

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2711
MESABI EAST SCHOOLS
AURORA, MN 55705**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 4, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chair, Walt Hautala at 5:30 p.m. on March 4, 2024 in the Board Room (204) with the following in answer to roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Directors Justin Adams, Chris Baudhuin, Walt Hautala, Pamela LaFrenier, Superintendent Burgess

Absent: Directors Amanda Gross, Kathy Undeland

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL: Moved by Director Baudhuin, seconded by Director LaFrenier to approve the agenda as presented.

All in favor---Motion passed.

DISTRICT PATRON AND VISITOR COMMENTS: American Indian Parents Advisory Committee

Consent Agenda: Moved by Director Baudhuin, seconded by Director LaFrenier to approve the consent agenda as presented: Payrolls and Bills in the amount of \$1,688,953; Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2024.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Non-Renewal of Probationary Teacher: Member LaFrenier introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT
OF ALLI SEPPALA A PROBATIONARY TEACHER**

WHEREAS, Alli Seppala, is a probationary teacher in Independent School District No. 2711.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2711, that, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 5, the teaching contract of Alli Seppala, a

probationary teacher in and of Independent School District No. 2711, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and non-renewal of her contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE as provided by law and statute, and that notice be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL**

Ms. Alli Seppala

Dear Ms. Seppala:

You are hereby notified that at a Regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. #2711 held on March 4, 2024, a resolution was adopted by a majority vote to terminate your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE with the school district at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and not to renew your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE for the 2024-2025 school year. Said action of the board was taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

You may officially request that the school board give its reasons for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. For your information, however, this action was taken because of the financial condition of the school district and decrease in enrollment.

Yours very truly,

Pamela LaFrenier
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #2711

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Hautala and upon the vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Director Baudhuin, Director Hautala, Director LaFrenier, Director Adams

and the following voted against the same: None.

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Chairperson

Clerk

Non-Renewal of Probationary Teacher: Member Baudhuin introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT**

OF SAMANTHA WARREN, A PROBATIONARY TEACHER

WHEREAS, Samantha Warren, is a probationary teacher in Independent School District No. 2711.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2711, that, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 5, the teaching contract of Samantha Warren, a probationary teacher in and of Independent School District No. 2711, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and non-renewal of her contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE as provided by law and statute, and that notice be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL**

Ms. Samantha Warren

Dear Ms. Warren:

You are hereby notified that at a Regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. #2711 held on March 4, 2024, a resolution was adopted by a majority vote to terminate your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE with the school district at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and not to renew your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE for the 2024-2025 school year. Said action of the board was taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

You may officially request that the school board give its reasons for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. For your information, however, this action was taken because of the financial condition of the school district and decrease in enrollment.

Yours very truly,

Pamela LaFrenier
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #2711

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Adams and upon the vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Director Hautala, Director LaFrenier, Director Adams, Baudhuin

and the following voted against the same: None.

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Chairperson

Clerk

Non-Renewal of Probationary Teacher: Member LaFrenier introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT
OF JODI BARKDOLL, A PROBATIONARY TEACHER**

WHEREAS, Jodie Barkdoll, is a probationary teacher in Independent School District No. 2711.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2711, that, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 5, the teaching contract of Jodi Barkdoll, a probationary teacher in and of Independent School District No. 2711, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and non-renewal of her contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE as provided by law and statute, and that notice be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL**

Ms. Jodi Barkdoll

Dear Ms. Barkdoll:

You are hereby notified that at a Regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. #2711 held on March 4, 2024, a resolution was adopted by a majority vote to terminate your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE with the school district at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and not to renew your contract to the extent of 1.00 FTE for the 2024-2025 school year. Said action of the board was taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

You may officially request that the school board give its reasons for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. For your information, however, this action was taken because of the financial condition of the school district and decrease in enrollment.

Yours very truly,

Pamela LaFrenier
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #2711

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Hautala and upon the vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Director LaFrenier, Director Adams, Director Baudhuin, Director Hautala

and the following voted against the same: None.

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Chairperson

Clerk

Non-Renewal of Probationary Teacher: Member Hautala introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT
OF SAVANNAH OSELAND, A PROBATIONARY TEACHER**

WHEREAS, Savannah Oseland, is a probationary teacher in Independent School District No. 2711.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2711, that, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 5, the teaching contract of Savannah Oseland a probationary teacher in and of Independent School District No. 2711, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and non-renewal of her contract to the extent of .50 FTE as provided by law and statute, and that notice be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL**

Ms. Savannah Oseland

Dear Ms. Oseland:

You are hereby notified that at a Regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. #2711 held on March 4, 2024, a resolution was adopted by a majority vote to terminate your contract to the extent of .50 FTE with the school district at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and not to renew your contract to the extent of .50 FTE for the 2024-2025 school year. Said action of the board was taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

You may officially request that the school board give its reasons for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. For your information, however, this action was taken because of the financial condition of the school district and decrease in enrollment.

Yours very truly,

Pamela LaFrenier
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #2711

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Baudhuin and upon the vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Director Adams, Director Baudhuin, Director Hautala, Director LaFrenier

and the following voted against the same: None.

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Chairperson

Clerk

2024-2025 School Calendar: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director LaFrenier to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar as presented.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Payroll and Benefits Manager Assignment: Moved by Director Baudhuin, seconded by Director LaFrenier to assign Bobbi Thuringer as Payroll and Benefits Manager, step 3 effective March 18, 2024.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Spring Coaching Recommendations: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director Baudhuin to approve the following coaches for the 2023-2024 spring sports season: Tom Gustafson, Volunteer Golf Coach; Connor Matschiner, JH B/G Track Coach; Abigail Larson; Volunteer Track Coach.

All in favor---Motion passed.

eLearning Days Plan: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Adams to approve the eLearning Days Plan for school year 2024-2025 and beyond.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Cheerleading Advisor Resignation: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Hautala to accept the resignation of Coni Erickson as Head Cheer Advisor effective March 11, 2024 with appreciation.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Adams to approve an unpaid medical leave for an employee effective March 4, 2024 until May 1, 2024.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Youth Activities Coordinator Agreement: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director Baudhuin to approve the Youth Activities Coordinator Agreement for 2023-2025 as presented.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Mechanic/Bus Driver Hire: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Adams to approve Eric Spaulding as Mechanic/Bus Driver, full-time, Step 0 effective March 6, 2024.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Elementary 504 Coordinator Hire: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Baudhuin to approve Janel Scheuring as Elementary 504 Coordinator.

All in favor---Motion passed.

High School 504 Coordinator Hire: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director LaFrenier to approve Lauren Prophet as High School 504 Coordinator.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Donations Accepted: Moved by Director Adams, seconded by Director Baudhuin to accept the following donations: Monetary donation of \$75 earmarked for Creative Hearts Class; Monetary donation of \$250 earmarked for Creative Hearts Class; Monetary donation of \$3,030 earmarked for the following: \$500 for I Love to Read, \$230 for 3rd Grade Planter Project, \$800 for Youth In Action Food Pantry, \$1,500 for the Class of 2025.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Resolution Relating to the Northland Learning Center Building: Member LaFrenier introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Mesabi East School Board approves staying with Northland Learning Center Special Education Coop, and gives the Superintendent the authority to continue the discussion and selection of the best building option with the NLC Coop. Board to allow under new legislation to levy up to \$65 per pupil unit for coop facility projects.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Baudhuin.

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor:

Director Baudhuin, Director Hautala, Director LaFrenier, Director Adams

and the following voted against: None.

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Chairperson

Clerk

REPORTS: Under Separate Cover.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Regular Board Meeting – Monday, April 8, 2024 - 5:30 p.m. – Board Room (204)

Adjournment: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Adams to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.

All in favor---Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Chair

Clerk