

Regular Meeting  
Board of Education  
Independent School District #300  
September 24, 2014

Chair Jandt called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District #300 to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle & High School Media Center.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Roll call was taken by Member Wright in Clerk Nissen's absence.

Board Present: Jandt, Wright, Morken, Tornow, Dockendorff, Summerfield, and Superintendent Wilke

Board Absent: Nissen

Administration Present: Julie Holman, Business Manager, Jay Woller, Elementary Principal, Steve Smith, Middle School Principal, Rick Wolter, High School Principal, and Beth Theede, Community Education Director

MOTION: Summerfield moved, Wright seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Education Director Beth Theede and Volunteer Susan Oddsen provided a showcase on the Elementary School gardens, including the creation of five, raised vegetable beds, the incorporation of classroom and student involvement in planting, care and harvesting, and proposed future plans for the offering. A video of this summer's activity followed.

Student Council Member Andrew Heiden provided the student report in the absence of Student Board Representative Allie Stoeffler. He noted that it was Homecoming Week with daily activities, including a boys volleyball game, a football game and crowning of the king and queen on Friday, and a dance on Saturday night. The overall purpose of the week was to promote school spirit.

Rick Bubbers addressed the Board with thoughts and questions relevant to the proposed building bond plans and special election scheduled for January 6, 2015.

MOTION: Morken moved, Summerfield seconded, to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. School Board Minutes
  - August 20, 2014, Regular Meeting
  - September 3, 2014, Work Session
- B. September, 2014 Bills Due for Payment
- C. Staff Resignation
  - Kari Blum - Assistant Cook Manager – Effective 9/1/14.
  - Ryan Tienhaara - Girls 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Coach – Effective immediately.
- D. Staff Employment

- Jason Ludwigson - Technology Integration Specialist - Replacement
- Jean Lensing - Custodian – 4.75 hrs/day – Replacement
- Tara Grattan - Paraprofessional – Increase of .5 hr/day – Replacement Position
- Erin Kappers - Math Teacher – 1.0 FTE – Replacement
- Brittany Schilla - Social Studies Teacher – Long Term Sub – 9/2/14 – 10/22/14
- Laura Selke - Paraprofessional – Increase of 20 hrs/week – New Position
- Astri Runnigen - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – New Position
- Ryan Vinzant - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – New Position Assistant Football Coach – Replacement
- Kevin Lindh - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – Replacement
- Deanne Webber - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – Replacement
- Tammy Schmitz - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – New Position
- Cindy Gross - Paraprofessional – 7 hrs/day – New Position
- Paul McCormick III - Computer/Network Technician - Replacement
- E. Medical Leave of Absence
- Rose Albrecht - Food Service Employee – Beginning immediately thru the remainder of the 2014/15 school year.

F. Electronic Transfers

Bills & Payrolls

|  |           |                  |
|--|-----------|------------------|
| August 7 Health EFT                    |           | \$136,528        |
| August 15 Payroll (gross)              | \$169,700 | (net) \$ 73,515  |
| August 29 Payroll (gross)              | \$330,784 | (net) \$189,951  |
| August Bills                           |           | \$513,562        |
| August 15 Fed/FICA/Med Withholding Tax |           | \$ 46,030        |
| August 30 Fed/FICA/Med Withholding Tax |           | \$ 66,037        |
| August 15 MN Withholding               |           | \$ 7,626         |
| August 30 MN Withholding               |           | <u>\$ 10,741</u> |
| Total                                  |           | \$1,043,990      |

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke introduced Resolution 14:08 Combining Polling Places and Precincts for the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Special Election. He advised past stand-alone elections utilized two polls with combined precincts and recommended that format be used for the January election.

MOTION: Summerfield moved, Dockendorff seconded, to adopt Resolution 14:08 Combining Precincts as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Julie Holman discussed the proposed 2015 property tax levy. She recommended the levy be certified at the maximum proposed for all areas of the allowable levies to allow for the inclusion of any changes and/or adjustments that may occur before final certification in December. The proposed 2015 levy is \$2,415,835, which is a 9.48% increase over the payable 2014 levy.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Wright seconded, to approve the proposed 2015 of \$2,415,835 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke referenced a letter from High School Principal Rick Wolter indicating his intent to retire at the end of the 2014/15 school year, allowing the District time to search for a suitable replacement. He advised that Mr. Wolter has held the position of HS Principal for 30 years, 18 in our District, and that he has been highly respected throughout the years for his commitment to the students. Superintendent Wilke thanked him on behalf of the School District, community and students for his many years of service.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Wright seconded, to accept the retirement of Rick Wolter as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke presented the proposed 2014/15 agreement with Winona State University for District teachers working on special assignment (TOSA), utilized for the past several years. The Joint Powers TOSA Agreement documents the expectations and reimbursement for District staff working on special assignments. A portion of the employment of Band/Music Instructor Jeff Copp is assigned to the TOSA agreement.

MOTION: Morken moved, Wright seconded, to approve the 2014/15 Joint Powers TOSA (Teachers on Special Assignment) Agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Julie Holman presented a Purchase of Service agreement with the Montessori Academy for speech and language services provided to them by District staff for the 2014/15 school year. The services for this year are estimated at 150 hours or \$6762, with the Academy billed monthly for actual hours worked, plus mileage.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Summerfield seconded, to approve the 2014/15 Purchase of Service Agreement with the Montessori Academy for speech and language services, with additional background information to be provided as requested.

Discussion followed on the basis of the costs billed and whether consideration should be given to increasing the costs billed back to the Academy for administration of the services.

A call of the motion followed:

Voting Yes: Morken, Wright, Jandt, Dockendorff, and Summerfield

Voting No: Tornow

Motion carried.

Questions and discussion continued along the line of recovering administrative costs with a request made to administration to research similar service provisions by surrounding districts.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Morken seconded, to rescind the previous motion and table it for 30 days to obtain additional information. Motion carried unanimously.

The proposed Purchase of Service Agreement with the Hiawatha Valley Education District for Speech and Language services was provided by Business Manager Julie Holman. She noted that it is the same type of service discussed in the previous agenda item and assumed consideration of this item would also be extended to the next meeting.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Tornow seconded, to table the 2014/15 Purchase of Service Agreement for Speech and Language services with the Hiawatha Valley Education District until the October meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The fiscal year 2014 agreement with the Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center for the provision of day treatment services for our District was reviewed by Business Manager Julie Holman. The approximate costs are \$11,700, which is the same as the previous rate. It was noted that there are few programs available to provide this treatment that do not involve transportation costs.

MOTION: Summerfield moved, Wright seconded, to approve the agreement with Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Day Treatment Services for fiscal year 2014 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

High School Principal Rick Wolter addressed a request by Band Director Jeff Copp for approval of a proposed high school band trip to Orlando, Florida, March 22-30, 2015. He noted that MCA testing and sporting event dates were taken into consideration in setting the dates. Several Board members expressed their experience with the trips and the memorable experiences provided to the participating students.

MOTION: Wright moved, Morken seconded, to approve the High School Band trip to Orlando, Florida, scheduled for March 22-30, as requested. Motion carried unanimously

Due to the late receipt of NWEA test scores, the Elementary and Bluff Country Learning Options Q-Comp Goals and Action Plans weren't available for a first reading review and approval during the August Board meeting, but have since been provided. The first reading of the Middle and High School 2014/15 Q-Comp Goals and Action Plans were approved at that meeting. To allow simultaneous implementation of all level goals and plans, Board approval of the second reading for all the level plans was requested. A brief review of the following individual level goals were stated for final approval.

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| High School       | - The La Crescent High School 10th Graders will show a 2% increase each year for two years (4% overall growth) on the MCA III test this year.   |
| Middle School     | - The percentage of all current students in grades 5-8 at La Crescent Middle School who meet or exceed their fall to fall individual RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAP test in reading will increase from 66.6% in fall 2012 to fall 2013 to 70.0 % in fall 2014 to fall 2015.                          |
| Elementary School | - The percentage of all students in grades K-4 at La Crescent-Hokah Elementary who meet or exceed their fall to spring individual RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAP in reading will increase from 59.8% in spring 2014 to 61.8% in spring 2015.   |
| Bluff Country     | - 75% of BCLC students will earn Meets the Standards or Exceeds the Standards on the MCA Math test in the 2014 – 15 school year. This represents a 19.4% increase from the percent of students who earned Meets the Standards or Exceeds the Standards on the MCA Math test during the 2013-14 school year. |

MOTION: Morken moved, Dockendorff seconded, to approve the second reading of the individual level Q-Comp Goals and Action Plans as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke addressed the proposed Review and Comment for submission to the Minnesota Department of Education for the proposed Facilities project. He advised that though a bond dollar amount is listed, it is not necessarily final. The maximum request is listed with the potential to reduce that amount if the option becomes available. The Board was requested to advise of any suggested changes to the Review and Comment as soon as possible.

MOTION: Dockendorff moved, Summerfield seconded, to approve the Review and Comment as presented for submission to the MDE for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke advised that the first Design Workshop was held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and had 26 attendees. A second session is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>. He further advised that there were no items for discussion at the October 1<sup>st</sup> Work Session and requested the Board's perspective as to any need to hold that meeting. None were provided, so the consensus of the Board was to cancel the meeting.

The Middle and Elementary building principals provided an update on classroom sizes by grade level sections, as follows, and the High School principal explained that level's class size breakdown.

***Elementary Level:***

K – 15, 15, 15, 14

1 – 19, 18, 17, 18

2 – 21, 23, 23, 23

3 – 22, 21, 21, 22

4 – 26, 27, 24

***Middle School Level:***

*5<sup>th</sup>:*

Core - 25-29

Electives – 27

Band/General – 70/13

Physical Education – 30

*6<sup>th</sup>:*

Core – 24-29

Electives – 22

Band/General – 42/20

PE – 35

*7<sup>th</sup>:*

Core – 28

Electives – 26

Band/Choir – 53/25

Physical Education – 21

*8<sup>th</sup>:*

Core – 22

Electives – 28

Band/Choir – 33/41

Physical Education – 21

H.S. Principal Rick Wolter reported core average class sizes ranged between 25 and 30 students and also shared that some elective class sizes are as low as 9 students.

Administrative, Education Minnesota, and Board reports followed.

Chair Jandt requested a motion of meeting closure to discuss negotiation strategies for the Support Staff Contract per Minnesota Statutes 471.705, subd. 13D.03.

MOTION: Summerfield moved, Tornow seconded, to close the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

MOTION: Summerfield moved, Dockendorff seconded, to re-open and adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

---

Ruth Nissen, Clerk