

Minutes for June 21, 2023 Regular School Board Meeting

Chair Feia called the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM in the meeting room.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Sarah Binek, Ed Feia, Rob Knettel, and Pat Meier.

Member absent: Elissa Ebnet and Lori Opatz.

Also attending was: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Garrity Gerber, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Secondary Principal Tim Wege, Kristina Clem, Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka, and Hans Lammeman from Star Publications.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Knettel, second by Martini, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 7.3. correction Halvorson; 7.12. Correction retirement; 6.10. Approve the Sale of 2019 Wacker Neuson SW20 Skid Steer Loader; and 6.11. Approval to adopt the revisions policies. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the May 17th School Board Meeting; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$412,991.10. Computer checks approved #54188 through #54380 and #30626 through #30643 in the amount of \$9,263.03; approval of the electronic transfer for May 2023, \$1,752,725.64; acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$6,411,652.64; called for a Special Closed meeting to follow the July 19, 2023 Regular Board Meeting; hired Michael Lehner for a Summer Cleaner; hired Tara Wolford for Summer Painter; approve lane change for Nathan Anderson from BS to BS10 Step 4 to be effective at the start of the 2023-2024 school year; approve lane change for Lydia Sailor from BS to BS10 Step 5 to be effective at the start of the 2023-2024 school year; accept the following donations: PTA donated \$600 to Com. Ed. for Summer VEX Robotics Camp; \$300 to FFA from FFA alumni; \$5,000 from Swim team parents, coaches various community members and Melrose Feed to Swim team for Starting Blocks; \$7,000 from MN Twins to athletics for BaseBall Field Modifications; \$1,250 from John, Tom, Dave, and Henry Blattner. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Binek, Feia, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously. The Board thanked the Donors for their generosity!

Chair Feia welcomed fellow board members, administration, staff and guests.

Citizen Participation: None

Reports

Superintendent Swenson reported the gym project phase one is complete, he thanked Mr. Tim Wege Interim High School Principal for doing a great job this past school year. The Board also added their gratitude to Mr. Wege.

Elementary Principal Jim Stang thanked the entire staff for a great school year, he talked about the sub shortage and is excited for summer school to begin. Mr. Stang also thanked Ms. Gerads for getting the summer library program up and running.

Secondary Principal Tim Wege reported graduation went well, disciplinary reports are complete, scheduling is complete, and they moved up close to the MCA Math 11 goal.

Kristina Clem reported on Summer School.

Mr. Swenson reported on the BSED meeting where discussion on facilities and year end refunding was discussed.

Business Manager Garrity Gerber reported expenses are trending on track, he is navigating through the new unemployment legislation and end of school year work.

Business Items:

Motion by Knettel, second by Martini, to adopt the Resolution Establishing Dates For Filing Affidavits of Candidacy For The Office Of School Board Member. The dates are Aug. 1-15, 2023 with a filing fee of \$2 and completed in the District Office. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Binek, Feia, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Martini, second by Meier, to adopt the 2023-2024 Resolution For Membership In The Minnesota State High School League. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Binek, Feia, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to adopt the Resolution Certifying The Population Estimate For The 2023 Payable 2024 Levy Of Independent School District #738. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Binek, Feia, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Swenson explained the new legislation requiring a licensed teacher media position. Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve adding a Media Center And Tech Specialist - Full Time (1.0 FTE) Position. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Gerber presented the budget summary for FY 23-24. Motion by Meier, second by Binek, to approve the proposed FY 23-24 budget. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Gerber summarized the District LTFM Plan. Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to adopt the School Board Resolution of ISD 738 Adopting The School District's Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Ten-Year Plan. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Binek, Feia, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gerber explained that the District went out for bid and the current carrier came in with the lowest bid. Motion by Meier, second by Binek, to enter into an agreement with Madison National Life for Group Life and Long Term Disability Insurance coverage starting 9/1/2023 for a period of no less than 3 years but no longer than 5 years. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Gerber explained the District went out for bid for property and liability insurance and EMC came in with the low bid. Motion by Binek, second by Martini, to change carrier for property and liability insurance from Markel/Wright Specialty Insurance to EMC. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson explained the LMC/weight room project and the recommendation to transition the weightroom to the media center and media center to the weightroom. Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the project to carpet the existing weight room and replace an exterior door with the intent of transitioning this space to become a new library space. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve the Sale of 2019 Wacker Neuson SW20 Skid Steer Loader to Bruce Warga for \$27,550.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Superintendent Swenson reviewed the revisions of each policy and entertained questions. Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to adopt the revisions required by state to the following policies as presented. Policy 102 Equal Education

Opportunity; Policy 418 Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School; Policy 419 Tobacco-Free Environment; Policy 424 License Status; Policy 425 Staff Development; Policy 507 Corporal Punishment and *Prone Restraint*; Policy 509 Enrollment of Nonresidential Students; Policy 513 Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design; Policy 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy; Policy 516.5 Overdose Medication (NEW); Policy 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy; Policy 532 Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams; Policy 601 School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals; Policy 602 Organization of School Calendar and School Day; Policy 603 Curriculum Development; Policy 604 Instructional Curriculum; Policy 613 Graduation Requirements; Policy 616 School District System Accountability; Policy 617 School District Ensurance of Standards; Policy 618 Assessment of Student Achievement; Policy 708 Transportation of Nonpublic School Students; Policy 709 Student Transportation Safety Policy; Policy 806 Crisis Management Policy; Policy 506 Student Discipline and Policy 620 Credit for Learning were removed for further review at next meeting. Motion carried. AIF.

Personnel:

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to hire Jennifer Meemken for the Elementary Social Worker position for the 2023-2024 school year at BS Step 14. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek to hire Dan Huls for a Bus Driver position. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to hire Patty Jo Halvorson for a Summer Kids' Zone Assistant with Para pay and a start date of June 5, 2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Binek, second by Martini, to hire Marie Streit for a Summer Kids' Zone Assistant with Para pay and a start date of June 5, 2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to hire Abby Lambert for a Summer Kids' Zone Assistant at a wage of \$15.25/hr and a start date of June 12, 2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Meier, to hire Summer 2023 Com. Ed. Instructors as presented. Motion carried. AIF with Feia abstaining.

Motion by Binek, second by Martini, to accept the resignation from Food Service Employee Doreen Platz effective 5/31/2023. Motion carried. AIF and many thanks for her 26 years of service with the District!

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to accept the resignation from Food Service Employee Carol Hellmann effective 5/31/2023. Motion carried. AIF and many thanks for her 17 years of service with the District!

Motion by Binek, second by Meier, to accept the resignation from Para Amy Lanners effective 5/31/2023. Motion carried. AIF and many thanks for her service with the District!

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to accept the resignation from Elementary SPED Teacher Kristina Clem contingent on the approval of a proposed contract by the School Board of ROCORI. Mr. Stang spoke highly of Ms. Clem and wished her well in her next chapter. The Board also wished Ms. Clem well and thanked her for her years with the District. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to hire Anna Christensen, Teresa Hansen and Lori Arceneau for Summer School Paras. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Binek, second by Knettel, to accept retirement resignation from Mary Heitzman with her last day being 5/31/2023. Motion carried. AIF and many thanks for her 22 years of service with the District!

Ms. Clem presented Ms. Jacob's credentials and highlighted what she will bring to the Summer School Program. Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to hire Leah Jacobs for an additional Summer School Teacher. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the Joint Powers Agreement for the Police Liaison Officer Program between Stearns County and ISD 738 for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$25,500.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Stang recommended Ms. Taylor Gerads for the Elementary SPED position. Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to hire Taylor Gerads for Elementary SPED Teacher position at BS Step 5. Motion carried. AIF. The Board welcomed Ms. Gerads!

A review of the upcoming meeting dates took place.

School Board Closed Meeting following the June 21, 2023 Board Meeting

No July Work Session

School Board Meeting July 19, 2023 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

School Board Closed Meeting following the July 19, 2023 Board Meeting

Adjourn

Agenda completed at 7:37 PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Meier and seconded by Binek. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by

Clerk Patrick Meier