

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 19, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Ms. Carroll left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

1. Order of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Hardy requested that item 13, page 65, Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and item 15, page 67 Focus & Name Change for Webster Magnet, The Enrichment School be pulled for separate consideration.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved approval of the Consent Agenda with the exception of item 13, page 65, Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and item 15, page 67 Focus & Name Change for Webster Magnet, The Enrichment School which were pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Mr. Brodrick.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

2. Order of the Main Agenda

The following revisions were made to the agenda: the minutes of the Special Closed Board of Education Meeting of May 18 were added; presentation of a proclamation from the St. Paul City Council was added under Recognitions and a superintendent transition update was added to Board of Education reports.

MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved approval of the Main Agenda as revised; seconded by Ms. Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

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

Ms. Carroll stated she had an unavoidable conflict and would depart the meeting at 6:45 p.m. She extended her apologies for missing the later portion of the meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2009
2. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting April 28, 2009
3. Minutes of the Special Closed Board of Education Meeting April 18, 2009

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved approval, seconded by Mr. Conlon, of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2009; the Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting April 28, 2009 and the Minutes of the Special Closed Board of Education Meeting April 18, 2009 as published.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Committee of the Board Meeting of May 5, 2009

The agenda consisted of reports on:

- **The Quarterly Financial Report**
- **A Presentation of the Recommended 2009-2010 SPPS Budget (including Referendum Report) & an Update on the Federal Stimulus Package**
- **Recommendations for Large Scale System Change (LSSC) for 2010-2011**

The remaining business (two standing agenda items and a work session) was pended to another meeting.

- **Quarterly Financial Report**

The Chief Budget Analyst reported that though there was some fluctuation in both revenue and expenditures from the adopted budget, there were no major changes anticipated in the financial position. The unreserved, undesignated fund balance has been estimated at \$27 million or 5.1% of current year general fund expenditures which is within the guidelines established by the Board of at least 5%.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education accept the report.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

- **Presentation of Recommended 2009-2010 SPPS Budget (including Referendum Report) & Update on Federal Stimulus Package**

The District is faced with a budget shortfall projected to be \$25 million. Additionally, there may be a need to make an additional \$10.4 million reduction depending upon legislative/executive action. The 2009-10 budget is balanced, moves important initiatives forward and sets the stage for continued improvement in future years while also taking into consideration the seriousness of the budget deficit.

The report included:

- A review of the input obtained from the community surveys to date with a full summary once the survey closes at the end of May.
- A review the *2009-2010 Proposed Budget Book*, highlighting information contained within the various sections.
- A look at the revised \$25.1 Million Budget Reduction Summary Chart which reflected the changes acted upon by the Board at a previous COB meeting.
- A Report on Referendum outlined how referendum funds have been utilized over the past two years.
- A look at the contingency plan which had been developed to address the worst case scenario of a further \$10.4 million budget reduction; and
- A summary of the preliminary spending plan for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds in the areas of Title I and IDEA. The spending outlined in this area is projected over two years. The funds have a key guideline that it be used to supplement but not supplant.

The recommended motion was presented.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Mr. Brodrick asked, in the interest of transparency, what was the process and criteria used in deciding which programs received cuts and which were spared; how did Administration arrive at the numbers and programs. He indicated he was referring specifically to athletics. He stated he wanted this information because of on-going questions from constituents. How was the original figure of \$650,000 arrived at? Now that the amount is at \$450,000 due to Board action, what is the subsequent process?

The Superintendent responded the District has suffered multiple cuts over the last several years. Getting to budget numbers is not done easily and recommendations for reductions are taken very seriously. The process started last fall with the projections coming out of large scale system change; the District has a structural deficit; the enrollment numbers are declining over the next four years (possibly longer) and the structural deficit is pushing the District over the next six years toward upwards of \$100 million in cuts. The economic situation has also contributed to the deficit by adding \$15 million to the \$10 million structural deficit. The structural deficit requires cuts be made which will be out of the SPPS budget forever or at the very least for the next four to five years. The District simply can not afford the infrastructure. The \$15 million is due to the economic downturn and has the potential of turning into \$25.4 million. This is the context in which the budget reductions were recommended.

The process by which cuts were made started with the SPPS mission, vision, the long range goals and strategic plan the community agreed on. From that, several key direction points were distilled as those which SPPS must invest in (if things must be given up, what things must be held on to?). High quality leadership and teacher quality were at the top of the list because improving those gives the greatest student outcomes regardless of all the other things happening around them. The transition years were targeted; efficiency and effectiveness were targeted ensuring any programs that are not effective would be let go.

From that, scenario teams looked at different ways to get to \$25 million. A Board directive on how the work was to be done is why proposals typically come before the Board as “administrative recommendations.” This means everyone in the administrative ranks from the Superintendent to the principals (sometimes the assistant principal) were brought together to seek ways to get to the bottom line. Different pieces of the organization (academics, operations, etc.) were sent back to look at their portion of the budget. The question of if schools make their allocations (which is the majority of the budget) what would be a fair reduction based on what they represent within the budget as a whole. This was changed somewhat with central administration and centrally funded budgets taking two-thirds of the hit with schools taking the lesser portion. Within those reductions, Academics and other areas had to go back and work with their individual departments (athletics falls under academics). Each department brought forward recommended cuts. There were three scenarios for athletics; the preferred scenario was closer to \$250,000, the worst case scenario was the one originally proposed and until the budget is finally approved the process is fluid. Per Board instruction, money was found through further reductions in administration to put back into the athletics and arts budgets. The Board had the option to hang on to that money and allocate it later or to do an immediate allocation back to arts and athletics, which the Board chose to do.

Administration tried to spread the cuts over as many departments as possible, being as strategic as possible, putting core academics first and investing in those things that will have the greatest impact on student achievement. The Board has sole discretion for the final budget; if they don't like the recommendations, they can change the numbers. Administration believes the recommendations which have been brought to the Board are the best thinking to move the District forward not just for this year but for the next four years. If additional revenue becomes available somehow, the money can be put back.

The good news is that it appears the \$10.4 million in extra reductions will not be necessary. Consequently attention can put back on how to address the \$25 million budget reduction and trying to find better options. Right now the situation is that **the structural deficit is real**. Without more kids there is no money more money so tough decisions need to be made this year and for the next four to five years thereafter. The cuts made for the 2009-10 SY must stay long enough to ride the structural decline. The only way to avoid the cuts is to generate revenue through finding more kids, raising taxes or looking for alternative sources of funding.

- Administration was instructed to put the athletics discussion and how the numbers were arrived at on the Q & A so the public can understand how the numbers were arrived at.
- Director Hardy asked how many people at the secondary level were involved with the proposed cuts to athletics. Administration stated that information was not available immediately and would need to be researched. Second question: with the proposed school closures, does the money saved apply to \$25 deficit? The Superintendent reminded the Board the reductions for school closures do not take effect until school year 2010-11. It is not in the structural deficit cuts for SY 2009-10. The District has more elementary buildings than kids to fill them. The closures show savings for the 10-11 school year and are projected out to 2012-13. At that point, Administration recommended the board review/monitor all things which have been done as the four year's of actions begin to be wrapped up.

RESTATEMENT OF THE RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education accept the Presentation of Recommended 2009-2010 SPPS Budget (including Referendum Report) & Update on Federal Stimulus Package as presented.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
Mr. Goldstein Yes

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

Mr. Hardy stated he would vote no as he felt the Board needs to look at the recommendations and come back on how they might be changed.

- **Recommendations for Large Scale System Change (LSSC) for 2010-2011**

St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) is at a crossroads; business as usual is not a sustainable option for achieving its missions. LSSC is designed to provide major systemic changes that will move the District forward as the Board has requested.

The report covered the following areas:

- The reasons why change is necessary.
- The common themes gained from the staff/community input sessions in the areas of: academics, budget, enrollment, rightsizing/consolidation and school choice
- The guiding principals used in formulating large-scale system change
- The process through which LSSC recommendations were developed and reviewed
- An extensive review of the current administrative proposal for LSSC recommendations which raise the bar on learning for all students, close the achievement gap and address the structural deficit.
- A discussion of the actions which are also under consideration for the 2010-11 school year with; specific proposals to be presented by Fall 2009.
- A review of possible board actions which may be required to implement LSSC and
- Finished with an extensive discussion on recommended reforms in each of the five areas of academics, budget, enrollment, rightsizing/consolidation and school choice

The Superintendent stated that now the Minnesota legislative session has concluded there is a better sense of the budget situation for the district. The Governor still needs to finalize his actions including line item vetoes and unallotments. It is believed there will not be a need to take action on the additional \$10.4 million in reductions which were being planned for. It is recommended the Board implement school closures and repurposing for the 2010-11 school year and that the District work with families, staff, leadership and operations to put in place everything which needs to be done prior to the implementation of the closures in 10-11. The Superintendent stressed staff and families don't need to worry about the 2009-10 school year, the schools will operate as usual.

A new law has been signed effective immediately related to school closures. The new law provides more flexibility to school districts by granting them the authority to temporarily close a school building for up to three years to determine the future usage. The space may be leased during those three years if so desired. The law also removes the specific formal public hearing requirement for school closures but does retain a requirement to allow for comment on the potential closure; this can occur during an existing school board meeting. The Superintendent stated Administration will be adjusting its recommendation, based on the new law, to temporarily close both the buildings and programs for Longfellow and Roosevelt for up to three years to determine future use of space. This will give the community time to work with the District to determine the future use of the sites.

The Chief Accountability Officer provided an executive summary of the LSSC report. She indicated changes had been made to slides 16, 17, 18, 29, 34, 36, and 42 since the initial presentation was made on May 5. A video presentation was provided which summarized the major points of LSSC.

She then summarized actions which had been taken since the discussion on LSSC at the May 5 COB. These included:

- The SPPS website information was updated with a revised power point presentation from the May 7 weekly update; the summary video was presented at the May 12 staff and community meetings; an on-line input form that mirrors the questions participants have been and are being asked in the community and staff sessions.
- The first round of Questions and Answers related to LSSC have been posted to the website
- Upcoming important dates regarding LSSC and recommended school closures have been posted to the website and provided in the weekly update.
- Staff and Public Forums were held on May 12 at Central High School and will be held again on May 28 at Harding High School.

The next steps and timelines include:

- A number of community engagement opportunities have been scheduled over the next month
- Board considerations will occur on June 9 (continued discussion on budget and LSSC); June 16 BOE meeting formal Board actions as appropriate; July 21 BOE meeting, formal actions as appropriate and Fall of 2009 additional Board actions as necessary.
- Implementation timeline – Planning (Fall 2008 to Spring 2010); Launch (Summer 2010) and implementation (Fall of 2010-ongoing).
- Timeline for monitoring and evaluation – Fall 2010 – ongoing.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Clarification was requested on the new temporary closure law – The Superintendent responded the schools are being closed as part of the action to address the structural deficit for 2010-11. Under the previous law when a school was closed it was closed, period. The current revision provides for temporary closure for up to three years until a decision is arrived at regarding its use, repurposing or disposal. This provides more flexibility to a district, providing time to give serious consideration to the future use/need for the building. Additionally, the site can be leased during that period if so desired. The revision allows for the scheduling of a meeting by the Board to hear comment on the temporary closure from the community but it does not require a formal closing hearing.

The General Council stated the pre-existing law required a formal hearing to provide an opportunity for the community to speak; it was a formal process. The new law requires a less formalistic and more discretionary type meeting prior to the Board's final decision on the buildings. The meeting can be conducted in any manner which the Board wishes.

MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved, seconded by Mr. Conlon, the Board of Education set a separate special board meeting regarding the temporary school closures of Longfellow and Roosevelt Schools to be held June 15, 2009 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Auditoriums A & B at 360 Colborne to allow for public comment on administration's recommendation.

- Concern was expressed in regard to holding only one meeting to address the two schools, particularly holding it at 360. Should transportation be provided to bring the community in? Should it be held at each building or at least include all three schools? The Superintendent responded that, as proposed in the motion, this meeting would be one formal event with the temporary school closures at Longfellow and Roosevelt as the only item on the agenda. Three other informational meetings have been scheduled by administration, one at each school, to address questions and concerns of staff, students, families and the community. Additionally there is the Community Forum on May 28 and the Board listening session on June 11. She

recommended the board hear the community comment on June 15 and consider taking action at the July 21 Board meeting.

Mr. Conlon called the question to close debate

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

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

RESTATEMENT OF THE MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved, seconded by Mr. Conlon, that the Board of Education set a separate special board meeting regarding the temporary school closures of Longfellow and Roosevelt Schools to be held June 15, 2009 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Auditoriums A & B at 360 Colborne to allow for public comment on administration's recommendation.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

- Mr. Goldstein stated he was voting no because the motion does not include Sheridan even though it is not a closing but a repurposing.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education receive the report on Large Scale System Change (LSSC) for 2010-2011.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

- Mr. Hardy stated he would vote no to receiving report because of 1) concerns about recommendations in the LSSC report; 2) concern about who was involved in making the recommendations (no staff below administrator level included) and 3) there was not sufficient time for the community to provide input at the May 12 Community Forum and he stated he would like that addressed for the May 28 session.
- Mr. Brodrick indicated he would vote yes to receive the LSSC report but that he still had concerns about how the process will unfold. He requested the Board be provided a report out on what is said at the forums and listening sessions to allow them an opportunity to deliberate about what was said. The Superintendent responded that administration is constantly trying to provide additional information, particularly in the weekly update. She again reminded the Board that the budget is part of the LSSC piece and that the structural deficit piece associated with the budget needs to be owned in order to get to the \$100 million in reductions necessary over the next four to five years. She stated the COB on June 9 will bring many of the various aspects together. Action should be anticipated in June on the budget as well as some serious considerations about changes related to choice and transportation. The July Board meeting should see action on school closures.

2. Report of the Committee of the Board Meeting of May 19, 2009

The Board heard an update on the health care renewal process.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education accept the report on the health care renewal process and that it approve the recommendation to accept the Health Partners proposal.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

3. Acceptance of the Minutes & Report of the Committee Meetings

MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved acceptance of the Minutes of the Committee of the Board for May 5, 2009 and the report on the Committee of the Board meeting of May 19, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Conlon.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

VI. RECOGNITIONS

1. BF27952 Acknowledgement of the Good Work of the Superintendent

The Board recognition statement was read, Board members offered personal observations on the Superintendent and her work. The Board extended its thanks to Dr. Meria Carstarphen for the work she has done in St. Paul on behalf of its students, families, staff and communities.

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, that the Board of Education recognize Superintendent Meria Carstarphen for her contributions and outstanding work on behalf of Saint Paul Public Schools.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

2. Ramsey County Board Proclamation in Recognition of Superintendent Meria Carstarphen

Commissioner Toni Carter presented a proclamation from the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners acknowledging and thanking the Superintendent for her work for the district and wishing her well in her future endeavors. The proclamation also designated May 19 as Dr. Meria Carstarphen day in Ramsey County. Commissioner Carter also extended thanks to the Board of Education for their work on behalf of the students and community.

3. Proclamation for the Superintendent from the St. Paul City Council
Council Member Melvin Carter III presented a resolution from the St. Paul City Council recognizing Superintendent Carstarphen and her work on closing the achievement gap for the students of St. Paul. The Council named her a good will ambassador for the City of St. Paul.

4. **BF 27953** Recognition of the 15 Participants Who Were Selected for the 2009-2010 Leadership Institute for Aspiring Leaders
Fifteen individuals were selected from over 50 applicants to participate in the District's 10th Leadership Institute for Aspiring Leaders 2009-2010. They were brought forward for introduction to the Board and district.

5. **BF 27954** Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees and Departments
 - **Murray Junior High School – Sonja Dunlap** was one of two Minnesota science teachers to receive the 2009 Seagate Science Mentor (SSM) Awards. She received a plaque and \$1,000, and her school also receives a plaque and \$1,000 for its science programs. The award was presented at the Minnesota State Science and Engineering Fair awards ceremony March 30.
 - **Central Senior High School – Mary Mackbee** is the recipient of the 2009 HERBIE award from the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce Charitable Foundation. Her long-standing commitment to student success in her professional and personal lives made her an exceptional choice for the HERBIE award. She will be honored the Tenth Annual Charitable Foundation Luncheon on June 10, 2009.
 - **Central Senior High School – Ethan Cherin** led a team of four students to win the Adam Smith division of the Minnesota State Economics Challenge on April 15. The students, including Daeus Jorento, Zach Kagan, Jon Schellenberg, and Jennifer Wei, then finished third at the Regional finals in Houston, Texas on April 27.
 - **Nutrition Services – Linda Dieleman** received the Minnesota Dietetic Association's (MDA) Medallion award on May 7, 2009. The medallion award recognizes an individual member of MDA who has demonstrated leadership in the state of Minnesota above and beyond the individual's job requirements.
 - Adams Spanish Immersion – Tien Le, a kindergarten teacher, and Highland Early Childhood Family Education Center's Thomas Bedard, an early childhood education teacher, were among the 11 finalists for Minnesota Teacher of the Year. The 2009 Minnesota Teacher of the Year was announced on May 3.

MOTION: **Mr. Goldstein moved the Board of Education recognize Sonja Dunlap, Mary Mackbee, Ethan Cherin, Linda Dieleman, Tein Le and Thomas Bedard for their contributions and outstanding work and that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to recognize and congratulate the 2009- 2010 Leadership Fellows: Michael Bowlus, Say Billy Chan, Anthony Chlebeck, Robin Francis, Kate Hinton, Kristen Lynch, Deborah McCain, Eric Mjolsness, Brian Morris, Kirky Morris, Krista Ottino, Dan Papacek, Jennifer Pozanc, Jackie Wyant-Sall and Leslie Snow. Motion was seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

5. Reminder: Academic Board Recognitions
Community and staff were reminded of the upcoming Academic Recognition event to be held at Harding on May 26 at 6:00 p.m.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (Immediately Upon Completion of Recognitions)

1. Charlie Nauen – spoke against the disproportionate cut to athletics and the central role athletics can play in students' and families' lives.
2. Bonnie Davy – Value of life-long sports for girls in teaching discipline and team building
3. Susan Minsberg – Highland Park athletic program promotes an active life style, delays use of drugs and alcohol, teaches good citizenship and team building.
4. Fue & Non Yang – continue citywide busing for Hmong program and continue the Hmong Dual Language program at Jackson.
5. Ying Xiong – continue dual language program at Jackson school with citywide busing
6. Doua Vang – continue the Hmong Dual Language Program
7. Huab Yaj – continue funding for Hmong Dual Language Program and provide busing citywide for Jackson school
8. Rhia Yaj – continue funding for Hmong Dual Language Program at Jackson school and citywide busing for students throughout St. Paul
9. Pov Vaj – continue funding for Jackson and citywide busing to the school
10. Maureen Sawyer – Jackson Elementary losing full time nurse who is critical for the asthmatic students at the school. Fast track elimination of achievement gap
11. Jeanne Anne LaRose – opposed name change at Webster
12. Margie Hendrickson – opposed name change for Webster
13. John Krenik – opposed named change for Webster
14. Devin Senske – Webster student spoke about his service learning project
15. Melvin Carter – spoke in support of the name change for Webster
16. Rick Hugley – opposed name change for Webster
17. Georgia Dietz –focus efforts on eliminating the achievement gap
18. Greg Copeland – opposed named change at Webster
19. T. A. Gyorgak – opposed renaming of Webster
20. Theresa Reilly – opposed renaming of Webster
21. Jamie Delton – opposed name change at Webster
22. Bob Zick – opposed name change at Webster
23. Meg Ferber -- opposed name change for Webster
24. Janet Delmure – supported name change for Webster
25. Natasha Sumner – spoke to the service learning aspects of Webster mission and its benefit to student achievement
26. Mary Parsons – extended thanks to the Board for their hard work
27. Jacqueline & Iviana Thomas –supported name change for Webster and the value of service learning
28. Patricia Perez Jenkins– spoke about LCD & ELL cuts and Roosevelt closing and the need to meet requirements of Latino Consent Decree
29. Al Oertwig – spoke to the district's future and urged Board to move expeditiously in hiring new superintendent.
30. Kwasi Nate Russell – African American Student Advisory Council asked for swift action to eliminate achievement gap and raise achievement of all student. Also asked that their group be represented in the Superintendent search process.
31. Justin Mann – spoke of the need for programs that impact special needs populations

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. School Presentation – Humboldt Junior/Senior High
The principal and several staff members spoke about the redefinition of Humboldt's focus to an Environmental Studies design along with College and Career preparation. He went on to describe the process for arriving at the program focus and how staff is being prepared to meet the needs of the new focus.
2. Update on Recommendations for Large-Scale System Changes for SY 2010-2011
This was addressed during the report on the May 5 Committee of the Board report.
3. Graduation Preview

The Superintendent reminded the community the graduation ceremonies would be held between May 29 and May 5 and provided a list of the specific events.

4. Human Resources Transactions

MOTION: Ms. Kong-Thao moved approval of the Human Resource transactions occurring between March 23 and April 22, 2009 as published in the Board Book. Motion seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

* Mr. Brodrick had stepped away from the meeting

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Goldstein moved approval of the Consent Agenda with item 13, page 65, Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and item 15, page 67 Focus & Name Change for Webster Magnet, The Enrichment School being pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

* Mr. Brodrick had stepped away from the meeting

1. Gifts

BF27955 Acceptance of Donation from the Corporate Commission of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to accept this donation of \$1,000.00 from the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians and to disburse the funds in accordance with the donor's request.

2. Grants

BF 27956 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to 3M

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to 3M to support a district Strategic Science and Engineering Initiative; to accept funds, as necessary; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27957 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to Capitol Region Watershed District for Scholarships for Community Education's Environmental Explorers Camp Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Capitol Region Watershed District for scholarships for Community

Education's Environmental Explorers Camp; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27958 Request for Permission to Submit Carl D. Perkins Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to prepare applications for funds available for FY 2009-2010 from the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27959 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to ING Unsung Heroes – Rewarding Excellence in America's School

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant applications to the ING Unsung Heroes for funds to implement the projects at The Lab at Homecroft, Webster Elementary School, Murray Junior High School and Central High School; to accept funds; if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27960 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Kellogg Foundation

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Kellogg Foundation to support the Ames Elementary Extended Learning Program; to accept funds; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

BF 27961 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the McCarthy Dressman Foundation for Early Childhood Family Education, Homecroft Family Learning Center

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the McCarthy Dressman Foundation to fund a family literacy program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27962 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the McCarthy Dressman Foundation for Murray Junior High School

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the McCarthy Dressman Foundation to fund an in-school tutoring program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27963 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Education for Nutrition and Commercial Services Program Equipment

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit grant applications to the Minnesota Department of Education for funds to purchase a variety of food service equipment; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27964 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Ramsey County Bar Foundation for the Saint Paul Teen Court Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Ramsey County Bar Foundation for funds to establish the Saint Paul Teen Court Program; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27965 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the St. Jude Medical Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the St. Jude Medical Foundation for funds to allow students at Arlington High School to participate in a Certified Nursing Assistant Program offered onsite through the American Red Cross; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 27966 Request for Permission to Submit an Application to the School Nutrition Association for the District of the Year Award

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the School Nutrition Association for the District of the Year Award; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Agreements

BF 27967 Authorization for Agreement for Lease of Space from Merrick Community Services at the East Side Community Center for Day Care Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to execute an Amendment to the Lease Agreement between the district and Merrick Community Services for lease of space at the East Side Community Center for a day care program for the term of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, and subject to all other terms and conditions of said agreement.

4. Administrative Items

BF 27968 Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period March 1-April 30, 2009:

(a) General Account	#449695-453305	\$20,197,190.90
	3013036-3013347	83,611,443.26
(b) Debt Service	-0-	(518,533.31)
(c) Construction	-0-	(2,400,727.53)
(d) Voids	-0-	(283,660.41)
		\$100,605,712.91

Included in the above disbursements are payrolls in the amount of \$36,905,876.39 and overtime of \$233,896.05.

(3) 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 August 18, 2009.

BF 27969 Professional Services from 292 Design Group

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to procure professional architectural/ engineering services from the 292 Design Group as needed, based on a schedule of rates not to exceed \$125.00 per hour, depending on the level of expertise provided, for the period June 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 or for additional extended periods with the same terms and conditions.

BF 27970 Professional Services from Paul Meyer Architects, Inc.

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to procure professional architectural/ engineering services from Paul Meyer Architects and Engineers as needed, based on a schedule of rates not to exceed \$140.00 per hour, depending on the level of expertise provided, for the period June 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 or for additional extended periods at the same terms and conditions.

5. Bids

BF 27971 Bid No. A9310-M Boiler Replacement at Rondo Education Center

That the Board of Education authorize award Bid No. A9310-M for the boiler replacement at Rondo Education Center to the lowest responsible bidder, Climate Makers, Inc., for \$115,750.00, the lump sum base bid.

BF 27972 Bid No. A9314-M Roof Replacement at Mississippi Creative Arts School

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9314-M for the roof replacement at Mississippi Creative Arts School to the lowest responsible bidder, Berwald Roofing Company, Inc. for \$267,314.00, the lump sum base bid plus alternate no. 2.

BF 27973 Bid No. A9316-M Ceiling and Lighting Replacement at Highland Park Junior High School

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9316-M for the ceiling and lighting replacement at Highland Park Junior High School to the lowest responsible bidder, Gen Con Construction for \$151,200.00, the lump sum base bid plus alternates no. 1, and 2.

BF 27974 Bid No. A9318-M Fire Alarm Replacement at Highland Park Junior and Senior High Schools

That the Board of Education authorize award Bid No. A9318-M for the fire alarm replacement at Highland Park Junior and Senior High Schools to the lowest responsible bidder, Egan Company, for \$191,250.00, the lump sum base bid.

BF 27975 Bid No. A9319-K Lighting Replacement at Franklin Magnet School

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9319-K for the Lighting Replacement at Franklin Magnet School to the lowest responsible bidder, Schreiber Mullaney Construction for \$234,401.00, the lump sum base bid.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

BF 27976 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Mr. Hardy stated he had pulled the item to state how happy he was the District was applying for this grant for Chosen to Achieve and offered his personal observations on the value of the program.

MOTION: **Mr. Conlon moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to support the Chosen to Achieve mentoring program in the district; and to implement the project, if awarded, as specified in the award documents. Motion seconded by Mr. Goldstein.**

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

BF 27977 Focus & Name Change for Webster Magnet, The Enrichment School

Mr. Hardy stated he supported the proposed name change for Webster because it is an opportunity to imbue student leaders, particularly those of color, with pride, with a love of learning and wanting to achieve at a high level. He said he would vote yes for several reasons: 1) the process was open to students, staff and the community; 2) it provides the role model of a young leader who has accomplished a lot in his life, particularly in the area of community service and 3) it provides an opportunity to market a great school in that part of St. Paul, not too far removed from Rondo Avenue.

Mr. Conlon stated he would oppose the change for a variety of reasons: 1) the process followed is not complete, the Board completes the process; 2) if a building is named after a living person, they should have withstood the test of time; 3) what precedent does it set? He suggested the school consider naming an area within the building after the Obama's and not changing the school's name. Additionally, he felt the Board needs to look at the naming policy.

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved that the school community be asked to come back to the Board with some potential opportunities within the building for naming and retain the Webster name for the school. The motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Mr. Goldstein moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to approve a name change at Webster Magnet, The Enrichment School to Barack and Michelle Obama Service Learning Elementary which reflects alignment with the new program focus in the development of the service learning program. Motion seconded by Mr. Hardy.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

Mr. Goldstein stated he was supporting the motion because the kids were inspired and went to the trouble to conduct a thorough name change process for a name which inspired them. The spirit of service learning is the most important issue.

Ms. Carroll had left a note to be read stating she supported the name change and the work which was done to reach out and engage the community, students and families on the name change.

Ms. Kong-Thao commended the staff and students for bringing the name change forward.

Ms. Street-Stewart commented she was supporting the name change. She addressed several comments made during the evening addressing how valuable it is to understand American history. She stated the District needs to provide, in the course work of all students, ample opportunity for the students to understand what has actually occurred over the course of what has made this country the United States of America. She applauded everyone who spoke about the need to learn more about American history adding the caveat as long as corrections are made to include those voices which might have been under represented or incorrectly marginalized.

X. OLD BUSINESS -- None

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Project Labor Agreements -- Stucco Repair at Como Park Elementary School

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved that the Board of Education accept the administrative recommendation that no PLA be used for the stucco repair at Como Park Elementary School. Mr. Goldstein seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. Information Requests and Responses

Mr. Hardy requested information on what dollar amount would be available if the reserve fund were reduced from 5% to 4%; what would this look like for BY 09-10.

2. Items for Future Agendas - None

3. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- **Report on NSBA/CUBE Annual Conference**

Ms. Street-Stewart requested, due to the lateness of the hour, that this report be left for another meeting.

- **Superintendent Transition**

Ms. Kong-Thao stated the Superintendent has created a working document for the **Superintendent Transition** which is updated on a regular basis. This document covers the following areas: measurement of success, strategies or initiatives, timeline and responsible person. The plan includes prominent benchmarks that are intended to get the district through the interim leadership transition and into the transition of a new permanent superintendent. Benchmarks are: June 30, 2009; October 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009. The purpose is to outline current and future work needed in the district to ensure a successful transition. This document is reviewed in each executive meeting by the Board chair, vice chair, Chief of Staff and the Superintendent. Areas specifically addressed in the document include public engagement, budget and finance, operations and facilities, on-going policy changes, academics, staff support, Board of Education meetings, school program changes, cultural proficiency, evaluation/assessment, professional development, funder engagement and LSSC.

Ms. Kong-Thao then moved to the **Superintendent Search Update** stating the Board is working toward finalizing details of the Superintendent search process. The Broad Foundation has provided expert advice to the Board regarding the search. Recognizing the need for expertise and an expedited process, the Board has reconsidered the need for external support for superintendent recruitment. The plan is to identify, through an RFP process, a consultant to assist the Board in its search process and to work with that consultant as soon as possible to find the next person to lead SPPS. The Board has drafted a candidate profile for the next superintendent which is largely based on the current Superintendent's job description. A final profile will be available at the time the position is posted. The Board remains committed to a public engagement process that will include an opportunity for public input prior to the selection of the new superintendent. The Board has also received expressions of interest from its various stakeholders who wish to assist in the search process. She expressed thanks to this group for their interest and support. It is anticipated their role might include participation in the public engagement process, securing resources to support the search process and sharing of information relative to the search process. All information regarding the search will be posted to the Board web page. In addition, the Board Chair will provide updates at each regular Board meeting until a permanent superintendent is hired. The Board's goal is to have a superintendent in place during the 2009-2010 school year, preferably this fall. The Board remains committed to finding the best possible person to lead the district; one who will continue the improvements begun under Dr. Carstarphen's leadership. The District has a *Strategic Plan* and has made significant reforms over the past three years. The Board's intent is to find a leader who can help close the achievement gap and raise the bar on learning for all students.

XIII. FUTURE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

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

- June 9 – 4:00 p.m. Special – Non-Renewals
- June 15 Special Board meeting – public comment on Longfellow and Roosevelt
- June 16
- July 21
- August 18
- September 22
- October 20

- November 10 4:30 p.m. (Canvass Election Results)
 - November 17
 - December 15
 - January 5, 2010 Annual Meeting
 - January 19
2. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 unless otherwise noted)
- June 9
 - June 30
 - July 14
 - August 4
 - September 1
 - October 6
 - November 10 – 5:00 p.m.
 - December 1
3. Other opportunities for engagement include the web feedback option.
- May 20 Longfellow information meeting
 - May 27 Sheridan information meeting
 - May 28 Forum LSSC at Harding
 - June 4 –Roosevelt information meeting
 - June 9 – COB Meeting
 - June 11 - Board listening session – Expo Elementary
 - June 15 - Special Board meeting public comment on Longfellow and Roosevelt
 - June 16 BOE
 - July 14 COB Meeting
 - July 21 BOE

MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved that the Board of Education include the Sheridan community in the June 15 Special Board Meeting. Mr. Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

IXV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved the meeting adjourn. Mr. Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 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