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

December 15, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Brodrick, Ms. Street-Stewart, Mr. Hardy, Ms. Kong-Thao, Ms. O’Connell, Ms. Varro, Interim Superintendent Kelly, Mr. Lalla, General Council and Ms. Polsfuss, Assistant Clerk

ABSENT: Ms. Carroll. She joined the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

A. Order of the Consent Agenda

Director Hardy requested that the Consent Items on pages 52 and 54 of the Board Book be pulled for separate consideration.

MOTION: Ms. Street-Steward moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with the items on page 52, Request for Permission to Enter into a Contract with the University of Minnesota to Provide National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) Training for Principal Leadership Development Efforts (Cohort II) and page 54, Payment for Services with Northeast Metro Intermediate School District #916 being pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

B. Order of the Main Agenda

The Chair reviewed the changes to the Main Agenda: the final version of the Audit Report was at Board places, the HR Transaction pages were updated and posted to BoardBook, updated information on the MDE revisions to the 2009 Payable 2010 Property Tax Levy was provided at places, The Superintendent Contract was also at places for approval.

MOTION: Ms. O’Connell moved approval of the Order of the Main Agenda as revised; seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Brodrick  Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart  Yes
Ms. Carroll  Absent
Mr. Hardy  Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao  Yes
IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of November 17, 2009
B. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting November 18, 2009
C. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting November 19, 2009
D. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting November 23, 2009
E. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting December 1, 2009

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Ms. Varro, approval of the minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of November 17, 2009 and the Special Board of
Education Meetings of November 18, 19, 23 and December 1, 2009.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
Mr. Brodrick  Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart  Yes
Ms. Carroll  Yes
Mr. Hardy  Yes
Ms. Kong-Thao  Yes
Ms. O’Connell  Yes
Ms. Varro  Yes

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting December 1, 2009
In consideration of the Special Board meeting on the Payable 2010 tax levy, the agenda for
the December 1 COB meeting was limited to two subjects: The Financial Audit Report and
a brief update on Washington Technology Magnet Middle School.

1. Financial Audit Report
The draft report of the FY 09 Financial Audit and the OMBA A-133 Audit was prepared
by the firm of KPMG.

Mr. Omdahl, a partner at KPMG, presented highlights from the financial statements and
the opinion for the audit conducted for the year ending June 30, 2009. He stated the
financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial
position of governmental activities, each major fund, the aggregate remaining funds and
the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows for the
year ended June 30, 2009 in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting
principles or, in layman’s terms, an “unqualified or clean opinion.”.

He reported they had also issued a report on the District’s internal control over financial
reporting and tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations,
contracts, grant agreements and other matters. Additionally they 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, 2009 and
though there were a few findings in this area, the opinion issued was unqualified.

Finally, they performed an audit of the financial transactions in accordance with
statutory requirements embodied in the Minnesota Legal Compliance Checklist since
SPPS is a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota. There were no instances of
noncompliance in this area.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education accept the audit report as presented.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:
Mr. Brodrick  Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart  Yes
2. **Standing Item: School & Program Changes**

Information was provided to the Board on the two-year restructuring plan for Washington Technology Magnet Middle School through the restructuring into Interdisciplinary Teams as a continuation of the BioSMART model and expansion of the AVID program into 8th grade.

B. **Acceptance of the Report of the Committee Meetings Reports**

**MOTION:** Ms. Street-Stewart moved the Board of Education accept the Report on the Committee of the Board meeting of December 1, 2009 as reported. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

VI. **RECOGNITIONS**

A. **Acknowledgement of Good Work by Schools**

**BF 28132 Highland Park Elementary**

Highland Park Elementary received the 2009 Family-Friendly School Award from the Minnesota Parent Center and the Minnesota Department of Education. Four Minnesota schools received this honor for partnering with families to increase student success. Parents were asked to nominate schools for efforts to create a family-school partnership.

**MOTION:** Mr. Hardy moved that the Board of Education recognize Highland Park Elementary for their contributions and outstanding work. Motion seconded by Ms. Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

VII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

A. **Ann Holzman** – Spoke in support of the use of the entire property tax levy amount in the next cycle.

B. **Georgia Dietz** – Commented on the Saint Paul Public Schools Foundation; the name change for CBFAC and mandates.

C. **Joanne Clark & Dr. Timothy Childs** – presented information on the TLC Foundation, a tutoring program
SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Race to the Top (RTTT) Overview

RTTT is a new Federal education program intended to promote significant new reforms in public education; it is tied to key priorities of the Obama administration. This is the $4.35 billion which will be made available, on a competitive basis, to states under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The Superintendent stated SPPS has, by request, collaborated with the State of Minnesota as it moves toward application for RTTT funding. The application for RTTT belongs to the State and is a key vehicle for promoting educational reform and precursor to reauthorization of NCLB.

The program will reward states for advancing effective reforms while requiring states to implement new efforts in four key reform areas: (1) improving the rigor and quality of standards and assessments; (2) data systems to support instruction; (3) developing, supporting, retaining and rewarding great teachers and leaders and (4) turning around persistently low-performing schools.

RTTT will provide substantial resources to a handful of states ready to commit to the next wave of educational reform. Over 36 states have indicated an intent to submit an application by the January 19, 2010 deadline for Phase I. Minnesota plans to apply for approximately $175 million – the top of the range provided to states of Minnesota’s size. Minnesota is seen as highly competitive by national observers and has received significant support from the Gates Foundation in completing the application. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) has a team from McKinsey & Company assisting in the development of their application.

If SPPS decides to participate (it is an “opt in” process), the District may receive approximately $30-35 million for use over the next three to four years for efforts directly related to the RTTT state application (depending on the level of funding awarded to Minnesota). Some of the requirements of the application may also leverage other State resources to support required elements.

RTTT is the vehicle to promote the development and adoption of Common Core Standards (National standards) and aligned assessments. Minnesota has participated in the creation and review process for the Common Core Standards and SPPS staff have contributed in this process. Phase I applicants must participate in the process and commit to adopting the standards in 2010. Minnesota must also participate in various consortia for development of new assessments tied to the Common Core Standards.

Minnesota is well positioned in the area of data systems to support instruction due to its history with alternative compensation programming.

The Great Teachers & Leaders is the most important component of RTTT. Minnesota is well positioned due to its history with alternative compensation programming. Minnesota is also at a competitive disadvantage due to State’s history with alternative pathways for teacher and principal licensure. MDE plans to emphasize its strengths (QComp) while committing to new options for its area of relative weakness.

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) has significantly tightened the definition of persistently low performing schools under RTTT. Approximately 40 schools in Minnesota fall into this category across the state. These identified schools will have the lowest proportions of students achieving proficiency for multiple years and the lowest growth among students at risk of not maintaining or becoming proficient. There are additional ways high schools and middle schools can be identified as “persistently low performing.”
Schools identified for a “turnaround” intervention will be notified within the next few weeks. Districts will work with the new State Office of Turnaround Schools to identify the appropriate strategy for the schools. Schools will have to implement one of the models identified in the RTTT application. USED is also aligning these efforts with other school improvement programs, such as the Title I School Improvement grants.

Next steps include:
- MDE is working with districts to secure commitment to the application
- SPPS will have to submit a letter of intent and support by mid-January.
- The letter must have the signature of the Superintendent, the Chair of the Board of Education and the President of the Federation of Teachers.
- If SPPS does not sign on to the application prior to submission, the District will forego the opportunity to participate.
- SPPS will receive no funding under RTTT if it does not “opt in”

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
- When will the first pay out be? Response: This is contingent upon the award process, possibly late spring.
- Regarding the required signatures, why is the principal’s union not included? Response: Probably because the teachers’ union is the largest bargaining unit. Administration will follow-up on this. The teachers’ union signature is a requirement for all districts in order to “opt in.”
- In the area of standards and assessments, based on what is known now about the new core standards, does administration see any radical changes that they have reservations about? Response: No.
- In the area of great teachers and leaders and Minnesota’s competitive disadvantage, is it because the alternative pathways being less rigorous? Response: No, it is not about concerns about the rigor of the alternative pathways it is more about the lack of a history for alternative pathways in the state and no clear pathway for approval that is sometimes be outside of higher education partnership.
- On turnaround strategies, should any SPPS schools be identified, does administration take issue with any of the models needing to be adopted? Response: No, SPPS has had significant input on those models and is comfortable with them.
- The signature issue, is there any challenge in securing the signature of the Superintendent or the Teachers Federation? Response: The Federation has voiced some concerns and SPPS is working collaboratively with the Federation and MDE to address those concerns.
- The Office of Turnaround Schools will that continue as a resource to MDE for implementation of other reform models or will it only address the districts, which successfully achieve the RTTT? Response: Initially the Office of Turnaround Schools will deal primarily with districts impacted by RTTT funding. The hope is that as they discover best practices those will be shared out across other districts.
- Is there any sense of the kind of technology that will be provided if the award is given to a district? Response: This area is still being worked on to look at other implications out there, current data systems and assessment pieces. It has not been addressed specifically at this point.
- Does Minnesota plan to apply in Round 2 for RTTT funds? Response: The State is optimistic that they will receive an award in Round 1 so a Round 2 application will not be necessary. USED has not been very clear about what happens to the states that are denied in the first round.
- If SPPS does not submit its letter of support on time, will it be disqualified or unable to participate in round two? Response: If the letter is not submitted, SPPS would be eliminated from participation.

B. Leadership & Learning Center (LLC) Audit Preview
Dr. Reeves, founder and president of the Leadership and Learning Center, presented the implementation audit summary of findings on sixteen key academic initiatives that SPPS has invested in to increase student achievement.
The purpose of the implementation audit was to reveal the actual level of implementation and impact on student achievement so that system level leaders can make wise decisions on allocation of time, energy and fiscal resources. This is the first time SPPS has conducted such an extensive and thorough review of the academic initiatives. The audit will provide information to help the District focus and reduce its initiatives to those with the best chance to improve student achievement. The goal, as part of the 2010-11 budget process, is to realign resources to the areas most likely to help improve SPPS student achievement.

The point of the District seeking the audit was to enable it to marshal its limited resources and energy toward a smaller number of initiatives and programs that increase student learning in a significant ways. The bottom line is that the District cannot continue to do all things at once. All of the initiatives currently underway in the district were selected because they have the potential to help better instruct the children. The audit will help provide a focusing process in which the District will need to answer which of the good initiatives should be concentrated on to achieve full implementation and which will lead to higher levels of student achievement in an accelerated fashion.

Once the audit results are received, the District will need to carefully consider the information and develop a process for aligning recommendations about academic programs with recommendations for the upcoming budget process.

C. School Selection Season
The school selection season will kick off with the publication of the School Selection Guide which will be released this month in four languages and will be distributed in various manners to many entities across the city. The Parent Information Fair will follow on January 9, 2010.

The application deadline for middle, junior and senior high schools is February 28 and for elementary schools, including Pre-K, March 5. The District is continuing to build on outreach efforts for school selection season. There was a concerted effort last year and over the summer to raise awareness of how to enroll in SPPS. This was, in part, responsible for the reduction in the projected enrollment decline.

D. Audit Update
The Superintendent again noted the overall unqualified findings of the audit. She extended thanks to the Business Office team for their work. The findings within the audit are being addressed by administration. The final report will be provided on-line for public viewing on the Business Office website.

E. Human Resource Transactions

MOTION: Ms Street-Stewart moved approval of the Human Resource transactions for the period October 25 through November 22, 2009 as published in the Board Book. Motion seconded by Ms. O’Connell.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

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F. Recognition of the Interim Superintendent

Ms. Kelly extended her thanks to the Board for allowing her to serve as the Interim Superintendent. She stated she is confident of the unparalleled commitment of the Board, principals, teachers and support staff to ensuring every child receives a high quality education.

Board members offered their thanks and appreciation to the Interim Superintendent for her services to the District and her work in keeping the district on task toward achieving its goals and objectives of providing the best quality education to all children.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items as published with the exception of page 52, Request for Permission to Enter into a Contract with the University of Minnesota to Provide National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) Training for Principal Leadership Development Efforts (Cohort II) and page 54, Payment for Services with Northeast Metro Intermediate School District #916, which were pulled for separate consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

A. Grants

**BF 28133** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Education for an Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech) Competitive Stimulus Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Education for an Enhancing Education Through Technology grant; to accept funds, if awarded, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28134** Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the National Youth Leadership Council

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the National Youth Leadership Council for Barack and Michelle Obama Service Learning Elementary and Farnsworth Aerospace Magnet Schools to support STEM-focused service learning projects in the district; to accept funds, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28135** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Qwest Foundation (Technology Integration – Central High School)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to The Quest Foundation to support academic achievement through the use of technology; to accept funds, if awarded, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

**BF 28136** Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Regional Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (R-CSPD) -- Highland Junior/Senior Complex

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to Regional Comprehensive System of Personnel Development to support
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the University of Minnesota to support science education through gardening; to accept funds, if awarded, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

B. Agreements

BF 28138 Approval of Employment Agreement between Independent School District No. 625, Saint Paul Public Schools and District Lodge No. 77 International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers AFL-CIO, Exclusive Representatives for Machinists

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those machinist employees in this school district for whom District Lodge No. 77 International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers AFL-CIO, is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011.

C. Contracts

BF 28139 Expeditionary Learning Model at Open School

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to authorize the award of contract to Expeditionary Learning Schools, beginning December 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012 for an estimated cost not to exceed $170,000.

BF 28140 Approval of Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

That the Board of Education authorize the Interim Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) to provide a partnership with the Saint Paul Public Schools. This will be known as the Urban Teacher Education Partnership (UTEP). The dates of this contract are from November 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. There will be no cost to the district.

D. Administrative Items

BF 28141 Monthly Operating Authority

1. That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period November 1 – November 30.

   (a) General Account #462851-464051 $46,146,513.24
       #3013947-3014030
   (b) Debt Service -0- 3,603.75
   (c) Construction -0- 1,722,798.28

   Included in the above disbursements are gross payrolls in the amount of $34,186,186.29 and overtime of $101,495.36.

   (d) Collateral Changes None

2. 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 March 23, 2010.

BF 28142 Name Change for St. Paul Open School
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve a name change at St. Paul Open School to Open World Learning Community which reflects the alignment with the new program focus for achievement of all learners and a commitment to providing the most engaging, rigorous, and pertinent learning environment.

E. Bids

**BF 28143**  
Bid No. A9342-K Ventilation Improvements at Bridgeview Elementary School  
That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9342-K for the ventilation improvements at Bridgeview Elementary School to Northern Air Corporation, dba NAC Mechanical & Electrical Services for $105,585.00, the lump sum base bid plus alternate no. 1.

**BF 28144**  
Request for Proposal No. A9331-K District-wide Data Network Replacement  
That the Board of Education authorize award of RFP No. A9331-K for replacing the data network on a district-wide basis and providing support for five (5) years to Qwest Communication/Qwest Corporation for $5,376,900.00, with two 1-year options to extend.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

**BF 28145**  
Request for Permission to Enter into a Contract with the University of Minnesota to Provide National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) Training for Principal Leadership Development Efforts (Cohort II)  
MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with the University of Minnesota to provide National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) professional development for experienced principals for the second cohort of the Minnesota Principals’ Academy, Twin Cities Cohort, not to exceed $200,000, funded by the Travelers Foundation. Motion seconded by Ms. O’Connell.

Director Hardy expressed concern about the loss of good principals in the district and a concern about support given to the newer principals. He wanted to be sure the concerns brought to him are being addressed at the administrative level. He asked for assurance that the academy and other resources will be used to help the principals be successful and stay in SPPS.

Administration responded that ensuring support for all principal leaders and administrators is taken very seriously. There have been a number of discussions about succession planning and about wrap-around support for those people assigned to leadership positions in the district. The Academy, the Institute for Aspiring Principals and the Principal Mentorship Program are all components of that. There is also the very intentional work of the three Executive Directors who have met with all principals and set goals with all principals, have a very good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of each principal and have sought support and mentoring in areas where their people need additional support.

SPPS has relatively low turnover and because the District is in a belt tightening time often what happens is the District does not have the capacity to keep people during the three-year probationary period when budgets are being cut. The District is looking at who is recruited, the levels of recruitment (given the financial circumstances) and also how to support people once they are in the door and how opportunities can be created for them to stay; to want to stay and also to be equipped to stay.

Have the Executive Directors gone through this academy? Response: There are people who have not gone through the traditional principal track in the Aspiring Leaders Program. All of the current Executive Directors have had that level of training and have that expertise and could probably provide that training themselves.
This support is not only given for principals but is being done with administrative interns and for very new principals; very high standards are set and aids are provided to be sure there is no way they can fail to meet those standards with support, professional development and the mentoring necessary. When people at any level do not meet the standards, the District needs to be sure they are not in front of the kids.

The veteran principals in the district, even though they may not have the formal title of mentor, do reach out and provide mentorship to younger principals. It happens no only with principals of color but across race and gender lines and is another level of support for colleagues.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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**BF 28146** Payment for Services with Northeast Metro Intermediate School District #916

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve payment to Northeast Metro Intermediate District #916 for $116,561.20 for unused slots not covered through the state tuition billing process for the 2008-09 year from District encumbered funds specifically set-aside for these services. Motion seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart.

Director Hardy asked for an explanation of why SPPS does not have resources internally to help EDB students? The Director of Special Education stated SPPS uses 916 to serve a small number of students (seven) with severe needs or in need of specialized service for unique reasons. The costs reflected in the Consent Agenda Item is the cost for unused slots held for SPPS students. Reservations are needed in order for 916 to staff to numbers; SPPS must pay for the unused slots. This was an aberration and should not occur again.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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**X. OLD BUSINESS**

**BF 28131** Acceptance of Bond Sale Bid

**MOTION:** Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart, that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Ratifying Sale of $16,115,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2009D (Qualified School Construction Bonds-Tax Credit) and Levying a Tax for their Payment.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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B. Consideration of CEAC Applications

MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved the Board of Education appoint Phillip M. Peterson to the Capital Expenditure Advisory Committee (CEAC). Motion seconded by Mr. Brodrick.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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BF 28147 2009 Payable 2010 Property Taxes

The Board action is for the final certification of the 2009 Payable 2010 Property Tax Levy. The Minnesota Department of Education has again, on Friday, December 14, notified SPPS of a recalculation of the debt levy. This was due to the sale of the Series 2009B, Series 2009C and Series 2009D bonds. The MDE recalculation has resulted in a change in the total maximum levy limit and the amount of the requested levy which was presented.

The revised pay 2010 maximum allowable levy, as calculated by MDE, is $113,130,536, compared with a levy of $106,979,636 certified for pay 2009, an increase of 5.75%. Administration recommended the revised pay 2010 levy certification of $111,692,237. This represents an increase of 4.41% or $4,712,601 and is $1,438,299 less than the revised maximum allowable and is $101,482 less than the ceiling set at the September 17 COB meeting.

QUESTIONS:

- Does this levy impact staff in buildings? Response: Statute defines the various levies. The Operating Levy is the only location that might impact staffing, however, the District has a contract based on a promise to the public with the 2006 operating levy that indirectly might get at this but would not impact staffing directly. The next opportunity would be on the next operating levy, which is a voter-approved referendum.
- Not exercising the option to do the maximum allowable amount will not cause staff reductions in the buildings? Response. It does not reduce staffing in buildings.
- Where can information on education funding be found? The State legislature provides a comprehensive explanation of levy and school finance on their website. There is some information provided on the SPPS Business Office website, the link to the legislative offering and finally the SPPS budget is probably the most direct way to understand how it works.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education certify and approve the 2009 Payable 2010 Property Tax Levy in the amount of $111,692,237. Motion seconded by Ms. O’Connell.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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<td>Ms. Carroll</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Hardy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Ms. Kong-Thao</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Ms. O’Connell</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Ms. Varro</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Project Labor Agreements

1. Window Replacement at Johnson Senior High School – administration recommended no PLA be utilized for this project.

2. BF 28148 Piping Replacement at Riverview Elementary School – administration recommended that a PLA be utilized in conjunction with this project because the potential disruption to school program could be significant if a delay occurred.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education accept administration's recommendations on the PLAs and that a PLA be utilized in conjunction with the piping replacement at Riverview Elementary and that no PLA be used for the Johnson Senior High School window replacement. Motion seconded by Ms. O'Connell.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

BF 28149 Approval of the Superintendent Employment Agreement

The Board Chair stated the contract had been signed with Ms. Silva with a start date of December 16, 2009. She welcomed the new Superintendent.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the Board of Education approve the Superintendent Employment Agreement as presented to them on December 15, 2009. Motion seconded by Ms. Varro.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests & Responses

Mr. Hardy requested information on the process for the acceptance of grants and scholarships.

B. Items for Future Agendas -- None

C. Board of Education Reports/Communications -- None

XIII. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

A. Action to Schedule Special Closed Board meeting
MOTION: Ms. Street-Stewart moved the Board of Education schedule a Special Closed Board of Education meeting to immediately follow the close of this meeting for the purpose of discussion of labor negotiations. Motion seconded by Ms. O'Connell.

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

B. Board of Education Meetings (5:45 unless otherwise noted)
   • December 16 Special Board Meeting which will be held at Museum Magnet 5:30
   • January 5, 2010 Annual Meeting
   • January 19
   • February 16
   • March 16
   • April 20
   • May 18
   • June 15
   • July 20

C. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 unless otherwise noted)
   • January 26
   • February 23
   • March 23
   • April 6
   • May 4
   • June 1
   • July 13

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 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