

Minutes for January 8, 2020 Organizational School Board Meeting

Acting Chair Christensen called the Organizational meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM in the LMC.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ed Feia, Ben Christensen, Lori Opatz, Robb Knettel, Pat Meier and Student Rep Spencer Trobec.

Members absent: None

Also attending was: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Secondary Principal Angela Safran, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Business Manager Beth Heinze, and Luke Selken with ICS.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New Board Members Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Lori Opatz and Robb Knettel took the Oath of Office.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 8.0. approval of change orders and 9.1. approval of retirement/resignation from Julie Primus. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Acting Chair Christensen called for nominations for Chairperson. Meier nominated Christensen, no other nominations were received. Acting Chair Christensen moved nominations be closed. Christensen is the only candidate nominated for the office of chair, and I hereby declare him elected by acclamation and direct the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Christensen named Chairperson.

Chair Christensen called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson, Christensen nominated Meier, no other nominations were received. Chair Christensen moved nominations be closed, Meier is the only candidate nominated for the office of vice-chair, and I hereby declare him elected by acclamation and direct the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Meier named Vice-Chairperson.

Chair Christensen called for nominations for Clerk, Feia nominated Martini, no other nominations were received, Chair Christensen moved nominations be closed, Martini is the only candidate nominated for the office of clerk and I hereby declare her elected by acclamation and direct the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Martini named Clerk.

Chair Christensen called for nominations for Treasurer, Christensen nominated Feia, no other nominations were received, Chair Christensen moved nominations be closed, Feia, is the only candidate nominated for the office of Treasurer, and I hereby declare him elected by acclamation and direct the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Feia named Treasurer.

Motion by Feia to set the 2020 school board meeting calendar as presented time and location as follows: Meetings will begin at 6:00 PM, unless otherwise noted or publicized. Meetings will be held in the High School LMC. Meet and Confer meetings are at 3:15 PM, in the boardroom & Work Sessions are at 6:00 PM in the boardroom, second by Ebnet. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to retain the board salary as follows: \$50 for regular, special and committee meetings; \$75 for out of district meetings, and \$75 for meetings that exceed 6 hours in length; Chair \$250/year, Clerk \$80/year, Treasurer \$80/year. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Meier, to set the mileage rate at 57.5 cents as established by the federal reimbursement rate while using own vehicle on school business. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to retain the Albany Enterprise as the official newspaper. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Meier, to retain Stearns Bank Holdingford, MN Trust, and Minnesota School District Liquid Assets Fund (MSDLAF), and that the Superintendent/Business Manager are authorized to make deposits in official depositories. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to allow the use of facsimile board signatures affixed by computer on payroll and disbursement checks. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to name district administrative assistant as clerk's designee for routine school duties and handling election duties. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Opatz, to authorize the superintendent to sign/renew contracts and service agreements in amounts up to \$20,000. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Ebnet, to authorize the business manager as treasurer's designee for routine duties including investments and electronic transfers. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to approve providing meals, coffee, and light refreshments to visitors. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to authorize board chair and superintendent to be exclusive contacts with district counsel and to use one firm. Tom Jovanovich, Attorney. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to participate in Title Programs I, II, and IV. The superintendent is the LEA representative for the programs. The elementary principal is authorized as the contact person. Motion carried. AIF.

Board committee assignments were discussed and tabled until the February meeting.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to approve the consent agenda. Items in consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from Dec. 18th School Board Meeting; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$320,800.39--. Computer checks approved #83645 through #83799; approval of the electronic transfer for Dec. 2019, \$1,734,077.30; approval of Policies 419, 421, 510, 516 and 524; also annual review of Policy 806. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Luke Selken with ICS updated the Board on the building projects. He reported the footings have all been poured for the classroom addition and the walls will start going up. The west wall of the high school will be removed and excavating will start to prepare for the footings. Mr. Selken summarized the change orders needed due to meeting codes and some unforeseen circumstances.

Superintendent Swenson reported the furniture is being finalized for the classrooms, offices and commons/entrance areas. He informed the Board that the track needs a full replacement and costs are being

sought. Mr. Swenson also updated the board on implementing Flexible Learning Days, Portrait of a Graduate process, and talked about MSBA conference format for new board members.

Student Rep. Spencer Trobec reported the biology classes had an awesome field trip to the Science Museum to see the Body World RX Exhibit prior to winter break. He updated the board on Girls and Boys Basketball, Wrestling, Knowledge Bowl, Business Club's morning sale and valentine sale, Student Council events Semi Formal Dance and Blood Drive coming up on Feb. 21st. Mr. Trobec also talked about a Job Fair the Leadership Council is working on and planning to present to students in grades five and six.

Secondary Principal Ms. Safran reported preparations for the end of quarter two and Semester one are taking place including AIMSWEB testing to obtain the benchmark data for math and language arts. She is continuing with teacher evaluations and preparing registration materials for next year. Ms. Safran explained that the upcoming Academy Inservice Day will be very beneficial for teachers to obtain some of the additional components required to meet the Cultural Competency requirement for teacher licensing. She also informed the board they are welcoming five student teachers who will be starting next semester. Testing prep for the MTAS/MCA is being worked on, testing will begin in March. 56 of 94 juniors are registered to take the ACT test and staff will be asked to complete the MCA test security training soon.

Elementary Principal Mr. Stang reported winter AIMSWEB testing is taking place for winter benchmarking, the elementary also has several student teachers starting next semester, and he is working on observations, para evaluations, and the ADSIS application. Mr. Stang informed the board that he is coordinating the process to obtain the validation for a School of Excellence.

Business Manager Ms. Heinze reported minimum wage has been raised to \$10.00/hr, Star reporting is complete, submitted and she is waiting for the state turnaround reports. The Business office is working on end of calendar year things including W2's, 1095s for the affordable care act. She is also working on budget revisions for this year and starting the 2020-2021 budget.

Business Items:

Motion by Feia, second by Meier, to approve the Building Project Change Orders not to exceed \$78,267 as presented. Motion carried. AIF.

The meeting continued with the first reading of Policy 616 School District System Accountability. The Advisory Committee provisions have been updated. This policy will be on for approval at the February meeting.

Motion by Opatz, second by Ebnet, to approve the District Certified Staff Seniority list for 2019-2020 as presented. AIF. Motion carried.

Motion by Meier, second by Opatz, to approve the contract for \$1,800 with Mahowald Insurance for compliance support and value added services. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson explained that MSBA is looking for support to lobby against bills to restrict local decision-making. Motion by Meier, second by Feia to pass and adopt the Local Control Resolution. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Mr. Stang thanked Ms. Primus for her years with the District and added she has been a phenomenal speech clinician and has an incredible ability to teach speech!

Motion by Feia, second by Opatz, to accept retirement resignation from Julie Primus, Speech/Language Pathologist effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried. AIF. The Board thanked Ms. Primus for her 31 years with the District!

A review of the upcoming meeting/event dates took place.

Husker Athletic Booster Club Annual Appreciation Gathering Jan. 18, 2020.

Work Session Feb. 5th, 2020, 6:00 PM in the Board Room

Meet & Confer Feb. 19th, 2020, 3:15 PM in the Board Room

Regular Board meeting Feb. 19st, 2020, 6:00 PM in the LMC

Adjourn

Agenda completed at 7:00PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Feia, second by Knettel. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk

Evelyn Martini