to the community regarding facilities construction sites. We are also ensuring that our buildings are clean and ready for students. Administrators and staff work with our facilities team to make sure our buildings are top-notch; there is a community-approach to ensure that our facilities are ready for students. Some sites do run to the last minute with S-Term and freedom schools, and staff are cleaning those buildings over the weekend so they will be ready for the start of the school year.

In our Nutrition Services area, 21 elementary schools now have access to the Fresh Fruit & Veggies Program. It is an opportunity for children to have access to healthy snacks throughout the day. Twelve new areas were added to the Supper Program. In Saint Paul Public Schools, students have access to breakfast, lunch, snack, and supper. We are piloting a new program to increase the number of free and reduced price lunch forms that are returned. A text will be sent to family to confirm participation in the program, and the family will send confirmation back; therefore, eliminating the stigma that many students feel. The count of students in this program will increase, and they will be able to eat healthy meals. By working with the community, parents, and ethnic PACs, we have been able to add new menu items that incorporate our diversity and ethnicity.

Regarding transportation, families will begin to receive school bus transportation postcards on August 25th. The transportation app, MySPPSBus, has seen an increase since it was implemented. There has been a 21% increase in app users, and a 90% increase in app sessions. Families are really enjoying this program, and it will continue to be promoted.

Early childhood screening efforts will focus on three and four year-olds, as well as students of color. More three year-olds completed screening in 2016-2017 than any other year. PreK students arriving in school that have not been screened, will have that done within 90 days of enrollment. Our staff will go out to each site to screen these students.

For enrollment, we are on pace to meet projections. August is a heavy month in student placement services. There have been 2300 kindergarten applications, with approximately 3% of those awaiting placement. We will find space for those students. With PreK enrollment, we have an additional 200 seats for full day PreK. It is amazing to be able to offer that amount of full day seats. New classes have been added to schools that are centrally located and accessible to everyone in the city, including Jackson, L'Etoile du Nord, and Bruce F. Vento Elementary. We are working with all departments to let the community know they are welcome to register their school of choice. There are Back to School events throughout the city to encourage people to register their children. All the students in St. Paul are our children, regardless if they attend our schools, and we welcome them back. While Crosswinds did close, we welcome 100% of those students to Creative Arts in downtown Saint Paul. Facility changes and teacher capacity changes were made to welcome those students, with integration funding to bus them to their new school.

From the Office of Family Engagement, we continue to offer Parent Academy throughout the school year in all languages at ten different sites. We are expecting 50 Parent Academy Seminars at schools between October and May, where parents can learn about brain development in children and social interaction skills. Plans include 115 meetings throughout the school year for nine PACs, and 20 district-wide parent meetings throughout the year for cultural celebrations, information nights, etc.

Regarding communications, a Back to School Calendar was mailed to families on August 3rd. We have heard feedback that families enjoy back to school calendar; it provides a uniform events listing, but families also like to know what is happening at a district level. We are working
to update the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook in order to be transparent around behavior, and it will be published in English, as well as other languages. From the Office of Community Education, more than 663 classes will be offered this fall. The catalog will be mailed to every resident in the city. We received the 21st Century Learning Grant to offer more programming options. A special acknowledgement to SEAB, who will start servicing with the district. Over 1200 students have registered for Discovery Club, with 132 on the waiting list. We are implementing an integrated ELL grant to develop and prepare students for the TA/EA professional entry test. There may be a language barrier affecting those people, and this grant will allow them to become better prepared for these tests in order to work with our children. Finally, there are 996 registrations for ECFE classes.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- The Board is excited to expand the early childhood options at Saint Paul Public Schools because early childhood education can result in decreasing the achievement gap in students. How are students prioritized in terms of enrollment for these options? Answer: The district prioritizes those PreK seats to MLL/ELL students, special education students, and those receiving free and reduced price lunch. The overall purpose is that PreK can help to reduce the achievement gap. The district is not necessarily targeting those students, but prioritizing them for the PreK program in those neighborhood schools. The 200 available seats will first go to those students, and then to neighborhood-based students. A central location was alluded to because a main aspect is busing. We are poised and ready for this program. A special thanks to Dr. Gothard for his leadership at the capital. This is the moment to make a difference in narrowing the achievement gap for students, and will make a difference.

- The Board requested an update on waiting lists for schools. There is a need to see that we are filling seats in buildings and moving students off those waiting lists. Are there specific buildings that still have waiting lists? Where are we in terms of filling those seats in those buildings? Answer: Yes, we do continue to have waiting lists, but we have been able to maximize seats where we had physical space. We have maximized our teacher capacity to be in line with our physical capacity. In those buildings we have exhausted the waiting list and have granted seats to as many students as we can within fire code. The high schools have capacity, with a couple of exceptions. Washington is at capacity; we are in position where we still want to be able to honor sibling placement, but it is at physical and teacher capacity. Highland, as well, is at physical and teacher capacity. The other high schools have room, and we are welcoming students to those spaces. The middle schools are able to accept community school students. Highland space is limited, but families that live in that area, we want to be able to accommodate them. We are at a point if a family is applying for a school outside of their area at the high school and middle school level, it will depend on space at that time. If families are applying within their area, the schools should be able to accommodate them. For kindergarten at elementary schools, we are not turning anyone away. There are a couple elementary buildings at capacity, mostly magnet schools, but most community schools are open to accepting new students. Saint Paul Public Schools will find a seat for any student and will find a program that works for time, choice, and interest.

- The Board requested more information on integration funding regarding Crosswinds and Creative Arts. Answer: The State of Minnesota offers a program on integration revenue that districts receive to decrease the achievement gap and provide support in schools that are racially isolated. At the state level, one of the goals of Crosswinds was to be able to provide a place for diversity and increase in integration. The school was designed with that goal in mind, and program options with an arts-focus and STEM-focus. Since the students went to that school and the integration revenue came from the state to go to that school, the state has allowed us to request resources for transportation and funding. The original purpose of the school was to integrate different communities, so a number of students live outside the geographic area of the school. We want to be able to request support to transport those students. It is a state funded integration revenue.

- Were we able to hire some of those teachers and staff from Crosswinds? Answer: We encouraged teachers and staff to apply. If we have open positions and their criteria meets our criteria and they have an interested, we have encouraged them to apply. Laurin Cathey, Director of Human Resources, will address this question more in the HR Transactions.
• Superintendent Gothard thanked Chief Turner and members of the staff for diligent work on report and ensuring we are ready for students, teachers, and staff.

B. Human Resource Transactions

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
• To follow-up on questions regarding the Crosswinds teachers and staff, we are considering those who have come from those institutions; we have not made any hires yet. To date, we have heard from administrators in those schools, and not necessarily teachers at this time. Through our outreach, we will try to uncover those who are looking for positions.
• Director Brodrick went on to speak about his time on the EMID Board, and Crosswinds was a part of that organization. Many of the parents at Crosswinds stayed on and their children attended Perpich. One of the beauties of that schools was the tremendous loyalty and activism by those parents. Many of those parents and students are probably very attached to a lot of those teachers at Crosswinds/Perpich last year. When parents send their children to school, the main thing is that they love their child. When the child starts at a good school, then they start to enjoy the teacher, the curriculum, and the bricks. The hope is that we will be able to support those students, those teachers, and the bricks.

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved approval of the HR Transactions for the period July 1, 2017 through July 31, 2017. Ms. Ellis seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved approval of all items within the Consent Agenda with the exception of Items C1 -- Additional Content Filtering, C4 -- Information Security Logs and Events, C6 -- Sanneh Foundation Dreamline Program 2017-18SY, and C8 -- Request for Permission to Contract with Saint Paul Youth Services for Behavioral Specialist Program Support which were pulled for separate consideration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ellis.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

A. Gifts

B. Grants

BF 31033 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant Application from Allina Health
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept this grant from Allina Health for student health and wellness activities across the district; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.
BF 31034 Request for Permission to Submit Grant Applications to the F.R. Bigelow, Mardag and Saint Paul Foundations
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the F.R. Bigelow, Mardag and Saint Paul Foundations for funds to expand participation in equity professional development in the district; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 31035 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant Application from The Hartford
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept this grant from The Hartford for fire safety efforts in the district; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 31036 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education – Student Support and Academic Enrichment
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Education for funds to ensure each student reaches proficiency on required standards and benchmarks; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 31037 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative for funds to expand the CDF Freedom School program at Hazel Park Preparatory Academy; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

C. Contracts

BF 31038 District Audit Services
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Malloy, Montage, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co. P.A for District Audit Services for a period of 1 year in the amount of $116,975.

BF 31039 Contracts and Agreements for Rental of Hockey Facilities for 2017-2018
That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to enter into contracts and agreements with County officials for the 2017-2018 boys’ and girls’ hockey teams. Hockey ice time (practice and game) is paid from lease waiver monies and security fees are paid by the Athletic Department.

BF 31040 SPPS 2017 S-Term Site at St. Paul College
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the expending of additional ALC funds in the amount of $30,155. This amount reflects an amendment to finds previously designated in the amount of $97,455. The total ALC funds to support S-Term 2017 opportunities at St. Paul College for the purpose of credit recovery is now Not to Exceed $127,610.

BF 31041 Transportation Department FY18 Purchases/Contracts over $100,000
That the Board of Education authorize the purchase order/contract listed for the Transportation Department anticipated to be over $100,000 in total.

D. Agreements

BF 31042 Lease Agreement with Sprockets at the Baker Center
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to execute a Lease Agreement between the District and Sprockets to lease space at the Baker Center, 209 West Page Street, Saint Paul, MN 55107 for the term July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019, with monthly rent of Six
Hundred Twenty-Six and 70/100 Dollars ($626.70) subject to all other terms and conditions of said agreement.

E. Administrative Items

**BF 31043**  2017 Facilities Radon Testing Results
The District is required by law to report the results to the Board of Education. This agenda item fulfills that reporting requirement.

**BF 31044**  Continue Outreach School Relationship Between Reach Together School and Saint Paul Public Schools Adult Basic Education (SPPS-ABE) Program through the 2017-18 School Year
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the partnership between SPPS-ABE and Reach Together.

**BF 31045**  Monthly Operating Authority for May 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017
That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period May 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017.

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(c) Construction

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Included in the above disbursements are 2 payrolls in the amount of $38,711,521.32 and overtime of $204,365.15 or 0.53% of payroll.

(d) Collateral Changes

- Released: None
- Additions: None

That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Workers’ Compensation Law falling within the period ending October 31, 2017.

**BF 31046**  Monthly Operating Authority for June 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017
That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period June 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017.

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(e) Debt Service

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(f) Construction

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Included in the above disbursements are 2 payrolls in the amount of $37,764,546.38 and overtime of $175,956.77 or 0.47% of payroll.
(e) Collateral Changes

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Additions:

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That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Workers’ Compensation Law falling within the period ending November 30, 2017.

**BF 31047** Request for Permission to Send One SEAB Alumni to Co-Present at Council of the Great City Schools 61st Annual Fall Conference

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (or Designee) to approve the travel and related costs for one SEAB Alum, Misha Prasalov, to attend and co-present at the Council of Great City Schools Conference, October 18-21, 2017 in Cleveland, OH.

F. **Bids** - None

G. **Change Orders**

**BF 31048** Change Order #1 for Como Park Senior High Synthetic Turf Field

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to sign Change Order #5 for Como Park Senior High School for the lump sum of $240,139.25.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION:**

**BF 31049** Additional Content Filtering

The Board requested more information on this item. The primary question was to help them understand how this fits into the delivery of service for the students. The district is entering into the fifth year of the technology referendum. At the time it was started, we said we were going to revolutionize the way we deliver education to our students. It will modernize education. The Board requested more information on how this item will fit into the personalized learning initiative, as well as how it will fit into the overall budget at the end of four years. Chief Financial Officer, Marie Schrul, said she would be willing to share more specific information in terms of where we are in the budget for the referendum, and will request that it be added as an agenda item to a future committee of the board meeting. In conclusion, how does this item fit in? Answer: Dr. Gothard introduced Chief Technology Officer, Idrissa Davis, to elaborate on this question. Regarding the first part of the question as to how this will support personalized learning, we promised parents we would provide additional content filtering on-campus, as well as off-campus. We have also heard from staff internally for a need for additional capabilities for more granular filtering, especially around Google and YouTube. It gives us more capability for granular filtering on and off campus. So it means parents will feel much better about students using iPads at school and at home, and in terms of what they will be able to access on them? Answer: Correct.
MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved the Board of Education to authorize administration to approve the proposal from iBoss, for the purchase of additional content filtering in the amount not to exceed $210,000. Seconded by Mr. Schumacher.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

BF 31050 Information Security Logs and Events

The Board requested more information on this item. Chief Davis went on to explain that with the recent events in the news with cyber security threats and data being stolen, the number one concern is to ensure our data is secure and protected. A data security team was hired, and their job is to protect data. They have been providing tools and guidance to move and quickly as we can to protect the network. Some of the things they are working on include rove-based access; we need to get our systems connected with a single sign-on. We did replace the DPN environment to make sure we are compliant, and integrated a second way to authenticate the user, which will make it more challenging for outside people to access our systems. In order to provide security for our data, we need to log incidents in the environment, and this tool will allow us to keep that log data. Based on industry data, it takes on average 277 days for a team to know that information was breached, and in order for team to determine additional information, logs are required to track that information. Our goal is to have logs for at least a year, and this tool will allow us to keep those logs, with security logs and event management built into the tool. Another reason for this tool is the goal to have the security team receive automated alerts when suspicious activities happen and block malicious activity.

Does this mean that therefore our employees can feel more secure in their data that may or may not be connected to our system? Answer: It will make them more secure; we have more to work on and we are taking the necessary steps to have data secured on all fronts. Whenever we do something that is good for our employees, we should make sure to tell them. Answer: We want to make sure we are following best practices for the network, so it is transparent to the users. This is not something in which everyone needs to be concerned. The IT department is handling this item and it will be reported to the Board if necessary, but they are working on ensuring the network is secure.

MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved the Board of Education authorize administration to approve the proposal from Zones Inc., for the purchase of LogRhythm in the amount not to exceed $170,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schumacher.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

BF 31051 Sanneh Foundation Dreamline Program 2017-18SY
At the last meeting, we talked about some of the wonderful partnerships, and the Board stated that we would like to be well-informed about partnerships. This would be a great time to hear more about the explanation and good works of contracting with these partners. Dr. Gothard invited Dr. Battle, Assistant Superintendent of High Schools, and Dr. Gray-Akyea to share background information on this item.

The primary focus of this program is for freshman initiatives. At one of the schools, they do work with sixth graders. The district has completed an evaluation and the impact of this program on our youth within our schools.

Are we seeing any actual numbers that could be shared? Answer: The last evaluation for this program was at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. We did see favorable results. Approximately 475 students were served, identified, and received intervention. Those students enrolled with Sannah Dreamline program for grades received tutoring and mentoring. Those identified with attendance issues received mentoring. In terms of outcomes from evaluation, credits earned for student participants we saw a 67% of attempted credits. This is pretty favorable because these are students who are at-risk academically. Approximately 72% earned their credits in language arts courses. In terms of changes in grades, their A-grades increased 64%, B-grades increased, and importantly, the failing grades for this group of students decreased 18%. We saw favorable results for Hispanic and black students participating and a range of other favorable results across all buildings. Attendance was also positively correlated with the academic support. There was a strong correlation to the number of mentoring hours and attendance. For this program, we will conduct another evaluation for the 2016-2017 school year. We are quite pleased with the results. The Board also asked if this would be possible, but may be difficult with transiency of students, but would we be able to conduct a long-range follow-up on the success of the student? Answer: It is a complicated design for the process of evaluation, but it is something we could put into place. Recently, we have begun to look at college access programs. We have preliminary results of the effects. We are monitoring longitudinal designs. Preliminary results are favorable and programs like Sannah are leading to more students going to college.

**MOTION:** Mr. Brodrick moved the Board of Education approve the services of Sanneh Foundation Dreamline tutors in the aforementioned high schools and middle schools for the 2017-18SY (Battle Creek Middle (2), Como Senior High (2), Harding Senior High (2), Highland Senior High (2), Humboldt Senior (3), and Washington Technology (2)). Mr. Schumacher seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

- Mr. Schumacher: Yes
- Mr. Marchese: Yes
- Ms. Ellis: Yes
- Ms. Foster: Yes
- Mr. Brodrick: Yes
- Mr. Vue: Yes
- Ms. Vanderwert: Yes

**BF 31052** Request for Permission to Contract with Saint Paul Youth Services (SPYS) for Behavioral Specialist Program Support

This program includes the Behavior Intervention Program, which provides support and staff at six schools to help improve behavior from students within those schools. They provide 13 staff to help our students improve behavior. While if students are choosing not to have positive behaviors, their staff works with those students to be able to improve those behaviors. They have very favorable results each year. The results have shown that 88% of SPYS students have improved behavior over the course of the year; 77% of student improved academic performance; 88% have improved their attendance record. The program continues to be successful. Administrators noted how the program has improved the overall climate of their schools; 96% of teachers surveyed say the program has been successful in improving climate in the schools and buildings. Dr. Asberry and the team do a great job at communicating with administration and aligning their model to our
strategy, including our move to the restorative practices model. She is working with her staff to align to that model.

The Board thanked Chief Turner for the information. Regarding the students who spoke during the Public Comment portion, there seemed to be a sense of disconcert regarding school resource officers (SROs). Does SPYS have a stance on SROs? Answer: There a couple things to note. Director of Security and Emergency Management, Laurie Olson, has spoken to Dr. Asberry and they plan to have her and her staff to incorporate some of those students into our SRO task force. The behavior intervention staff work closely with SROs in our buildings. We will reach out to Dr. Asberry to connect with those students to ensure their voices are heard on the SRO contract and the task force. Dr. Asberry encourages her students to speak freely. SPYS, however, does not have a formal stance on SROs.

MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to contract with the Saint Paul Youth Services for behavioral specialist support at six sites for SY 2017/2018; and to implement the services as specified in the contract. Mr. Schumacher seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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<td>Mr. Vue</td>
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<td>Ms. Vanderwert</td>
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X. OLD BUSINESS - None

XI. NEW BUSINESS

BF 31053 Agreement with City of St. Paul Police Department for Shared Costs of School Resource Officers (SROs)

Superintendent Gothard started by stating that this partnership is not just between Saint Paul Public Schools and the Saint Paul Police Department; it is a partnership with schools and students. All partners need to join together to voice their concerns on questions for different ideas and what SROs mean to the school community. There needs to be expectations, with groups meeting frequently and consistently with conversation on the partnership with in-time adjustments. Through this process, he has learned there is great willingness on both parties, and the community as a whole. A special thanks to Chief Axtell to talk about this partnership. This work is complicated and we need to be good partners with each other. With tonight’s recommendation, this partnership is a commitment to best practices, and also a shared understanding. The outcomes achieved by this partnership are ones that are very important. These issues are not going away; these are issues that need to be addressed by all parties affected under this partnership. The recommendation tonight will be to approve the 2017-2018 contract with a reduction in school officers from nine to seven. Director of Security and Emergency Management (SEM), Laurie Olson, will present the facts and recommendation to the board and the community. A special thanks to all those who have made this relationship a positive one.

Laurie will present year-end data, as well as proposals for the next contract. Juvenile Commander Kevin Casper from the Saint Paul Police Department will be available for questions to answer more specific to the police-side of any questions. The 2017-2018 contract will add new language and contract costs for this proposal.

The previous contract put into place more student centered practices, including a uniform with a softer look, positive interactions with students, open meetings and open door policies for students to talk with SROs. Students will say what they are thinking, and SROs have learned to lean in and listen to what they have to say. Sometimes those conversations are not great, but the beauty is that the conversations are happening.
Arrest data is on the right track, with 56 arrests last year compared to 5 this year. The criticism to these facts is that we are not holding students accountable, when we absolutely are holding them accountable. We come together with a student centered team approach with intervention and resources for long-term successful results. Everyone is meeting when a student is involved in a rights and responsibilities violation, but an arrest may not be the best practice in each and every case. Positive interactions with SROs include field trips, sledding, horseback riding, and fishing trips. Originally, the Police Activities League primarily involved elementary schools, but it has expanded to also include high schools. It is having that time outside school hours to build relationships and human interactions between the SROs and the students that will have a positive impact.

Regarding the use of force, in the previous school year, there were 9 incidents involving the use of pepper spray, whereas in the 2016-2017 school year, there was one. The data was not quantified for the use of handcuffs last year; in the 2016-2017 school year there were 19. The team approach is working. There were 1171 Level 4/5 Violations that require or advise the use of police services. The team met to discuss, and there were 5 arrests from those violations; the others were offenses where the student could be arrested, but they were diverted to the school for discipline, meaningful interventions, and support.

The District Wide Advisory includes twelve members, and two teachers will be added for the 2017/2018 school year. There is a rubric in draft form of what violations go to a police matter, and which ones go to a school side matter. It is a tool to use to help to keep SROs out of the behavioral piece of student behavior. There was a review of National Best Practices, input into the new SRO Manual, and development of new language for the 2017/2017 contract. We will continue the work into the 2017-2018 school year with a long term vision for safe and welcoming schools, and increase in support and support models. Looking ahead, we want to determine our hopes for the next 1, 3, and 5 years in terms of teaming and funding.

The new contract will keep the student centered team approach. We want to build trust and integrity by building strong relationships with students and families. For those families that have angst towards SROs, our officers are giving them space to do that. There will be a clarification of roles and responsibilities with trainings with administration and SROs. Our officers are clear in the fact that they should not be involved in behavioral matters, and to advise on low-level offenses that can be diverted to the school for meaningful consequences, interventions, and support. Everyone will be at the table to determine the best interest, including the family.

The new contract will look at accountability. We do spend a great deal of money on this contract, and we are watching the way those dollars are spent. Officers will be paid for an eight-hour work day. They should be present 30 minutes before school starts and 30 minutes after the school day ends. We want the SROs to be present to feel the energy of the students as they may be getting off the bus. Other students can tell them of problems beforehand to use preventative measures. Vacation will be limited to three consecutive school days since we are working on building relationships with students.

We will continue to better refine and analyze data. Everyone has a different system, and Ramsey County has been a great partner in working on the rubrics and data. In terms of feedback, SPPS students and staff will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the SRO performance to the Juvenile Commander through on online or paper form, which will also be translated. A representative from SEM will be at interviews and provide feedback to the selection committee for any new openings to determine if a candidate would be a good fit for our schools. We are working with the Research, Evaluation, and Analysis Department to create a survey tool for student, families, and staff. The SEM Director and Juvenile Commander will meet a minimum of once a month to discuss the partnership top keep the dialogue open.

One of the things that sets SPPS SROs apart from those across the country is our training. Our SROs have the basic NASRO training, but we also provide training in racial equity, youth mental health, trauma informed practices, crisis intervention training, non-violent crisis intervention, understanding specialized services, reflective consultation, and more.

In terms of cost, we are proposed to reduce our SRO base to seven instead of nine from the previous year. The share for SPPS will be $698,000, down from $884,500 last year. The impact will be that schools will have a buddy system. The SRO at a specific high school will “buddy” with another school. If a need is requested at a buddy school, they will receive the help of that SRO instead of street squad police. We invest so much in our SROs that we want them to be able to
engage with students. If students in the lower grades see the same SRO from junior high to senior high, they will already know them. SROs are incredibly important; we also have more in addition to them. Community support liaisons, SEM personnel, and contract security also help to ensure our schools are safe.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
The Board requested more information on the positive interaction data and how that information is collected. Answer: That information is collected in a monthly report. It is self-reported data. As an example, the Harding High officer who organized a group of students to go horseback riding reported that interaction as positive and number of students involved.

And that goes for incidents as well? Answer: The advise and assist component is more of the Level 3, 4 and 5 rights and responsibilities violations where staff has asked the SRO for advice on that situation. A lot of times the SROs are experts on those questions where staff in uncertain. They advise capacity, not the arrest or citation. They can talk through routine; where administration has asked for help on those incidents.

Director Brodrick brought forth a proposed amendment. First, he wanted to thank Commander Casper and Director Olson for all their hard work. Also a thanks to Dr. Gothard for his remarks. He reiterated that he has been a long and strong supporter of the SRO program. From experience as a teacher in Saint Paul Public Schools, he has been able to see the positive influence this program brings to our district. He did voice his concern and disappointment about how the cost has been shared between the police department and the school district. He earnestly hopes that in next year’s negotiations, we will be able to address this inequality and the city will assume a greater share. He recapped that we have heard wonderful things regarding the SROs in the past year. Our SROs were asked to adapt in several ways in order to service the move towards restorative practices, and other means for a safe and welcoming learning environment. The SROs, staff, and SPPD have done a wonderfully collaborative job in making the SRO role more clearly defined to the public. Some were skeptical of police officers in school buildings; as they watched the SROs, they became great believers in the program and the individuals. Over the last year, the SRO program has really proven itself to be a benefit to SPPS. Because of this collaborative work this year, with many of the people involved and described, and because of that long and wonderful relationship between SPPS and SPPD, he would like to maintain the current level of SROs and not reduce as proposed in the contract.

Mr. Brodrick proposed to maintain the current level of SROs for Saint Paul Public Schools at nine, and not reduce from nine to seven SROs for the 2017-2018 school year in the proposed contract.

The proposed amendment failed.

Director Ellis noted that for last year’s contract, she abstained from voting for several reasons. There was not enough information and research on which to base her decision and the amount of money being spent did not make sense. She also wanted to honor and respect the students, staff, and community members who worked so diligently on the contract. However, there is still a lot of work to be done by the district. She wants students to feel safe in the buildings we provide, regardless of her feelings on the subject. Knowing that students are still being arrested or put into handcuffs - that is still on us as a district to fix. Regardless of the work that has been done, there is still so much to do. She struggled with the fact that alternatives to SROs have not been integrated into the plan. She questioned how often the advisory team met to discuss issues regarding the contract. If there was difficulty based on schedules or timing for having students involved in those conversations, the district is not doing work we need to do to ensure those voices are heard. She understands our long partnership with the SPPD and SROs, but noted that we need to think differently on this subject. Our school spaces need to feel safe for our students. Training for what we want to accomplish is helpful, but there is still so much for us to do. The work we are doing is leading, as problems happen not only in the schools, but also in the community and the world, but we are still at a place where alternative options are not presented. The work has not progressed, and there have been no updates on data to support the contract. At this point, we need to vote on the contract, but improvements need to be made regarding the SRO contract. There needs to be
more updates to the Board about progress, and we need to imagine how it will look for the district. We need to be clear about the end goal. In this contract, she doesn’t see how it aligns with what we want to accomplish. She urged the district to think differently, think about our students, and not be stuck in a cycle of history. Police officers are still in our schools and the conversations around that are very important at this time.

Director Foster wanted to reiterate Director Ellis’ statement. She wanted to add thanks to Laurie Olson for her conversations and help on this issue. This is our kids’ space and they are the ultimate consumers of this program. We are working work hard to ensure different voices are heard in the decision-making process. We need to look at the district as a whole, instead of personal feelings on the subject. There is a lot of security in our schools – from staff with SEM, community service liaisons, and contract security guards, and still another year of getting data. Police with guns is our schools is a concern. There needs to be more students in the conversation and they are listening to on their thoughts and interactions with the SROs. She noted concerns on reporting data. There was an acknowledgement of the work happening, changes to move forward, to do better, and more engagement with this work, but it will be a tough decision. The biggest concern is that too often SROs are tied to school climate and school safety, and that’s not the case; school climate and school safety need to start with environments and people. It starts with our leadership, our teachers, our kids, and our families. We need to look at those specific environments and what we can do differently, and what resources we have to leverage. Our partnership with SPPD is important, and we both need to be equally vested in the success of our kids and our community.

Director Marchese shared his concerns with his colleagues. He acknowledged that hard work has been done regarding this contract. He is proud of the district’s ability to listen to the community and advances on the subject, but also noted that we have a long way to go on this subject. He echoed Director Foster’s concerns that the conversation on SROs is a contract, but we are really talking about a climate for our students to learn. He noted the concern on the right people to reflect the values the district holds for our students and the way they are conducted in buildings. We need to keep asking ourselves who are the right people and what do we want them to do. He questioned if police officers in the building are the right people to do that job. Even the seemingly positive interactions – we need to ask if the SROs are the right people or are we missing out on those opportunities who could fulfill that role based on cost. Furthermore, on the cost issue, it is troubling that we have a contract where we are paying for full time officers for part time work when our schools are not in session year-round. In years to come, the district needs to look at the costs in the contract. The costs included in this contract are not a reflection of our partnership; we are not hiring a security firm, we are partnering with the Saint Paul Police Department. He noted his appreciation of the training and investment in the SROs, however that is training being invested in SPPD staff, and not SPPS staff. The responsibility of protecting everyone in the city falls to the police department. When our students leave high school, they will reach the street squad police officers. That officer needs to be trained in how to react with these students outside of the school building with training done by the police department. He acknowledged that the work of the police is advancing, but we are also talking about school district resources. We should be prioritizing funding for SPPS staff to do this work.

He also expressed concerns about the standardization of data. He does not understand data collection within the district, or building to building difference. There needs to be more control over the data collection so that we can rely on the data and be clear on the meaning of each data point. The district needs to look at how our own staff is being trained. The contract puts the burden on staff, as it should, to reinforce rights and responsibilities, but there needs to be a clear building leadership and the support they need so staff does not look toward the SROs on issues that are not law enforcement questions. He requested more data, over the long term, on how staff are handling the increased responsibilities. This is a contract conversation; not a climate conversation involving the SROs. SEM and the Office of School Climate need to work together, reporting to each other, and collaborating with one another on this issue.

Finally, he also noted his concerns on the student voice in this issue. One of most important things regarding SROs in schools was listening to students. We need to hear from them, and his concern is that the district does not have that strong voice from students in this issue. These are the people in the buildings and he will be listening for that strong voice from students in this conversation.
The district needs a holistic process. The conversation on the contract, SROs, and a larger, comprehensive plan on buildings and how they operate needs to happen. Everyone needs to work together on this issue. A special thanks to Director Olson for the work of her office and time spent with the Board.

Director Vue noted that our SROs are the best in the country. But the community needs to know where we stand on the issue. The job of SPPS is to educate our students and the job of the police is to uphold the law; these two things are not in the same place. He echoed his colleagues in that community engagement needs to happen on where we want to go. In this economic climate, we need to ask ourselves where we could use these additional resources for other programs and initiatives. He encouraged the task force and district wide advisory team to have a deeper conversation with the community to perceive where we want to go on this issue; great work has been done so far, and positive data is being shown regarding SROs. The fact that we call them “school resource officers” is telling because their job is to police; our job is to educate. We need to figure out if we want police officers in our schools, or if we want to rely on other resources for security. A community discussion needs to happen and for the district to be able to lead in that conversation.

Director Vanderwert acknowledged the comments of her colleagues. She agreed that the costs within the contract need to be further analyzed. There is a partnership between SPPD and SPPS, and it should be 50/50. She supports negotiating future contracts for SROs. She also views the benefits of the SROs in schools; they are on-site to protect our students, and they are there to know what to do if someone with a gun enters a school, or someone with nefarious intents. She believes in the safety aspects of SROs with the environment in which we currently live. SROs will improve the way students view police in that they know police are there to protect them. It is an opportunity for students to see that SROs are not there to intimidate or incarcerate them, but to protect and support. SROs are a different resource that have benefits beyond safety for the community.

Director Schumacher acknowledged the reflections on the presentations which gave way to rich, difficult conversations. First and foremost, there are all our kids – this is our future. We believe in restorative practices and that no matter where they go, no one is outside the circle, and they never will be – but how do we best do that? We are a community and we need to figure this out with ongoing conversations. He acknowledged the respect for the Commander Casper, the police department, Director Olson, and everyone for the willingness to answer tough questions and have those difficult conversations on policing and education. We are all members of this community and it’s important to have those conversations where everyone participates; the police are part of the community. We need them to serve where appropriate or where they can best serve the community, which we have asked them to do; those conversations are ongoing. We all want to create a successful learning environment and confidence in the path that will lead us to that. He would like to thank everyone for their work on this subject and is really grateful for the conversations at this level. The work on this subject must continue; communities change and evolve. It comes to the responsibility of the Board for our kids and their education.

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved the Board of Education consider and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute an agreement with the City of St. Paul Police Department to provide School Resource Officers for services to the Saint Paul Public Schools for the term July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 in accordance with all terms and provisions of said agreement. Mr. Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests & Responses - None
B. Items for Future Agendas
   - Mr. Brodrick requested the status of the personalized learning initiative, which is
     financed by the referendum and at the halfway point, at a Committee of the Board
     meeting. He requested to have representatives from Finance, Technology, and Office
     of Teaching & Learning to show our status in this initiative.
C. Board of Education Reports/Communications - None

XIII. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

MOTION: Mr. Schumacher moved the Board of Education schedule a Special Board
Meeting on Saturday, September 23rd, 2017 for the purpose of a Board Retreat and to schedule
Closed Board of Education Meetings for September 5, September 19, October 4, and October 17 for
the purpose of discussion on Labor Negotiations. Ms. Ellis seconded the motion.

A. Board of Education Meetings (6:05 unless otherwise noted)
   - August 16 - Board Session | 4:00 p.m.
   - September 5 - Closed Board Meeting
   - September 19 - Closed Board Meeting
   - September 19
   - September 23 - Board Retreat
   - October 4 - Closed Board Meeting
   - October 17 - Closed Board Meeting
   - November 14
   - December 19 - Annual Meeting | 4:30 p.m.
   - January 9, 2018
   - January 23
   - February 20
   - March 20
   - April 24
   - May 22
   - June 12 - Special | Non-Renewals
   - June 19
   - July 17
   - August 21

B. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 unless otherwise noted)
   - September 12
   - October 3
   - November 7
   - December 5
   - January 9, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.
   - February 6
   - March 6
   - April 10
   - May 8
   - June 12
   - July 17

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair moved the meeting adjourn, the Vice Chair seconded the motion. It passed by
acclaim.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 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 Dahrke
Assistant Clerk,
St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education