

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

**February 17, 2009**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Ms. Kong-Thao, at 5:52 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Ms. Carroll, Mr. Conlon, Mr. Hardy, Ms. Kong-Thao, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Brodrick, Ms. Street-Stewart, Superintendent Carstarphen, Mr. Lalla, General Counsel and Ms. Polfuss, Assistant Clerk

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

1. Order of the Consent Agenda

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr Goldstein, approval of the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item 7, page 35, Request for Permission to Seek Funding for the Rigor and Readiness Initiative; Item 10 page 39 Supplemental Educational Services Contracts and Item 12, page 41 Bid No. A-9296-M New Main Entry Addition and Remodel at Highland Senior High School which were pulled for separate consideration.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

2. Order of the Main Agenda

**MOTION:** Ms. Street-Stewart moved approval of the Main Agenda with the changes/additions noted. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of January 20, 2009
2. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 11, 2009

**MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education January 20, 2009 and the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting February 11, 2009. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

## V. RECOGNITIONS

A special farewell was made to Lois Rockney recognizing her for the highest quality service she has given to public schools and particularly for her 11 years with SPPS. The Board offered their thanks, best wishes and congratulations on her retirement.

Patricia Grans, Prime Minister of the St. Paul Winter Carnival 2009 Royal Family, introduced the Winter Carnival Royalty who made a surprise visit to the board meeting. King Boreas Rex LXXIII, Chris Schneeman, knighted the Superintendent and Board of Education members into the "House of Boreas".

### **BF 27870**      Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees and Departments

- **SPPS Facilities Planning Department**, in partnership with Cunningham Group Architecture, P.A., was recognized for Educational Design Excellence for their work on the Washington Technology Magnet Middle School redesign. The updated design features a technology-inspired interior, which enhanced movement, accessibility and security. The multiple award-winning project has been featured in the *American School & University's 2008 Architectural Portfolio Sourcebook* for award-winning and outstanding education design.
- **Minnesota Teacher of the Year Finalists:** Four Saint Paul Public School (SPPS) teachers are among the 27 semifinalist candidates for this year's Minnesota Teacher of the Year honor. The 2009 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be announced May 3. SPPS finalist were Leslie Williams, Expo for Excellence Magnet; Theresa Westcott, Franklin Music Magnet; Tien Le, Adams Spanish Immersion and Thomas Bedard, Highland Park Junior High.
- The Superintendent recognized the District's counselors for their work and acknowledged **National School Counseling Week 2009**, "School Counselors: Making a Difference," being celebrated from Feb. 2-6, 2009, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

### **BF 27871**      Acknowledgement of Good Work by Schools

- **Open School** was among other east-metro-area high schools awarded as a bronze school in U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best High Schools" edition for 2009. The report, based on 2006-07 data, ranked schools based on academic performance and college-readiness.
- **Saint Paul Public Schools Arts Partnership Program (APP) Award.** Six Saint Paul Public Schools and organizations received the Saint Paul Public Schools Arts Partnership Program (APP) award. The focus of the program is to partner schools and

local art organizations so they may collaborate and carry out an individual arts education project in each of the six schools. Award recipients included: Adams Spanish Immersion and Minnesota Center for Book Arts; AGAPE and Northern Clay; Battle Creek Middle School and VocalEssence-WITESS; Frost Lake and COMPAS; Gordon Parks High School and Ordway Center/SoulTouch and Hancock-Hamline and ArtStart.

The Students from Frost Lake Magnet presented their art projects entitled "Talking Suitcases."

**MOTION:** Mr. Brodrick moved that the Board of Education recognize the staff and departments acknowledged for their contributions and outstanding work and that they recognize the schools which were acknowledged for their contributions and outstanding work with particular thanks to the students for sharing their works of art. Motion seconded by Mr. Conlon.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

The Superintendent extended congratulations to **Elona Street-Stewart**, on being awarded the 2008 Ronald A. McKinley *All My Relations* Award given by the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (MMEP). The award was made on November 6, 2008 at the 2008 State of Students of Color & American Indian Students Conference. The Ronald A. McKinley *All My Relations* Award is given to a community volunteer for exemplary leadership and for having contributed to MMEP's mission to increase the success of students of color in Minnesota colleges, universities and schools.

## VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 1. Committee of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009

The agenda consisted of a review of the financial audit report and a board work session.

- **Financial Audit Report**

The auditors presented highlights from the financial statements and the opinion for the audit conducted for the year ending June 30, 2008. The opinion stated the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and remaining fund information and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year ended June 30, 2008 in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

They reported they had also audited the District's compliance with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 which are applicable to major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2008. The auditors tested five programs for the fiscal year audit. Five areas of non-compliance were found relative to the audit of these Federal grant programs. Corrective action plans have been put in place in all areas where non-compliance was found.

They also reviewed for Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement # 45 *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as of July 1, 2007. For the year ended June 30, 2008, the District has implemented the requirements of the GASB Statement No. 45.

Administration provided a review of the areas of non-compliance and provided details of the corrective action plans which have been put in place to address them.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board approve the audit report as presented.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

• **Work Session**

○ Board Budget Considerations for 2009-10

Administration provided a recap of the 2007-08 Board of Education budget compared to actual expenditures and a status report of the fiscal year 2008-09 Board of Education Budget as of December 31, 2008. The board will continue its budget considerations relative to its initiatives.

○ Board Public Engagement

The Board reviewed materials for its upcoming listening sessions.

○ Board Development

The Board reviewed the proposals submitted to it relative to Board development and selected two firms to move forward into the interview process.

2. Committee of the Board Meeting of February 10, 2009

The agenda included several budget related items and a discussion on the Large Scale System Change Criteria (including criteria for rightsizing and consolidation)

**BF 27872 Second Budget Revision for the 08-09 Budget**

Total revenue increase for this revision is \$6,424,244. This increase was due to \$6.2 million in new grant awards to the district and recognition of \$.2 million in Adult Basic Education aid in the Community Services Fund due to unspent prior year aid.

The increase in expenditure for the fully financed budget for this revision is \$6,091,139 primarily due to enrollment decline.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the revisions to the budget for fiscal year 2008-09 as detailed in Exhibit A in the Board materials provided.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

• **Quarterly Financial Report**

The Quarterly Financial Report for the district for the period ending December 31, 2008 reflects projections of what the financial position of the District will be at June 30, 2009, taking into consideration all financial transactions that have occurred to date and projecting them to year end.

The non-general funds show minor fluctuations of revenue and expenditures, but no major change in position is anticipated.

The General Fund projects revenue for the year will be down \$1.4 million from revised budget. This will be more than offset by a projected under expenditure in the General Fund of \$6.1 million. The revenue decline reflects changes driven mostly by enrollment decline and interest rate decline. The expenditure decline is mostly in non-salary budget areas.

The undesignated, unreserved fund balance as of June 30, 2009 is projected to be \$27.8 million or 5.2% of the current year expenditures. This is well within the Board guidelines of 5%.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                      **That the Board of Education accept the Quarterly Financial Report as presented.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

• **BF 27873            2009-2010 Budget Priorities and Guidelines**

Administration presented the Board with their recommendations on general guidelines, report formats and a proposed budget reduction solution for the projected budget shortfall as well as the structural deficit.

The proposed Guidelines will be used to begin preparation of budgets for 2009-10 for both schools and departments. Approval allows allocations to be sent out to schools so they can begin to shape how the allocation will be used. The approval is the starting point and discussion/decisions on the budget will continue through to the budget approval point in June.

The Guidelines include proposals for solutions for the \$25 million deficit shortfall the District is facing and call for sacrifices across the board. Other events which might impact the reduction solution include the Federal stimulus package; the State legislative session outcome, the economic crisis in the country and the student enrollment process in the spring.

Details were reviewed on the:

- The General Guidelines
- The Budget Reduction Recommendations
- Directives for special consideration
- The structure of and charter for the Budget Assessment Committee.
- Reduction breakdown areas and savings generated from them on a line-by-line basis
- An overview of the Federal stimulus package to date along with the next steps as it moves forward toward completion.

Approval of the budget is expected by the Board in June, 2009.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                      **That the Board of Education approve the Budget Priorities and Guidelines for the Development of the 2009-10 Budget.**

#### QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Hardy indicated he would vote no as he would like to see further reduction in the central administration area to be closer to the recommendations of Budget Assessment Committee. He also had concerns relative to the reduction in athletics and the fact the Budget Assessment Committee had no teachers on it.
- The Superintendent responded the Board charges Administration to make an administrative recommendation for preparation of the budget. Many groups were invited to look at the deficit and come forward with recommendations so these could be incorporated into the committee's discussions. She indicated between now and June Administration will continue to seek ideas for the cuts. She also reiterated the process is in flux as various factors impacting the budget and other planning evolve.
- Director Conlon indicated he would vote no because of concerns regarding the athletic area reductions; the fact he would like to see more reductions in transportation (or at least start the exploration process so this can be addressed later); and concern about the elementary instrumental itinerant music teachers elimination. He indicated he would like to see deeper administrative cuts if possible in order to keep reductions as far from classrooms as possible.
- The Superintendent indicated administration was willing to go deeper into choice and transportation however there are consequences to making changes to a very complicated system to trigger for the 09-10 school year; this has the potential to put an unbearable burden on families and students. Recommendations relative to LSSC for the 10-11 school year will contain options relative to choice and transportation. These discussions are set to take place in the coming spring in order to allow adequate time to address this very complex area.
- Another Director indicated he would vote yes as this is the first step in the budget process which is a dynamic and fluid process. He noted that during the time between approval of the guidelines and June budget approval, opportunity will be provided to look at concerns and options. He stressed the importance of providing opportunities for staff, families and community members to give feedback on the budget shortfall solutions as well as on Large Scale System Changes (LSSC).
- A request was made that administration provide to the Board, as a regular item on the COB agenda, an update on what is being heard from the community and, particularly from major stakeholders relative to these issues. The Board should be absolutely committed to making collaboration a part of the process.
- A director stated what she desired from community members was not just what they want to keep but what they are willing to cut and those from a position of knowledge about what some of the impacts will be. More information will be provided about the constraints and opportunities so choices can be made within the realities of the current situation.
- Clarification was given that the motion was approval of the general guidelines and budget reduction recommendations. If the motion passes allocations will go out to the schools so they can begin to structure their budgets. If it fails, allocations will not be made to the schools and guidelines and recommendations will need to be revisited/restructured thus delaying the process.

The Controller was called upon to make a presentation on the Budget Guidelines to assist in clarifying the issue. He reviewed the budget planning timeline stressing the period from March to April has been set up to obtain feedback and input from community and staff. He stressed the District is facing a shortfall of \$25 million with a structural deficit (\$10 million of the \$25 million shortfall) projected for at least the next four years driven by enrollment decline, the economic downturn and rising costs. He reviewed the General Budget Guidelines which include such things as:

- Base budget
- Budget structure
- Presentation format
- Budget reduction recommendations

- Enrollments
- Inflation
- Average salary and benefit calculation data
- Pupil funding formula
- Fund balance
- Budget calendar
- Fully-financed programs
- Intra-school budgets
- Cost reduction
- Other resources allocated to schools.

He gave a brief overview of the proposed budget reductions, both for the \$10 million structural deficit and the \$15 million economic downturn reductions. He noted future impacts on the budget shortfall will come from the Federal stimulus package, direct cuts to education funding or cost shifts from the State legislature, changes in the economic conditions and changes in district enrollments.

In an overview of the status of the Federal stimulus package he noted it had been signed into law earlier in the day. Minnesota will get \$4 billion creating an estimated 66,000 new jobs fairly evenly distributed across the eight congressional districts. He stated SPPS would be attending a meeting at the Legislature on February 18 which will provide more information and details on the package. Additionally, the Business Office is assembling an assessment team to develop the details of impacts on the SPPS 09-10 budget. It is known the monies are targeted at Title I, special education and capital improvement areas. More specifics will be provided as more information becomes available.

In the area of recommended reductions, the Superintendent stressed that at the elementary level Administration is not cutting art and music programs, it is only the district- funded portion of itinerant music teachers which represents a small part of curricular design. Schools can choose (buy back) items to integrate into their budget at school level.

**RESTATEMENT OF RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the Budget Priorities and Guidelines for the Development of the 2009-10 Budget.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	No
Mr. Hardy	No
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

- **BF 27874 Large Scale System Change Criteria (including criteria for rightsizing and consolidation)**

Working drafts of *Large Scale System Changes Guiding Principles for Decision-Making and Rightsizing/Consolidation Criteria* were presented for review and discussion.

The *Large Scale System Changes Guiding Principles for Decision-Making* were developed to more effectively and efficiently deliver on the St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) mission within large scale system changes. They will:

- Target services to areas that will make the most impact on student achievement
- Scale-up research-based, successful models
- Retain and/or expand high demand, successful programs
- Remove institutional barriers to student and staff success

- Align resources to district priorities
- Seek equitable distribution of programs and resources
- Provide sustainable solutions
- Build internal capacity
- Eliminate ineffective programs
- Meet local, state and federal accountability obligations
- Consider community and ancillary implications
- Include all schools, programs and systems regardless of funding source

They will not:

- Exacerbate the achievement gap
- Increase racial isolation
- Perpetuate long-term enrollment decline
- Violate legal, contractual or grant rules
- Disproportionately impact particular segments of the community
- Create piecemeal or compartmentalized solutions.

Rightsizing and consolidation are the terms used when referring to moving the district to an optimal size and merging programs. Various options for rightsizing and consolidation are being explored:

The criteria used to determine rightsizing and consolidation of schools include:

- Educational value/academic performance
- Facility condition
- School/district funding
- Enrollment/Trends
- Other Considerations such as other community investments in the area and SPPS investment

A draft of proposed public engagement opportunities was reviewed.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**                    **That the Board receive the report on *Large Scale System Changes Guiding Principles for Decision-Making and Rightsizing/Consolidation Criteria* with the changes discussed.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

A question was asked when the Board could expect to receive the next version with changes discussed at the COB meeting. Administration indicated it should be available at the February 24 COB meeting.

- There were no reports on **School and Program Changes** or **Policy**.

**MOTION:**                    **Mr. Brodrick moved acceptance of the Minutes of the Committee Meetings of January 27 and February 10, 2009. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes



Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

## VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Sarah Boedigheimer – Addressed the closing of Community/LEAD ALC
2. Mary Cathryn Ricker –SPFT – Arlington and Humboldt School Restructuring
3. Eugene Monnig – Cutting instrumental music and itinerant music teachers and transportation costs
4. Michael Deppe – cutting of elementary instrumental music
5. Louisa Richardson Deppe – cutting of elementary instrumental music programs

## VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent noted her report would include a presentation on Webster Magnet, highlights of National African-American Parent Involvement Day, an update on partnerships, a review of the 09-10 budget guidelines and next steps for the LSSC and the human resource transactions.

1. School Presentation: Webster Magnet  
The Principal of Webster Magnet presented a PowerPoint presentation and overview of the programs and accomplishments of the school. She noted that Webster was one of five elementary schools which piloted the new AVID Elementary Model this school year. The elementary model targets students specifically in grades 4 through 6.
2. Highlights of National African-American Parent Involvement Day  
The Superintendent provided an overview of some of the events which occurred in district schools on February 9, Family Involvement Day.
3. Update on New Partnership Model  
The Superintendent expressed appreciation to all of its partners for the support they are providing the District. Under the new *Partnership Model* corporate and philanthropic partners are working with the District to comprehensively support key priorities and initiatives to close the achievement gap and bring about positive organizational change and to support the District's Strategic Plan. She went on to highlight four new proposed partnerships
  - **Travelers Companies, Inc.**  
This will provide support to expand college readiness and access as well as support leadership development for current principals. The initial investment for one year is approximately \$1.4 million dollars and that support will continue for multiple years to come.
  - **ACT and America's Choice**  
To address the issues of transitions the District is exploring participation in a six-year national initiative with ACT and America's Choice that would provide a systematic framework to prepare all students for college and careers in grades 6-12. This national initiative, called *Rigor and Readiness*, will increase the college readiness of high school students by systematically monitoring the progress of all students and providing an aligned, internationally-benchmarked curriculum and academic supports for all students.

*Rigor and Readiness* is a collaboration between two significant national organizations: ACT and America's Choice. They partnered to share their expertise in this joint effort to build a program with ten key districts or entities across the U.S. It builds on decades of work that ACT has done in analyzing, through its assessments, and benchmarking to provide expertise in instructional reform. The Gates Foundation and the Carnegie Foundation have shown interest in this initiative and SPPS is hoping they will provide support in future years.

The *Rigor and Readiness* framework will provide systemic monitoring of students' progress toward college and career readiness both in terms of academic achievement and their development of skills and dispositions that are critical to their success in high school and beyond. Secondly, it will provide a tiered system of interventions that are key to monitoring and designing how students respond to their identified needs. ACT assessments will provide the basis for monitoring students and their progress toward readiness for post-secondary education starting in the middle grades. Technical assistance will be provided, in part, by America's Choice in targeting and changing ineffective practices in the classroom and district; providing research and standards' based instructional materials, looking at safety net programs, changing the ones that don't work and providing professional development to support district teachers as they support the students.

The *Rigor and Readiness* framework has been presented to partners, as part of the criteria for the stimulus package, aligning it with Title I dollars and other areas to find the resources to support the initiative.

- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is in a national process to explore and select school districts as partners in developing and using better measures of teacher effectiveness to improve student achievement. They believe education is the broadest avenue to opportunity and the most influential factor in ensuring children will grow up to achieve more than their parents. They have set an ambitious goal to ensure that 80% of students will graduate from high school prepared for college with a focus on low income and minority students reaching this target.

The Foundation is seeking to engage in conversations with potential districts in an eight month selection process. The partnership will include a significant multi-year investment from the Foundation should a district be chosen. It will focus on an extensive and aggressive set of strategies involving effective teaching.

Key leaders from across the potential partner districts will be engaged in conversations regarding their priorities with respect to student achievement and the level of commitment each district is willing to give to the partnership effort. SPPS is one of ten districts involved in the interview process.

- **Panasonic Foundation**

The Panasonic Foundation is seeking to support the District's efforts to accelerate learning for all students and close the performance gaps wherever they exist. The Foundation will begin exploring potential partnership with a multi-day site visit that reviews the current conditions of the district related to system efforts to achieve a high quality education for all students. The Foundation will use "The Essential School System Purpose and Responsibilities Framework" to assess the status of the eight major system responsibilities in relation to school system purpose including governance, leadership and institutional barriers to student and staff success. Their long term purpose is to break the links between race, poverty and educational outcomes by improving the academic and social success of all students.

Their engagement process will involve a broad cross-section of SPPS stakeholders in conversations, interviews and information gathering activities to build a very rich portrait of the district which will be used to inform recommendations aimed at improving district and community capacity to improve student outcomes and promote accountability at all levels.

4. Guiding Principles for Large Scale System Change Decision and Rightsizing and Consolidation Criteria

The Superintendent stated the Facilities and Educational Adequacy Assessment presentations are coming up at the February 24 COB meeting. Input is being sought through the community engagement process (details of engagement opportunities will be updated

regularly on the SPPS website). These will inform the short-term solutions for the budget and the long-term decisions for Large Scale System Change.

5. Human Resource Transactions

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board approve the Human Resource Transactions occurring between December 19 and January 22, 2009 as presented in the Board Book and that the Board approved the appointment of Michael Baumann as Interim Chief Financial Officer effective 2/18/09. Motion seconded by Mr. Goldstein.

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS:

- The Superintendent indicated that as part of the cuts to central administration the Controller position is not being filled.
- Administration was encouraged, in their partnership program, to seek partners who want to fund over the long-term rather than providing initial funding or program-start-up funding only. The Superintendent responded that all partners are being asked to invest with a long-term view and stay with the effort until outcomes are seen or there is evidence it doesn't work. She also added the District needs to eliminate programs which are not working in order to make resources from those available for those that are working.
- A question was asked about how much input various groups had in these initiatives and what concerns were brought forward. The Superintendent responded these new efforts have been presented to all the principals, all the partners, the teachers' union and each presented a lot of input and many questions. These were addressed or answers are being sought. Direct access has been provided to many on these initiatives. The Superintendent reviewed some of the concerns which had been voiced.
- The Superintendent indicated the District is looking for partners to work with the district who will provide a third party perspective on what is being done well, where reforms are needed and to work through developing programs and initiatives over the long-term.
- The questions was asked how much added work will there be because of the increased activity? The Superintendent indicated in all cases support has been asked for in building capacity to work smarter, not work more. She stated partnerships are being sought that can help the district and if they are not in alignment with the Board's vision and mission or the strategic plan, they will be reconsidered. The District is looking for an investment in its people, children and programs.
- Clarification was sought on the "interim" in the Chief Financial Officer position title. The Superintendent indicated "interim" IS a position. She indicated she was being very sensitive to any future decisions that the Board may be making around leadership for the district and flexibility for future leadership to be able to build an appropriate team as necessary. The Board will see interim positions until there is a resolution related to the future leadership of SPPS.

**RESTATEMENT OF MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board approve the Human Resource Transactions occurring between December 19 and January 22, 2009 as presented in the Board Book and that the Board approved the appointment of Michael Baumann as Interim Chief Financial Officer effective 2/18/09. Motion seconded by Mr. Goldstein.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved that the Board approved the Consent Agenda items as published with the exception of Item 7, page 35, Request for Permission to Seek Funding for the Rigor and Readiness Initiative; Item 10 page 39 Supplemental Educational Services Contracts and Item 12, page 41 Bid No. A-9296-M New Main Entry Addition and Remodel at Highland Senior High School which were pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

1. Gifts

**BF 27875** Gift Acceptance from Ceridian Corporation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Central High School to accept a monetary gift from the Ceridian Corporation to be used as designated. The total gift of \$10,000.00 will be deposited into the Central High School Intra-School account 29-210-000-000-5096-0000.

2. Grants

**BF 27876** Request for Permission to Accept A Donation from the AT&T Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a donation from the AT&T Foundation for funds to support enhancements to a multicultural curriculum for special-needs students at Wheelock Early Education School.

**BF 27877** Request for Permission to Apply to Partner with The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to explore a potential partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and to accept an offer of partnership should we qualify for the initiative to further student achievement and improve teacher effectiveness in the district; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 27878** Request for Permission to Accept a Donation from the Minneapolis St. Paul 2008 Host Committee

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a donation from the Minneapolis Saint Paul 2008 Host Committee to offset operational expenditures during the 2008 RNC.

**BF 27879** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department Of Education Fruit and Vegetable Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit grant applications to the Minnesota Department of Education for funds to introduce and increase fresh fruit and vegetables at Ames Elementary, Jackson Preparatory Magnet, John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary, Longfellow Humanities Magnet, Maxfield Magnet Elementary, North End elementary and Paul & Sheila Wellstone Elementary schools; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

**BF 27880**                    Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Muzak Heart and Soul Foundation Music Matters Grant Program at Maxfield Elementary

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grand application to the Muzak Heart and Soul Foundation for funds to form a choir and enhance the music arts program at Maxfield Elementary School; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 27881**                    Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the State School Arts Fund Grant Program for Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to State Arats Fund for funds to implement a five-day arts residency program at Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet school; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 27882**                    Request for Permission to Accept a Grant Award from Travelers Companies, Inc.

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from Travelers Companies, Inc. for projects to promote college readiness and access for under-represented students and leadership development for school principals in the district; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

3. Administrative Items

**BF 27883**                    Recommendations for Exclusion of Students in Non-Compliance with Minnesota Statute 123.70 Health Standards: Immunizations

That the Board of Education exclude the named students from school effective February 26, 2009, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

4. Bids

**BF 27884**                    Bid No. A9299-M Office Remodel at Horace Mann School

That the Board of Education award Bid No. A9299-M for the office remodel at Horace Mann School to the lowest responsible bidder, Specialty Construction Services, Inc. for \$373,125.00, the lump sum base bid plus alternates no. 1 and 4.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION**

**BF 27885**                    Request for Permission to Seek Funding for the Rigor and Readiness Initiative

Mr. Brodrick indicated his questions had been addressed in earlier discussions. There was a statement from a Board member that the District has to move beyond college readiness in that many students drop out of college and never complete a degree.

**MOTION:**                    **Mr. Goldstein moved, seconded by Mr. Conlon, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to seek funding from a variety of partners for the *Rigor and Readiness* initiative in the district; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes

Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

**BF 27886**                      Supplemental Educational Services Contracts

Mr Hardy indicated he pulled this to ask three questions. (1) Is there a budgetary impact/change? (2) How were the groups selected? (3) Who assesses their effectiveness?

The Superintendent responded. (1) \$800,000 of supplemental services for about 500 students. This is planned for and is an obligation under NCLB and is not an additional burden to the budget. (2) NCLB puts the responsibility on the State Department of Education for selecting the vendors. (3) Oversight/assessment is the responsibility of the Department of Education but SPPS does monitor the vendor services extensively and asks the State to look into issues. The District does the implementation piece and connects families to service providers.

**MOTION:**                      **Mr. Hardy moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into an agreement with the listed Supplemental Educational Services providers for the school year 2008-2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Goldstein.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

**BF 27887**                      Bid No. A-9296-M New Main Entry Addition and Remodel at Highland Senior High School

Mr. Hardy indicated he had pulled this to ask if a PLA was in place. The answer was yes.

**MOTION:**                      **Mr. Hardy moved that the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9296-M for the new main entry addition and remodel at Highland Senior High School to the lowest responsible bidder, Gen-Con Construction for \$2,012,800.00, the lump sum base bid plus alternates no. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carroll.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

**X. OLD BUSINESS** -- None

**XI. NEW BUSINESS** -- None

**XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

1. Information Requests and Responses -- None
2. Items for Future Agendas -- None
3. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- A report was provided on the Board Listening Session held February 12 at the Hubbs Center. Four Board members participated with 35 participants from the community. Topics addressed included: administration's recommendations for cuts to centrally administered and district-wide budgets, the relationship between LSSC, community conversations and the budget process; specific suggestions on what to cut and not cut; the critical importance of family involvement and community support and partnerships in the success of kids; the importance of Pre-K; conversations about everything being on the table as the 09-10 budget and LSSC are developed. The next listening session was announced for March 26 at John A. Johnson Elementary on the east side.

Thanks were extended to the Hubbs Center and the staff for their assistance in getting everything set for the session.

- In response to a query from the Ramsey County Elections Manager the following action was taken:

**MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved that the Board of Education authorize the Ramsey County Elections Manager to oppose the change to Statute 204B.13 Vacancy in Nomination on its behalf. Motion seconded by Mr. Brodrick.**

The motion was approved with the following rollcall vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

### XIII. FUTURE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

**MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved, Ms. Carroll seconded, that the Board cancel the Committee of the Board Meeting of April 14 and the Board Meeting of April 21 and that it rescheduled the April Board of Education Meeting to April 14, 2009.**

The motion was approved with the following rollcall vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

1. Board of Education Meetings
  - March 17
  - April 14
  - May 19
  - June 9 – 4:00 p.m. Special – Non-Renewals
  - June 16
  - July 21
2. Committee of the Board Meetings
  - February 24
  - March 24
  - May 5

- May 19, 2009 (4:45-5:30) – Update on Health Care Renewal Process)
- June 9

A request was made that the Executive Team discuss adding additional COB dates and bring recommendations to the February 24 COB.

**IXV. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The motion was approved with the following rollcall vote:

Ms. Carroll	Yes
Mr.; Conlon	Yes
Mr. Hardy	Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao	Yes

Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the 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