

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625  
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD MEETING  
Via Telephonic and Video Conference**

**April 7, 2020  
4:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Vice Chair Foster.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Board of Education: J. Foster, J. Brodrick, M. Xiong, C. Allen, J. Kopp, S. Marchese, Z. Ellis

Staff: Superintendent Gothard; Chuck Long, General Counsel; Cedrick Baker, Chief of Staff; Marie Schrul, Chief Financial Officer; Dave Watkins, Chief of Schools; Jackie Turner, Chief Operations Officer, Kate Wilcox-Harris, Chief Academic Officer; Kevin Burns, Director of Communications; Hans Ott, Executive Director, Office of Digital and Alternative Education; Craig Anderson, Executive Director, Office of Teaching and Learning; Kaying Thao, Administrator to the Board; Sarah Dahlke, Secretary to the Board

**II. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA**

**MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Order of the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Marchese.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Foster	Yes
Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Xiong	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Marchese	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Gothard provided an update on distance learning and accomplishments with three areas highlighted - first days of school, things we've learned, and appreciation. He began with the quote "SPPS superintendent proud of district's distance learning development and implementation." He went on to recap the timeline leading to this point, including the challenging round of contract negotiations, and reading about other states with distance learning plans.

He shared the common framework for developing distant learning plans. Prior to the Governor's announcement, he directed the team to create a plan to move SPPS online, if needed. The team moved with ferocity to build our distance learning plan. Facing the ultimate challenge of persevering through global pandemic hasn't been easy - we're all impacted and clear how students, families, staff, community partners and all who love SPPS have been in mind. Our team has followed the Governor's order and has done it with excellence in mind. We have challenged each other, navigated barriers, and received feedback and remained together - including our Board of Education. The very best of the district has risen up from a place we never imagined we'd be. For all challenges, reports, public comment, headlines, and other means of feedback routinely received, we are extremely proud of what the district has accomplished in three short weeks in implementing. He recapped the first couple days of school. Designing and implementing for 38000 students for learning for anytime and same time learning. Added flexibility after hearing from staff students and families. Provided daily communication for staff and administration for feedback loops. Support for teachers, students and families. Supported staff in their own distance learning through Schoology courses for PreK, K-2, 3-12 and examples and resources. Serving all students and learners and families. This includes the distribution of iPads to 99.9% of students. As of Friday, April 3 there have been 33,386 iPads distributed to our 34,000 PreK-12 students and have access. For hotspots to access the internet, 1700 have been distributed, with 200 more to be picked up or delivered. We are working quickly for those few students who do not yet have access to the internet, and will not stop until they have access or have exhausted all efforts to do so.

We have learned a lot in three-plus weeks, and we appreciate the regular feedback. The distance learning steering committee is ensuring all voices are heard as we continue to address challenges and ensure access and success for every student. For staff, we have built a library for staff needs of resources and guidance, linked to our distance learning website. Addressing learners' need, for things like connectivity and hotspots, social-emotional learning supports, special education supports, counseling, reporting and attendance. We will reach out to those students not yet online and Project Reach for our students experiencing homelessness.

It has been impressive to work with the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County as our efforts are coordinated, and has been incredible to see what we can do as a community to reach out and address our students and families with needs.

For families, we are planning distance learning support via district-provided devices, support for internet access, and a place for students and families to be successful. We have added a Help Line where students and families can call into a central location for real-time answers to questions in partnership with our Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships, and other various partners. There will be family-friendly community that will also be translated into multiple languages, and helplines, and FAQ sections as a resource, as well as iPad and technology support, online tutorials, and phone-in and drive-up technology support.

He shared appreciation for the mammoth effort leading up to and continuing in this work. He thanked the Division of Operations, and those who have helped to work systems in support of a distance learning environment. We continue to provide meals to students and area children and have delivered 291,195 meals, which is more than 20% of the meals in the state. Meals were provided during Spring Break in partnership with our City and County and local restaurants. Essential Kids Care is fully operational with around 80 students per day, and capacity to add Tier 2 families to this service. He shared examples of positive feedback from students, staff, and teachers.

In 2013, the taxpayers of Saint Paul supported a referendum for technology and digital platforms into the hands of our students through the Personalized Learning Through Technology plan. This investment and several years of technological and implementation support have equipped us for high quality and equitable distance learning.

We are staying connected to our neighboring districts and learning from their successes and challenges. We are learning and listening and adapting to new challenges during these unprecedented times. He noted with the quick pace that things are changing and updating, teachers are learning from each other and working together, and building trust to come together in the most incredible ways. He noted that SPPS is doing their very best and providing the very best to continue to support students and families. It's amazing what we can do with thoughtful planning, and providing engagement and connections.

Lastly, he thanked the the Board of Education for their support, unwavering trust, the way stood by our team to implement. We remain committed and want to thank the team and all who are responsible for creating the distance learning for spps.

#### **QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

- Director Brodrick appreciated Superintendent Gothard's report and is so happy that we're moving along so well during these trying times. He thanked the District office, Administration, and all those working so hard to ensure kids getting education during this time.
- Director Allen is very impressed with the team. She thanked and appreciated fluidness of change and being able to really reach out and accommodate students as much as possible during this hard time. Thanks and doing a great job.
- Director Kopp noted thanks to the team. It's exciting that this shows what's possible when we work together across departments, schools, and community, and are aligned with our City, County, and community partners and small businesses - it's heartening in a difficult situation. She is grateful to everyone who is making this happen.
- Director Marchese thanked everyone for their hard work, which is substantial in all the different coordinated areas, including distance learning, meal deliveries and distribution, and child care. Our work is touching the lives of so many in this city. If there was any doubt about how essential and core this District is to the well-being of the city, this work makes it very clear. He recapped an opportunity to distribute meals at Como Senior. He noted the can-do spirit that was notable and heartwarming. He appreciates all the can-do spirit in this work, and thanked everyone from the nutrition services staff, paraprofessionals, teachers, parents, students, administrative staff, and building leaders - we are all doing great things.
- Director Ellis noted her thanks to everyone for their dedication and hard work.
- Director Foster noted that when we go back to a pre-COVID 19 state, and thinking what was, and thanking our food service staff, and serving our families experiencing homelessness, and the care that is happening. At the local, state, and federal level it will be difficult to go back to things as normal. She noted that during this time, it has been evident that when there's a will we can get it done in Minnesota and here in SPPS. She thanked everyone for their efforts at every level, in community engagement and partners. In light of everything, there's a will it get it done. She also noted that for all the work of SPPS, that work should not be on the shoulders of one district, but all working together, and hopes to be working differently together outside of this.
- Superintendent Gothard noted his thanks to Governor Walz and his administration for standing behind us and supporting us during this time. There are high expectations and Governor Walz will be working with us shoulder-to-shoulder, and he noted his great appreciation for their leadership as well.

#### IV. FY21 BUDGET GUIDELINES

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Marie Schrul, Chief Financial Officer, to share information on the FY21 budget guidelines. The full guidelines report can be found in the BoardBook.

The report included information on the philosophy, 2020-21 Instructional Priorities, including Positive School and District Culture, Effective Instruction and Culturally Relevant Instruction, and College and Career Paths, as well as information on preparing the budget calculation, such as budget model. Information was also provided on compiling and presenting the 2020-21 budget, with all information and presentations published online at <http://businessoffice.spps.org>.

#### QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Allen noted that we would continue with PBIS, but didn't mention Restorative Justice and how does that fit in? Response: That line does wrap all of those pieces together - PBIS, Restorative practices, and social-emotional skills are all encompassed in that line.
- Will there be a list of programs and their budget allocations? Response: Yes, that is correct.
- Also talking about transitions to online for community engagement work, and how will that work and what is the timeline for resuming with District and Community? Response: Given our work right now, engagement in this way will be challenging and will need to think about the difference in engagement and staffing to schools. Therefore shifting at how schools can work with their communities around staffing to plan for next year.
- There are pressing issues that the community would like to engage - including the budget process, and how we will redesign that. The budget is a large issue and other pressing matter before the end of the year, and something we need to determine while engaging with community.
- Superintendent Gothard noted these guidelines serve as a foundation as we talk about this in stages and good information at all times as we move forward.

**MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the FY21 Budget Guidelines as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Ellis.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Foster	Yes
Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Xiong	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Marchese	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes

#### V. FY20-21 PRIORITY BASED BUDGET UPDATE

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Chief Schrul to present the FY20-21 Budget Update, with the first official rollout of the priority based FY21 budget.

#### Our Mission

- Inspire students to think critically, pursue their dreams and change the world.

#### What's Different?

**In the past:**

Rollover from previous year  
Projected shortfall  
Staff teams worked on individual parts  
Stakeholder engagement after budget was structured

**Starting in FY20-21**

Priority-based budgeting  
Balanced budget  
Cross-functional team is developing the budget  
Engagement in development of the budget  
Structure, including investment options

**Budget Process**

1. Plan and Prepare
2. Set Instructional Priorities
3. Pay for Priorities
4. Implement Plan
5. Ensure Sustainability

**Estimate FY2020-2021 Revenue**

General Fund Revenue for FY 2019-20 Adopted compared to FY2020-21, and the difference was reviewed. Full details can be found in the presentation within the BoardBook.

1. Plan and Prepare
  - a. Weigh strategies
2. Set Instructional Priorities
  - a. Confirm Strategic Plan instructional priorities
    - i. SPPS Achieves
    - ii. Themes from the Community
  - b. Review criteria for school and program allocations
3. Estimate costs
  - a. Estimated for General Fund investments in areas of individual schools, school-support services, district-wide support, and administration were reviewed and compared for FY2019-20 adopted budget to the FY2020-21 projected budget.
  - b. Analyze savings options
  - c. Review investments
  - d. Prioritize investments to sustain
    - i. Strategic Plan priorities
    - ii. Other priorities
4. Implement Plan
  - a. School and Program allocation timeline
    - i. April 24: Schools receive budget allocations
    - ii. Week of April 27: Programs receive budget allocations
    - iii. April 24-May 15: School level budget decision and information session
    - iv. May 15: School and program staffing decision due to Human Resources; School and program budgets due to Finance
5. Ensure Sustainability
  - a. Put strategies into practice and evaluate results
    - i. Improve resource allocations through
      1. Assessing program effectiveness
      2. Aligning resources with priorities
      3. Preparing a multi-year financial plan

## Community Engagement

- Transitions to online options
- Providing information and gathering feedback
- [spps.org/budget](https://spps.org/budget)

## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Xiong noted slide 19 for community engagement and in talking about supporting school principals and communities at their local site, and for the information pertaining prior to the budget released to schools on April 24? Response: At this time, we don't anticipate district wide community efforts, but more school-based information and schools working with their communities for also information. Through the process of negotiations and ensuring we have ample time to get schools allocated properly, we are on the timeline to ensure we get accurate information to our schools. With a 1000 student decline, these are hard decisions to make and prioritize schools to keep whole as possible. Outside our priority areas, what we've discussed since that time, we're not deviating from that in great ways. This is the first year of a priority based budget process. Last year, talking about long term budget priority and not investments in real time, and instead, one, two, or three years out to engage w/ our community on a regular basis around our budget. We are trying to get out of reactionary engagement, and instead provide ideas for investments related to our strategic plan. Being the first year and obvious distractions, it hasn't been an ideal first year and we have learned a lot and do want to commit to this process moving forward.
  - She recognizes and knows how hard the team has worked in this new normal, and we are learning a lot. She has heard from colleagues on the Board and the importance of continuing engagement with our community on the process. Look forward to report back on how schools will engage local community and involving community in decisions. In addition to the results of the survey, we'll have more data about our community and what they need and want to see. We can expand from those engagements to future year budgets.
  - Chief Baker noted that we have heard the Board in ensuring there is more time and opportunities for engagement. He noted that to ensure board members know team planning to move forward with additional engagement opportunities, and then dealing with negotiations and the strike, and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These events have put us in a different timeframe and situation to ensure we are prepared for distance learning, meals, and Essential Kids Care. The plan is to still move forward with engagement, but will look different based on capacity and timeline to ensure schools have what they need. We will support our schools to ensure there is a different type of engagement to allow community to have input.
- Director Allen noted her previous question. She appreciated the response and continued community engagement, and understands things in the way and it's going to be difficult in this place, but pertinent to ensuring we don't have deficit in enrolment in upcoming years if we start this engagement process and hear from community about what they're looking for in community schools. So important. Thanks for continuing.
- Director Kopp thanked the Finance Office for the presentation and information in this extraordinary time. Efforts are great and thanks.
  - Along the thoughts of others, understanding that there is work in place and has been interrupted out of our control - appreciate thinking of how to continue to refine and expand what we do in this dl environment. Impressed with communications to communities in timely fashion, and are accurate and accessible and use what they learn from that, and share about budget, as another opportunity to inform families, build connections and relationships - use time to educate about the budget - excited to see how that looks.

- One item mentioned throughout the budget and looking at page 11 instructional priorities, the priority of positive school and district culture - we all may know or sense - going back to education price, we need to be clear in what it means for families, and have a conversation about how we're defining that for families to feel more connected and involved.
- What, if any, funding sources could be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic? Response: We are continuing to monitor all revenue sources. One that comes to mind is our local property taxes and the impact of those. We have been working with the City and County at projections - we typically receive payments in May and November. There may be impacts of delinquent property taxes or delayed payment options. We are continuing to look at modeling. We are also looking at impacts on the nutrition services fund and community service/education programs fund. Their operations are working to the extreme during this time. We are also assessing the federal stimulus funding at the federal level and opportunities there. Our legislative liaison, Mary Gilbert, is also helping to keep us informed. We are also looking at funding from the state level. There will be an update in a few weeks on the quarterly report on the current fiscal year and highlighting more in the upcoming months. Chief Schrul also noted that we are mindful of and highlighted the fund balance for times like this. We always retain 5% or a little above to continue payroll and payments to vendors at times like this, or if we need to purchase additional resources for students. We are also doing our best to assess and track expenditures for potential reimbursement. In technology, we had previous significant investments made, whereas colleagues across the Metro and State are scrambling to acquire technology and the infrastructure to support. We are well-equipped in this way. We also have a central distribution center and bus garage to coordinate multiple distribution points.
- Director Marchese noted that he shares the appreciation for the presentation, and also shares concerns, questions, and hopes for community engagement and building-level engagement. Its going to look different.
- With some legal and funding changes with the COVID crisis from the federal and state government, provided different or new revenue or sources of opportunity to move sources around? Is there a sense of that based on what is currently in law and how it may impact the district? Response: There is some information we haven't received a lot yet at the state level. There's some memo about today about more direction. The stimulus information we haven't received our information on allocation. It will act similar to what districts receive for Title 1 allocation process. The funding won't necessarily be under the guidelines of Title 1, and we will continue to monitor and give updates as we receive more information and on the allocation process.
- It sounds like a potential for additional revenue based on stimulus and state legislature actions. Hope there will be an opportunity to leverage funding sources partly for the costs incurred for making the transition to distance learned, and related costs to being closed. Question around pay for hourly employees and legislative efforts to make that work easier to handle financially.
- Another question is the commitments that are a part of the contract settlement with SPFE. Where does that factor into the presentation and its impacts. Response: We are in the process of continuing to analyze the impacts. Going into negotiations, we stated that we did not have net new money to invest in contract settlements, and therefore, anything we do will be repurposing of resources that we currently have in this budget. That is our task right now in this process.
- Director Marchese noted that it is important we are clear with the community about those impacts of these choices so folks understand that every time there is a choice, it's going to impact something else in our budget. These choices have a real effect on individuals and effect on the district and things we want to do. There are trade offs and reasons to do things, and important for folks because this discussion around priorities was not necessarily incorporated into the contract

negotiations. Important to understand that one area is saying one thing, and another is saying another thing, and the way those different areas intersect is budget. It needs to resolve these conflicts or compromises to be made. As much as we can be clear about them and make them clear moving forward. Response: There will be a full report of that information provided in the details of the reports.

- Director Ellis requested more information on the multi-year budget. Response: Once we are at the place of this budget close to adoption, we will provide a multi-year financial plan. We are still working on that plan in this process. These numbers will be a baseline for future years. Initially we were going to utilize these numbers to have a multi-year plan, and due to changes, including with the recent negotiations, those will have a long-term effect on any multi-year projections.
- In talking about the realigned federal funds to priorities, where did they go previously? It will be helpful to be more specific about where we were allocating them before now that we're realigning them to help fund priorities in the strategic plan. Response: The outline used for school supports office and Restorative Practices and social-emotional learning work, as well as with College and Career and supports counseling. Also for our health program, social studies, and indigeonus world languages staff. It does create a well-rounded instructional program with staffing and curriculum, professional development, and the work of Seals for our ELL students. It also allows us to organize around PAR and achievement of tenure. These are important dolalrs that go a long way in our district on behalf of students and families.
- Within Title 2 and Title 4, the category of Academics was mentioned. What does that mean specifically? Response: In Title 2, there was some carryover funding in professional development for staff. We're utilizing that to align some of the professional development that we already do in the district. It's more focused around areas such as technology, infrastructure and well-rounded education. Last year, there was an allocation that arrived late, and this aligns well with SPPS Achieves, especially in areas with instructional priorities.
- In years past principals were provided a toolkit to help with budget conversations. How much of the previous toolkit is still usable and what needs to change? Response: Principals will receive their school toolkits to provide details in presenting to their staff and community. We had hoped to provide an allocation resource guide, and with the limited time, it will be more of a "cheat sheet" and information to Frequently Asked Questions. They will also be tasked with conducting engagement or presentation. We have always prepared a toolkit for them and have updated it each year to make it relevant; the toolkit is updated each year because things do change each year.
- Director Brodrick noted that in his linear thinking, we are at the point of transition between Step 3 and Step 4 where we have done a great deal of work to identify priorities from the stakeholder, and now, turning those priorities over to the buildings. Because of the delay of current events, have we been able to transition between Steps 3 and 4 as we would have liked to? He also noted similar concerns about community engagement. How has this delay impacted the ability of us to be able to move to the position of telling buildings what we have and the toolkit? Response: As we have been working forward, we have also been working on the past year in final audited numbers and to close the books on the previous year to know how much to spend and moved through negotiations. There will be a balanced budget in June. Buildings know there have been delays for many reasons, and they also know the team will stand behind them and with help form the toolkit. We also have deadlined with Human Resources to ensure hiring is complete and need to be committed to make effective staffing decisions and look toward hiring our next group of educators in SPPS. Chief Watkins then shared information about buildings and staffing reports at the building level. At the end of this month, buildings will begin to look at staffing reports and allocation needs and start to map out staffing allocations based on grade

level and content areas. They will then use that as a conversation with building leadership about program offerings, electives and bring it all together with help from assistant superintendents, and members of the Finance team to ensure their reports are aligned and cross-reference with initiatives through the Division of Academics. They will then have a final review with their assistant superintendent and submit them by the mid-May deadline.

- What should board members be thinking about and doing in order to help Administration and the tremendous number of people in this District around the budget so it is ready by June 30th? Response: We will be providing another budget update at the regular meeting on April 21st with a more detailed budget report and allocations, as well as board sessions where there will be detailed reports provided and allocations for schools and programs, and an overall summary of the budget. We ask that you review reports with us, provide feedback and relay the information and feedback from community. We will also be posting information to be transparent with the process and budget. Let Administration know what you are hearing throughout the community.
- Director Brodrick thanked everyone for the presentation and responses. He needed this assurance that we are moving along on the budget, especially during these trying times.
- Director Foster noted the emphasis on community engagement. She is glad to hear what is happening, during this time of change as things move swiftly. We need to not talk about what we cannot do - but to think about and do what we can and be creative and look forward to best meeting those needs. She thanked everyone for their work and responsiveness.
- Superintendent Gothard thanked everyone for their work in our first video meeting and thanked our Communications team. They have been tasked with being the absolute front lines for the district from what we are doing with meetings, to communicating information in multiple languages and requests from staff. He appreciated the work and clarified expectations to continue to work together with staff. There are regular daily check-ins for the leadership team where information is shared. This discussion tonight was helpful. He also thanked the entire community. Feedback has been powerful and clear. This district has risen above and beyond expectations by many, and he is proud to be the superintendent of SPPS.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Director Foster also welcomed SEAB Member Kalid Ali. He went on to provide an update on the work of SEAB. These tough times bring the community together as one and SEAB is looking to help. They held their first virtual meeting and talked about ways to help and stay in touch with board members and provide insights of students. They also discussed next year's recruitment style and work around that. SEAB Member Ali also provided a recap of his time at the capital with another SEAB member and working with representatives and Justice Page and his proposed constitutional amendment. They are passionate about helping to promote it. They are also interested in a way to help the legislative representatives and the District find a way to establish communication with the capital and vice versa.

Director Brodrick thanked everyone, and is proud to be a part of SPPS, just as Superintendent Gothard is proud to be the Superintendent of SPPS.

Director Xiong extended thanks to all staff, educators, principals, department staff and leadership, as well as our parents and community partners, local restaurants and our community for investing in technology and our students. Because we are prepared now more than ever in response to this unexpected situation we are experiencing. She also thanked her colleagues on the Board for serving and being a leader in their city. She also thanked Superintendent Gothard and SEAB members, and all students. They are the reason we are here and our reason for this work. We love our students and are in this work together - we

will learn and be a better school district from all of this. One of our strengths will be online learning, and will be a strength to carry forward. She thanked everyone for their work and is so grateful to the community that she is a part of, and Administration and Superintendent. There are great and talented people who show up virtually for our students and families.

Director Allen also thanked staff, teachers, paraprofessionals and principals working in this new system and leading groups, as well as everyone leading on the ground, including maintenance engineers, bus drivers. She recounted when she would tell staff in buildings to “be funnier than YouTube”, and has seen great things from classrooms and heard stories from listening to students. Things are changing, including shifting mindset of what is important - spending time with family, parents, and stepping up to support kids in new ways. Watching the community come together to ensure our community members have food, and seeing the City and County step up and the State to support in many ways to remain safe and recognizing that we are all making a sacrifice is staying home. This is big and we should all be proud because it will make an impact against COVID-19 and in our world.

Director Kopp thanked everyone. This is transformational work happening in communities. One of the favorite things is how families are enjoying the experience of being with their children and learning with them and alongside them. Teachers are reaching out and connecting in new ways. She is experiencing this as a board member and a parent in distance learning, and knows how it feels when teachers reach out and students see their classmates. It’s amazing to see what is possible. She is grateful for the families that have reached out, community shows how connected we are and need each other now more than ever. This is how we get things done - by doing them together. She is so proud to be on this board, and to work alongside leaders and staff. We are showing up for each other and appreciate each and every person in the community and we will get through this.

Director Marchese echoed his colleagues. He also recognized our Superintendent who came through a difficult negotiation process and, literally, had to go right into the process of planning for the COVID-19 crisis. There has been such amazing work done and appreciates the support and flexibility from Administration to families and students. He appreciated the ability to be focused on the long-term, in a methodical nature, stability, and willingness to make calls and take heat. It makes a difference to have a good leader in this state, and also thanked the Governor. That’s what leadership should look like and in this crisis, we need that more than ever. He thanked the Board and folks supporting the District, families and student for their flexibility. Crises create opportunities and we are learning that right now.

Director Ellis noted that everyone has said great things. She noted she is sporting a Hazel Park shirt that says “we’re better together.” She has been missing being in buildings and seeing and engaging with our students and staff. SPPS will be better and we are doing all things to get to that place. We are better together.

Director Foster noted three things - leadership matters, heroes walk among us, and continue to spread positivity and hope. We are fortunate to have a governor, mayor and superintendent who have jumped into this process. We have leaders that are getting meals to families and ensuring online learning is happening; leaders who are delivering wifi to families. Community members who are stepping up and Saint Paul Strong is happening. Leaders have emerged. Heros live among us and step up when they are seeing unmet needs in the community and help. Continue to do that and continue to share the work of folks doing that. People need to know they are valued. As previously stated by other members of this board, we need to look at what we value in SPPS, in our Saint Paul community, and seeing that in every moment of the day as we move forward. In thinking about hope and positivity, continue to spread those,

and through engaging with people online, stay positive and engage with people. It's amazing to see our students and community make fun from boredom, fear, and confusion. Continue to reach out and to reach out to others who will bring you up.

Superintendent Gothard closed by reiterating the headline "SPPS superintendent proud of District's distance learning development and implementation." He appreciates the support from the Board and team. He noted he appreciated the meeting with video and it's good to be back in the work we are here to do.

**Director Foster moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Marchese seconded the motion.**

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Foster	Yes
Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Xiong	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Marchese	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the original Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by:

Sarah Dahlke

Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education