

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625**  
**Saint Paul, Minnesota**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**September 21, 2010**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:54 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Ms. Varro, Mr. Brodrick, Ms. Street-Stewart, Ms. Carroll, Mr. Hardy, Ms. Kong-Thao, Ms. O'Connell, Superintendent Silva, Mr. Lalla, General Counsel, Ms. Polsfuss, Assistant Clerk

**III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

A. Order of the Consent Agenda

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item C3, Request to Approve the 2010-11 Project Early Kindergarten Contract with Resources of Child Caring which was pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

B. Order of the Main Agenda

**MOTION:** Ms. Kong-Thao moved approval of the Order of the Main Agenda as published. Motion seconded by Ms Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of August 17, 2010

**MOTION:** Ms. Kong-Thao moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of August 17, 2010 as published. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Committee of the Board Meeting of August 24, 2010

The meeting covered three main topics the first of which was:

1. **Joint Academics and Operations Committee (AOC) and Capital Expenditure Advisory Committee (CEAC) Report and Recommendations for Capital Bonding Projects**

Their recommendation was for the Board to approve the follow capital expenditures:

Capital Bonds Available	\$15,000,000
• District-wide Project (Direct Digital Control [DDC])	1,000,000
• A 10% Contingency Fund	1,500,000
• Project Management (Salaries)	700,000
• Large Scale System Changes (LSSC)/ Programmatic Changes	1,000,000
• Undesignated Projects	500,000
• "Top 3" Priorities by Site	6,482,808
• AOC/CEAC Recommended "single" proposals	<u>4,358,025</u>
Total	\$15,540,833

The overage of \$540,833 will be covered from rollover funds from the previous year.

The proposals were assessed based on a set of criteria. Proposals that were given less priority were those that

- Resulted in added square footage
- Focused solely on "non-academic" needs
- Resulted in sustained unfunded operating costs.

Proposals which were viewed favorably include those

- Resulting in long-term efficiencies or reductions in operating costs
- Eliminated deficiencies aligned with site priorities
- That had an impact in terms of "daily" use
- That positively impacted the greatest number of students
- That supported "district-wide" infrastructure/initiatives
- That eliminated gross inequities
- Those whose total cost of ownership could be discerned
- Those whose return on investment was superior, and
- Those which focused on safety in the schools

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the following capital expenditures:

<b>Capital Bonds Available</b>	<b>\$15,000,000</b>
• <b>District-wide Project (Direct Digital Control [DDC])</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
• <b>A 10% Contingency Fund</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>
• <b>Project Management (Salaries)</b>	<b>700,000</b>
• <b>Large Scale System Changes (LSSC)/Programmatic Changes</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
• <b>Undesignated Projects</b>	<b>500,000</b>

- “Top 3” Priorities by Site 6,482,808
  - AOC/CEAC Recommended “single” proposals 4,358,025
- For a total of **\$15,540,833**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O’Connell	Yes

Thanks were extended to all of the committee members and staff for the effort involved in bringing the recommendations forward.

2. **American Indian Education Parent Committee Resolution of Concurrence Report**  
 The parent committee expressed its continued support of the Indian Education Program which supports a citywide system of working with American Indian students even though they represent small numbers within the overall student numbers for SPPS. They also continue to support the American Indian Studies Program which exists to create a greater understanding and knowledge of the history of the indigenous peoples within America. The committee members then moved to specific recommendations in five major areas.
  - a. American Indian Studies (AIS) Program
  - b. Follow-Up on Previous Administrative Agreements in the areas of:
    - Increasing Attendance
    - Increasing Academic Support
    - Decreasing American Indian Suspension Rates
    - Inclusion of American Indian History, Language, Peoples and Cultures in the District’s Curriculum
  - c. Special Education Over-Identification
  - d. Inclusion in the Discussion as to District Reorganization and Upcoming System-wide Changes

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education accept the American Indian Education Parent Committee Resolution of Concurrence with thanks.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O’Connell	Yes

Thanks were extended to the committee for their work in bringing forward their resolution and the issues contained within it.

3. There was no report on **School & Program Changes**.
4. In the area of **Policy**, the Policy Subcommittee will meet to look at suggestions for policy changes which are being brought forward in five areas along with development of procedures that reflect current policy.

5. During the **Work Session** the Board Scheduled the Remaining SY 2010-11 Board Meeting Dates. Proposed dates are:
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| February 15      | Board of Education Meeting   |
| March 1          | Committee of the Board   |
| March 15         | Board of Education Meeting   |
| April 5          | Committee of the Board   |
| April 19         | Board of Education Meeting   |
| May 3            | Committee of the Board   |
| May 17           | Board of Education Meeting   |
| June 7 – Special | Board of Education Meeting (Non-Renewals) – this depends upon the schedule for graduations |
| June 21          | Board of Education Meeting   |
| June 28          | Committee of the Board   |
| July 19          | Committee of the Board   |
| July 19          | Board of Education Meeting   |

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the listed dates for meetings from February through July 2011.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**B. Committee of the Board Meeting of September 14, 2010**

The September 14 meeting started with a report from the

**1. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

The SEAC representatives stated the purpose of the SEAC is to provide information, advice and assistance to the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education and Director of Special Education on issues related to special education.

They went on to report that during the 2009-10 school year, the council focused on the theme of collaboration, including ways to provide information on policy and procedures to parents with children receiving special education services.

They indicated that to strengthen its role as an advisory council to the Department and the Board of Education they will incorporate the school district's Special Education Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process (CIMP) Committee to assist in making their work data and goal-driven.

The committee provided the following recommendations to the Board:

- Continue to support collaboration and communication between Special Education and General Education to provide the best possible outcomes for students with disabilities in inclusive settings.
- Participation in the Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process (CIMP) Committee to have an ongoing voice in the goals set by the Special Education Department.

Appreciation was extended to the SEAC for their work.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education accept the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee with its thanks.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Abstain
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**2. Discussion on the District & Charter Schools**

The Superintendent stated that at the June 1 Committee of the Board meeting she had recommended SPPS no longer serve as a charter school authorizer and that she continued to support that recommendation. The situation was reviewed and the charter school representatives provided their input and recommendations. All of them indicated they had pursued finding another authorizer but encouraged SPPS to reconsider their position and continue as authorizers for the schools. They stated a major issue facing them is the very small number of viable alternative authorizers.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation that the Saint Paul Public Schools no longer serve as a charter school authorizer effective July 1, 2011.

**QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- One director recommended the Board hold off on approving this recommendation; that it apply as authorizer and continue with the charter schools for one year to see how the new requirements play out, particularly since the charters have expressed willingness to assist financially and with personnel to assist in the review process. Concern was expressed about the public relations impact on families in the schools and the reciprocal relationships if the recommendation is approved and the relationships with the charter schools ended. He stated he did not support the discontinuance of this service.
- A question was raised regarding whether the charters partnership with SPPS Nutrition Services was a contractual arrangement. Concern was expressed about the potential loss of this service to them, a service that helps students, provides employment and assists the charter schools. Response: This is a contractual arrangement.
- A director spoke, reluctantly, in support of the action stating the necessity was imposed by changes in State law that dramatically increases responsibility for the authorizer and, at this time; distract SPPS from its legal and ethical responsibility to the kids SPPS serves. The changes put existing authorizers in an impossible position. The change in requirements is very significant and leaves authorizers with a great deal of responsibility but no authority to make changes if something is not working. She expressed disappointment about being placed in this position but supported the action as SPPS has a great deal of work facing it with its own schools.
- An additional comment was made on the partnerships. In no way should this action reflect that SPPS does not want to continue a deep and meaningful relationship with charter schools. SPPS should seek out highly impactful charters to look at how SPPS might improve its own system through their models.

**RESTATEMENT OF MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation that the Saint Paul Public Schools no longer serve as a charter school authorizer effective July 1, 2011.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes

Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	No
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**3. Health Care Update**

Hewitt Associates, LLC provided a review of the impact of the new health care legislation on the District's plan and an overview of the 2010-11 plans. He indicated the open enrollment period would begin October 18 and run through October 29.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                      **That the Board of Education accept the Health Care Update report.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**4. Initial Discussion on 2010 Payable 2011 Property Tax Levy**

SPPS has been working closely with the City, County and Minnesota Department of Education on the levy numbers. The State sets all levy authority for schools. Districts can levy only for what is authorized in law. The levy for the 2010-11 school year is for an amount of \$122,451,366, an increase of 10,759,129 over Pay 10. This levy will be paid by taxpayers in May and October of 2011. Several of the levies have an aid penalty which means if SPPS does not levy for the required amount, it will lose State aid which results in a double hit for the District.

The percent of increase at maximum level would be 9.6%. For the median value home in St. Paul this represents an increase of approximately \$55/year.

Reasons for the increase include (1) the State increased authorization for OPEB for districts that sunset or limit retiree health insurance programs and (2) adjustments for new and existing debt, debt excess adjustments and refinancing. It is expected that the OPEB amount will remain flat in subsequent years. The debt service needs to be met on an annual basis. It is expected that this will go down next year. These two key areas which caused an increase this year should not be a problem for SPPS next year.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                      **That the Board of Education accept the report on the 2010 Payable 2011 Property Tax Levy.**

The Board consensus was to defer action on this motion to a later time with the further report/action on the levy during Old Business.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                      **That the Board of Education approve scheduling a Truth In Taxation hearing for November 30, 2010 with a time certain of 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A, 360 Colborne, following the already scheduled Committee of the Board meeting. In addition, that the Board accept the entire levy schedule as presented.**

A request was made to include a time certain of 6:30 p.m. in the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes

Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

5. **Standing Item: School & Program Changes** – No Report

6. **Standing Item: Policy Update**

a. Discussion on Policies/Timeline for Development of Procedures

Administration presented a plan for bringing forward new policy, revised policy and revisions to SPPS procedures.

7. **Work Session**

Items discussed in the work session included: Winter Carnival Participation and Board Travel to Conferences.

**MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved acceptance of the report on the Committee of the Board meetings of August 24 and September 14. Motion seconded by Ms. O'Connell.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

VI. **RECOGNITIONS** (Will Resume in October)

VII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A. S. Lonetti - Admission to Pre-K Program
- B. J. Lonstein – Admission to Pre-K Program
- C. C. Johnson – Admission to Pre-K Program
- D. N. Glaser – Cancellation of transportation to after school program
- E. S. Friberg – Cancellation of transportation to after school program)
- F. M. C. Ricker – (1) Thanks for approval of SCSP contract (2) Update on site-governed schools statute language under review by SPFT (3) Congratulations to SPPS and Wilder on winning Federal Promise Neighborhood Planning grant.
- G. P. Barragan – Asked for assistance in gaining licensure for Chili Pepper Kids

VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. Promise Neighborhood Grant

The Superintendent announced the award of the Promises Neighborhood Grant to SPPS. SPPS was one of 21 groups nationwide that were awarded these grants. The grant is for \$500,000 for a year's planning for implementation of a Promise Neighborhood covering 250 city blocks in the Frogtown and Summit University neighborhoods. It is hoped this will result in a national model program to transform the neighborhoods by developing "cradle to career" services and make the schools the heart of the community.

Key partners in the project are The Wilder Foundation, Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS), the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, the Summit University Planning Council, the Frogtown Neighborhood Association, the SPPS Foundation and the YWCA of St. Paul.

B. Opening School Report

The opening of school was very successful. SPPS ran a campaign to encourage early enrollment for families; this made opening week less chaotic and resulted in more children in the classrooms the first week. Most of central administration staff were in the schools during the first week to provide assistance to the kids and teachers.

Breakfast 2 Go (B2G) is now in all schools for all students. The Mayor assisted in distribution of B2G to the students. The program helps to ensure proper nutrition to students at the beginning of the school day.

Board members participated with 3M in the distribution of bags of supplies to students. Thanks were expressed to 3M for their on-going support.

Transportation was provided for 38,500 students and this will be on going on a daily basis. SPPS has continued to get better in serving families and supplying information on bus routes to the families.

One of the biggest concerns was to ensure all buildings were ready to open and clean. Kudos were given to staff for the exceptional work done in achieving this goal and the excellent condition of the buildings at opening.

A video on opening day was run for the Board and audience with a second one specific to the co-located schools provided as well.

C. 2010 Summer School Report

The ALC summer session 2010 provided programs and classes to increase proficiency and credit recovery for graduation. Sites for the summer session were reviewed. There were 32 sites this year compared to 46 in 2009. The summer session was three weeks (96 hours) running from June 28 to July 20. Classes ran for six hours a day. An additional three-week high school credit recovery session was held at Gordon Parks for another six-quarter credits from July 26 to August 13. This allowed high school students attending both sessions to earn up to 12-quarter credits. There was a slight reduction (6%) in participation in 2010 from 2009 at the elementary level but a 3.5% increase at the secondary level. The reasons for the decrease will be assessed and addressed.

The On Track Program was located at St. Paul College this year allowing participating students the opportunity to experience life on campus. 201 students participated with only 33 failing to complete their requirements for credits. Thanks were extended to St. Paul College for providing this opportunity to the students.

GRAD re-testing was provided at every high school. LEAP enrollment was 301 (almost every student attended summer school). Gordon Parks had 218 students in its first session that was Gordon Parks, Creative Arts and AGAPE students. Online programming served 301 students who took at least one online class (the majority in the second session).

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- In a comment on the On track program it was noted that Dr. Schwichtenberg, President of St. Paul College commented on the success of the program and the student's efforts and comportment.
- A Board member commented he was looking at opportunities for extended year replacing the need for summer school. Response: No, there are two different funding sources for extended and summer school. The funding for summer school (ALC) is only for students falling behind academically (50% of kids in SPPS); there is also a different pay scale for teachers during summer school. Year around school has the same number of days spread out over the year only on a different schedule from other schools. The legislature would need to approve extended year time beyond the 175 days to meet the needs of different kids and to allow schools to go to extended year



programming. The extended time SPPS is offering this year is through ALC and is time to help students with enrichment, electives and additional instruction; it is extended time which is crucial to the students participating to focus on areas in which they need to improve. ALC extended time offerings will be available in most schools starting on October 11.

- When will the State provide district with results of summer Grad tests? Response: They have already been received. Summer graduation recognized those students who were successful on the GRAD tests during summer school.
- A board member expressed interest in seeing information on how summer school worked this year for the various categories of kids (credit recovery, etc); what worked well and what needs to be improved next year.
- The question was raised whether SPPS has captured all the students who need to be enrolled, if not how can they be gotten and what strategies will be employed to bring them into the program? Response: The last couple of years SPPS has focused on being more intentional in communication with parents encouraging them to get kids into extended time/summer school opportunities. Not every student/family understands the importance of the extra instruction from summer school/extended day. Attendance in the program has improved due to these more proactive efforts. Summer school has a negative image to many students. SPPS needs to create a culture in which it is okay to do extended time and summer school. This will require a change in the culture, it needs to be viewed as an opportunity. There still needs to be greater personal communication with families on the value of extended time opportunities to their children's learning.
- The 33 students who did not make it in the On-track program, where are they? What additional support is being provided to them and their families? Response: They are enrolled at middle schools and they were offered a change of schools. The counselors know who they are and will meet with the students and parents the first week of school. Follow-up will be done for each on where they are enrolled and their status.
- Does the District keep track of them? Response: There is data on the on-track students for six years. The data has allowed for improvement of the program from one year to the next. The schools have data on most students coming into the middle school and high schools. Early interventions will be provided to these students.
- What happens to students who did not pass their GRAD tests and didn't graduate? Response: The students who did not pass the GRAD tests and were not credit deficient can attend after school classes for enrichment on how to pass the GRAD or they can test at Gordon Parks. Some students take a break and then try again, some go on taking a GED.
- So in regard to the calculation on the percent of students who do not graduate on time, do those students count into the data on those who do not graduate? Response: Yes they are calculated into that graduation rate number. The district has two graduation rates. They count for NCLB and also as part of the four-year cohort completion rate (this more accurately represents the SPPS student demographic). Students are calculated in whenever they do graduate.
- Is there a clear sense of how many fall into that category of having met credits but not passing the GRAD? What is the trend? Response: The ELL and special ed students require a longer time to graduate (some four, some five years). SPPS has been comparing the BST results with the GRAD graduation rates. Students are becoming much more aware of the importance of the GRAD test and being more serious about addressing it.
- SPPS made a serious effort this year to align along the way who was missing credits and who was taking the test. A GRAD Steering Committee has been established and meets monthly to review where students are in meeting needs for credits and tests. The need now is to automate the process for efficiency in accessing the information.
- The students eligible to participate in summer school, is there anything prohibiting SPPS from legally requiring parents to have their students participate? We need to engage them. What do we need to do and how far can the District go to make it happen. There is a need to understand why they choose not to attend. Response:

The General Counsel indicated he would take the question under advisement and provide the Board with a written opinion. .

- The Board requested a copy of the stats on graduation rates when they are finalized.
- The summer school graduation was reviewed. It was noted this graduation was a testimony to perseverance and accomplishment for the students and families.

D. Certification of the 2010 Payable 2011 Property Tax Levy

The Chief Business Officer stated the SPPS Board must certify its proposed ceiling 2010 payable 2011 property tax levy to Ramsey County and the Minnesota Department of Education by September 30, 2010. He noted the levy figures originally reported at the September 14 COB meeting have been revised by MDE and that administration has verified all data elements for accuracy.

The Pay 11 maximum levy presented to the Committee of the Board on September 14, 2010 was \$122,451,366 compared with a levy of \$111,692,237 certified for Pay 2010. That represented an overall increase of 9.6%. The Pay 11 Debt Service Levy has since been reduced by \$220,505 by MDE. This change in the Debt Service Levy is reflected in the Pay 11 maximum of \$122,230,862, an overall increase of \$9.4%.

▪ General Fund	\$ 76,688,599
▪ Community Service Fund	3,571,836
▪ Debt Service Fund	<u>41,970,427</u>
▪ Total All Funds	\$122,230,862

Reasons for the increase are twofold: (1) the State increased the authorization for OPEB for districts that sunset or limit retiree health insurance programs and (2) adjustments to new and existing debt, debt excess adjustments and refinancing. The impact on a median value home remains as a \$55/year increase.

The final levy, which will be adopted by the Board in December, cannot exceed the proposed maximum levy adopted by the Board, unless adjusted by MDE. For that reason, administration recommended the Board adopt the maximum levy as calculated by the State of Minnesota.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- When does the actual amount levied actually come about? Response: There will be budget presentations in October and November and updates on the levy can be provided at that time. The final number is the will of the Board and the direction of the Superintendent. The Board was reminded to keep in mind that reductions to the levy amount will result in an equal reduction in state aid.
- Administration was asked to provide talking points on the major funding sources for funding for SPPS and approximate percentages of the entire budget these constitute. Additionally how the property tax levy differs from the excess levy. What the property tax levy money pays for and how this levy fits into the bigger picture. Response: The total SPPS budget this year is \$623 million. If the budget next year is similar, this levy of \$122 million would be 19.7% of that budget. Funding comes from Federal tax dollars, State aid (State taxes provide the largest portion), the property tax. Within the general fund there are 14 sub-funds (one of which is the operating/excess levy); in the community services fund there are five sub-funds and then there is the debt service levy. The operating levy is a voter informed levy. State aid is based on enrollment and a formula MDE uses. The State authorizes districts to levy, through property taxes, in the various funds and sub-funds. Other funding includes grant funding (of various types – federal, benefactors, etc.); much of this funding is categorical funding.
- What is the timeline? Response: There will be opportunities for Board deliberation on the levy before the scheduled certification on December 14. Having the Truth in Taxation Hearing on the 30<sup>th</sup> allows for two weeks following public comment before the Board needs to do the final certification of the levy.

- Is it true the City is not seeking to increase the levy at all? A zero percent increase. Why is SPPS increasing theirs?. Response: The City is anticipating a zero percent increase on their part of the levy. The SPPS increase is connected to the two reasons already mentioned (OPEB and debt service).
- It was noted the public can attend JPTAC meetings.
- The Board requested talking points be provided to clarify these reasons for the increase and how the SPPS levy differs from the City and County.
- The Board was again reminded to keep in mind that adjustments to the levy will result in penalties to SPPS in state aid. Additionally, SPPS has a fiduciary obligation to cover its debt service 100% and debt service is a variable figure that is constantly under review.
- The SPPS Legislative Liaison stated the City, when it built its budget, counted on the local government aid increase currently in law. The City and the County are levying for current budgets. SPPS's levy portion has no relation to its budget for this year but is for SY 2011-12. The total SPPS levy figure is based on pupil count, tax equalization and many other things that make a difference to the formula. The TinT Notices go out from the middle to the end of November. At that point homeowners will have the information they need to know what the impact of the levies will be.
- Regarding the OPEB, SPPS opted for the pay-go levy option that has no interest payment and is more directly related to actual costs. This levy was capped last year at \$14 million. This year it was increased and this increase is why there is an increase in the OPEB levy this year. It is scheduled to go up again next year but the impact should be negligible.
- It was noted each Board member had received a copy of the *Financing Public Education* publication which is available to the public on the internet. MSBA also has information on education financing.

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education accept the report on the Pay 11 levy and that the Board approve the maximum Pay 11 levy ceiling of \$122,230,862. Motion seconded by Mr. Hardy.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

E. Human Resource Transactions

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education appoint Andrew Collins to the position of Assistant Superintendent, Leadership Development and Turnaround Schools effective September 22, 2010 and that it approve the Human Resource Transactions as published in the September 21 Board Book. Motion seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**BF 28412** Establishment of the Unclassified Position of Human Resource Information System/Compliance Manager for Independent School District No. 625 and Relevant Terms and Conditions of Employment

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Ms. Kong-Thao that the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve the establishment of the job classification effective September 21, 2010, that the Board of Education declare the position of Human Resource Information System/Compliance Manager unclassified; and that the pay rate be Grade 25 of the 2010-2011 Saint Paul Supervisors Organization standard ranges.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

#### IX. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved approval of the Consent Agenda Items as published with the exception of Item C3, Request to Approve the 2010-11 Project Early Kindergarten Contract with Resources of Child Caring which was pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Kong-Thao.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

##### A. Gifts

**BF 28413** SMART Technologies Product Donation for "2011 Teacher of the Year" Recipient, Ryan Vernosh at Maxfield Elementary

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the donation of product with a total value of \$17,123.00 offered by SMART Technologies ULC for use at Maxfield Elementary.

##### B. Grants

**BF 28414** Request for Permission to Accept a Community POWER Grant from Solid Waste

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a Community POWER grant from Solid Waste for staff education and program assistance for Homcroft Early Learning Center; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28415** Request for Permission to Accept Grants from ING Unsung Heroes Awards Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept grants from ING's Unsung Heroes Awards Program for Horace Mann School and Linwood Monroe Arts Plus; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28416**            **Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Education for Magnet School and Program Grants**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Education for Magnet School and Program Grants for Barack and Michelle Obama Service Learning Magnet School; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28417.**            **Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board for the Rondo complex to implement arts programming; to accept funds and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28418.**            **Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Travelers Foundation**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Travelers Foundation for Hayden Heights Elementary Reading Connections program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

C. Contracts

**BF 28419.**            **Permission to enter into a Contract with the Minnesota Literacy Council on Behalf of the Saint Paul Literacy Consortium for 2010-2011**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with the Minnesota Literacy Council on behalf of the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium to provide coordinated delivery of training for volunteer programs and assist with management of member services for the 2010-11 fiscal year at the cost of \$207,487 to be accounted for in budget 04-005-520-322-6305-8522.

**BF 28420**            **Museum Magnet Contract for Consultant Services with Jan Elftmann**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the hiring of Jan Elftmann as consultant to Museum Magnet to work with classroom teachers in developing their knowledge, practice and understanding of engineering.

**BF 28421**            **Project Early Kindergarten Evaluation Services with Wilder Research**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent or designee to enter into a contract for consultant services from October 1, 2010 through October 31, 2012 at \$225,700.00 with Wilder Research to provide evaluation services for Project Early Kindergarten.

**BF 28422**            **Request for Permission of the Board of Education to Amend the Current Contract with Leadership and Learning Center (LLC)**

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into an Addendum to the Agreement with the Leadership and Learning Center (LLC), beginning October 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 for a cost not to exceed \$1,250,000.00.

**BF28423**            **Supplemental Educational Services Contracts**

That the Board of Education authorizes Superintendent Valeria Silva to enter into an agreement with the above authorized SES providers for the school year 2010-2011.

D. Agreements

**BF 28424**            **Approval of Extension of the Assistant Manager, Negotiations/Employee Relations Employment Agreement**

That the Board of Education approves the extension of the employment agreement with the Assistant Manager, Negotiations/Employee Relations effective September 21, 2010.

**BF 28425 Approval of an Employment Agreement With Lakes and Plains Regional Council of Carpenters and Joiners to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2010-2013**

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom the Lakes and Plains Regional Council of Carpenters and Joiners, is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of May 1, 2010 through April 30, 2013.

**BF 28426 Request Permission to Amend the Grant Agreement Between Saint Paul Independent School District # 625 and Ramsey County on Behalf of the Saint Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept these amended grant funds of \$549,370.00 from Ramsey County to promote physical activity and healthy nutrition, reduce tobacco use and establish practices that support chronic disease prevention.

**BF 28427 Approval of Employment Agreement between Independent School District No. 625, Saint Paul Public Schools, and Saint Paul Federation of Teachers, Exclusive Representative for School and Community Service Professionals**

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those school and community service professional employees in this school district for whom the Saint Paul Federation of Teachers is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011.

**BF 28428 Request for Permission to Participate in Student Teacher and Student Nurse Agreements**

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to participate in a Student Teaching or a Student Nurses Agreement with Augsburg College, Bemidji State University, College of St. Catherine, Hamline University, Luther College Department of Education, Minnesota State University – Mankato, Minnesota State University – Moorhead, Northwestern College, St. Cloud State University, St. Olaf College, St. Paul College, University of Minnesota Center of Allied Health Programs, University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota Duluth, Department of Education, University of Northern Iowa, University of St. Thomas, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, University of Wisconsin – Madison, University of Wisconsin - River Falls, Walden University, Western Governors University, Winona State University, Bethel College Nursing Department, College of St. Scholastica Nursing Program, Metropolitan State University Nursing Program, and University of Minnesota School of Nursing.

**BF 28429 Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625 and Tri-Council Local No. 49, Local No. 120, and Local No. 132, exclusive representative for Drivers, Grounds and Labor Employees, and Heavy Equipment Operators**

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment for Tri-Council Local No. 49, Local No. 120, and Local No. 132, exclusive representative for Drivers, Grounds and Labor Employees, and Heavy Equipment Operators in this school district; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2012.

E. Administrative Items

**BF 28430 Employee Dental Insurance Annual Renewal**

That the Board of Education approve the contract for employee dental insurance coverage with Delta Dental Plan of Minnesota effective January 1, 2011, at the proposed renewal rates.

**BF 28431 Active Employee and Early Retiree Health Insurance**

That the Board of Education approve a contract for active employee and early retiree health insurance coverage with HealthPartners for plan year 2011, effective January 1, 2011, at the proposed premium renewal rates.

**BF 28432 Employee Life Insurance Renewal**

That the Board of Education approve the contract for employee life insurance with Minnesota Life with no change in premium renewal rates.

**BF 28433 Monthly Operating Authority**

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period August 1 – August 31, 2010.

(a) General Account	#476280-477054	\$27,473,912.78
	#3014886-30414932	
(b) Debt Service	-0-	
(c) Construction	-0-	<u>2,546,748.42</u>
		<u>\$30,020,661.20</u>

Included in the above disbursements are payrolls in the amount of \$14,413,966.33 and overtime of \$34,649.77.

(d) Collateral Changes 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 December 14, 2010.

**BF28434 Employee Short-Term Disability Insurance Annual Renewal**

That the Board of Education approve the contract for employee short-term disability coverage with Assurant with no change in premium renewal rates.

F. Bids

**BF 28435 Bid No. 1970-K Site Marquee Signs at Frost Lake Elementary, Johnson Senior High School and Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning**

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. 1970-K for installation of site marquee signs at Frost Lake Elementary, Johnson Senior High School and Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning, to Schreiber Mullaney Construction for \$107,250.00 for the lump sum base bid plus alternates no. 1A, 1B and 2.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION**

**BF 28436 Request to Approve the 2010-11 Project Early Kindergarten Contract with Resources for Child Caring**

Director Varro indicated she had pulled this item in order to recues herself from the vote as she serves on the Board of Resources for Child Caring

**MOTION:** Ms. Kong-Thao moved, seconded by Ms. Carroll, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent or her designee to approve the Project Early Kindergarten contract with Resources for Child Caring to provide the above mentioned services for the period of July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011 at the cost of \$270,175.00.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Abstain
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

**BF 28437**      Resolution for Accepting the Bid on the sale of \$10,355,000 General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2010A, Providing for Their Issuance

At the August 17 Board of Education meeting a Resolution for Issuance of \$11,305,000 General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2010A was approved. The authorized sale was conducted on this day. Five bids were received by Springsted and the low bidder was Piper with a bid of 2.0628% TIC (true interest cost). Subsequent to bid opening the issue size was decreased from \$11,305,000 to \$10,355,000 due to premium bid and unused discount allowance, which is a benefit to the district and the taxpayers.

**MOTION:**                      **Ms. Carroll moved approval of the resolution accepting the bid on sale of \$10,355,000 General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2010A, providing for their issuance and levying a tax for the payment thereof. Motion seconded by Ms. O'Connell.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**BF 28438**      Resolution for Issuance of \$7,750,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds  
**BF 28439**      (Build America Bonds-Direct Pay) Series 2010B and \$18,250,000 Taxable  
General Obligation School Building Bonds (Qualified School Construction Bonds-  
Direct Pay), Series 2010C

The Committee of the Board reviewed the recommended 2010-2011 capital bonding projects. Funds for these projects and for alternative capital bonding projects are provided through the issuance of bonds as provided by Minnesota statute. Approval for the issuance of a total of \$26 million in capital bonding is necessary to begin the process with the award of the sale to be presented at the Board meeting of October 19, 2010.

The representative from Springsted stated the issue was for \$26 million in capital and alternative facility bonds. \$18 million in qualified school construction bonds with a zero coupon rate (zero interest to the district) and \$7 million in either Build America Bonds which are ARRA funded bonds or general obligation school building bonds. Springsted will find the lowest net interest cost to the district at the time these bonds are issued.

**MOTION:**                      **Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Ms. O'Connell, approval of the Resolution for Issuance of \$7,750,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds (Build America Bonds-Direct Pay) Series 2010B and \$18,250,000 Taxable General Obligation School Building Bonds (Qualified School Construction Bonds-Direct Pay), Series 2010C.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
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Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**A. Information Requests & Responses**

1. Director O'Connell – Requested a conversation about what the Placement Center would recommend to simplify the enrollment process for families. The Superintendent stated this would be part of the work on big-picture revisions to the system with an analysis of whether past practices are valid for the current situation. It was suggested a visit to the Placement Center might be appropriate as a venue for this issue.

**B. Items for Future Agendas**

1. Director Hardy asked for a discussion about focus groups relative to special education.

**C. Board of Education Reports/Communications**

1. Director Kong-Thao announced the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Hmong Resource Fair would be on October 2 at the Aldrich Arena.
2. Director Hardy stated he would report out on the CUBE Conference at the October Board meeting..

**XIII. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

**A. Board of Education Meetings (5:45 unless otherwise noted)**

- October 19
- November 16
- November 30 – Special BOE to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing 6:30 p.m.
- December 14
- January 4 – Annual Meeting
- January 18
- February 15
- March 15
- April 19
- May 17
- June 7 – Special BOE 4:30 p.m.
- June 21
- July 19

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

- October 5
- November 9
- November 30
- January 11
- February 1
- March 1
- April 5
- May 3
- June 28
- July 19

MOTION:

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the meeting adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Varro.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Varro	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Ms. O'Connell	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 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