

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 15, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Ms. Doran, Mr. Hardy, Ms. O'Connell, Mr. Brodrick, Ms. Polsfuss, Assistant Clerk

Superintendent Silva, Director Seeba arrived later in the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Doran moved approval of the order of the agenda. Mr. Hardy seconded
the motion:

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Street-Stewart	Absent
Carroll	Absent
Doran	Yes
Seeba	Absent
Hardy	Yes
O'Connell	Yes
Brodrick	Yes

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Action Regarding Metropolitan Learning Alliance

Director Hardy provided additional background information on the dissolution of the Metropolitan Learning Alliance. He indicated that at their most recent meeting, the MLA Board had resolved that dissolving the school was the only viable option open to them. Minneapolis approved the dissolution at its meeting on April 2nd. Bloomington and Richfield are meeting to approve it as well. The Bloomington school attorney is drafting language on how to divide assets. Meetings will be held to determine contractual obligations to staff and an open meeting will be held on May 16 for MLA families. SPPS is working with its students attending MLA to transition them into other schools.

The following resolution was introduced:

BF 29348 RESOLUTION FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE METROPOLITAN LEARNING ALLIANCE

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Public Schools ("SPPS") Board of Education is a party to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Metropolitan Learning Alliance ("MLA"), with the Minneapolis, Bloomington and Richfield School districts. And

WHEREAS, MLA has been operating a school housed in the Mall of America in Bloomington since 1992, and

WHEREAS, the Mall of America has not renewed the MLA's lease that terminates on June 30, 2013, and

WHEREAS, the cost to move to alternative space within the Mall of America would be too expensive to allow the program to sustain operations, and

WHEREAS, the Mall of America site is intrinsic to the MLA academic program and integrated into its current strategic plan, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of MLA has recommended dissolution of the Metropolitan Learning Alliance, and

WHEREAS, the SPPS Board and Superintendent believe that ending the program would be in the best interest of MLA students, who have comparable academic options through other District and alternative schools, and

WHEREAS, SPPS School Board Director Keith Hardy is the District's Representative on the Metropolitan Learning Alliance Board of Directors,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Independent School District No. 625 approves the dissolution of The Metropolitan Learning Alliance effective June 30, 2013, and authorize Director Hardy to vote to dissolve the Joint Powers Agreement for the Metropolitan Learning Alliance and take any other necessary steps to reach final dissolution, including agreement on the distribution of assets, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors direct the Superintendent to assure appropriate placements for the Saint Paul students now attending MLA.

MOTION: **Mr. Hardy moved the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education approve the resolution as stated. Ms. O'Connell seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Doran	Yes
Hardy	Yes
O'Connell	Yes
Brodrick	Yes

V. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

A. Action to Schedule Closed Board of Education Meeting

Clarification was provided on the process for closed board meetings related to labor negotiations for the newer Board members.

MOTION: **Mr. Hardy moved the Board of Education scheduled a closed Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. for purpose of an update on labor negotiations. Additionally that closed Board of Education meetings for updates on labor negotiations be scheduled prior to all Committee of the Board meetings and all Board of Education meetings until negotiations relative to the teachers' contract are completed. Ms. Doran seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Doran	Yes
Seeba	Yes
Hardy	Yes
O'Connell	Yes
Brodrick	Yes

Clarification was provided that the closed meetings prior to COBs would start at 4:00 p.m. with the COB convening immediately upon adjournment of the closed meeting and for the closed meetings prior to Board of Education meetings the start time would be 4:30 p.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: **Mr. Brodrick moved the meeting adjourn, seconded by Ms. Doran.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Doran	Yes
Seeba	Yes
Hardy	Yes
O'Connell	Yes
Brodrick	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 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
Marilyn Polsfuss
Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education