

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
SAINT PAUL, MN
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

November 23, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

III ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Chair announced the purpose of the meeting was the selection of a superintendent.

She reviewed the process the Board utilized for finding and naming the next SPPS Superintendent.

- The Board hired Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates to assist in the search
- Two sessions were held for stakeholder input to assist in development of profile
- The profile was developed
- A schedule was established for the search process. Community engagement was a key piece of the process as designed
- Various public sessions as well as online input was provided for community input on the various candidates for the position
- There were 13 key points of contact in the assessment of the final three candidates:
 - Overview with Board members
 - A meeting with critical partners
 - Visits to High Schools
 - Conversations with students
 - Visit to elementary schools
 - Conversation with Interim Superintendent
 - Conversation with the Senior Leadership Team
 - Conversation with the Union and Bargaining Units
 - Meeting with the Media
 - Meeting with community leaders, key partners and board advisory chairs
 - A family and community reception
 - The formal, televised interview with the Board of Education
 - An exit interview with selected Board members

The Board members were asked to do the following after completion of the formal in:

- Review the profile
- Read all of the feedback
- Complete the primary and secondary reference calls for each finalist
- Consider input received from the community input
- Consider the interviews with each candidate
- Come to the November 23 meeting prepared to consider the action to selection the preferred candidate.

The Chair thanked the Board for doing their due diligence throughout the process and indicated she was prepared to entertain a motion..

MOTION: Ms. O'Connell moved the Board of Education select Ms. Valeria Silva as the preferred candidate for Superintendent of Saint Paul Public Schools and begin contract negotiations immediately.. Motion seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

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

DISCUSSION:

- The Board expressed its appreciation for the input received from everyone.
- The Chair extended thanks to all of the candidates (the 41 applicants, the six semi-finalists and the three finalists) for their interest and participation in the process.
- A Board member extended thanks to all stakeholders in the district for caring about what happens for the children and for taking time to communicate their interest and concerns to Board members. He indicated he was excited by the finalists who participated in the process and looked forward to working with Ms. Silva in her new role.. He asked the community to continue being as passionate and involved as they have been through the superintendent search process as the District moves forward with new opportunities and challenges. He further asked families and community members to become involved with the schools their children attend and offer their help as volunteers, mentors and tutors to assist the students.

IV ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved the meeting adjourn; motion seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 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