

Regular Meeting
Board of Education
Independent School District #300
March 19, 2014

Chair Jandt called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District #300 to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle & High School Media Center.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Roll call was taken by Clerk Nissen.

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

Board Absent: Dockendorff

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

MOTION: Morken moved, Nissen seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Board Representative Jennifer Ingvalson reported on the Student Council sponsored Olympic Week activities and the Council's plans to clean up the high school courtyard and around the athletic fields. Work continues on the presentation of this year's prom and planning for next year's Homecoming, fundraisers, and activities.

During Community Input, Julie Ingram and Eric Kiesau, members of the LaCrescent Youth Basketball Association, addressed the Board with their concerns of the inconsistencies of coaching in their current Boys and Girls Club program and the lack of available gym space for practice time.

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

- A. School Board Minutes
February 19, 2014, Regular Meeting
- B. March, 2014, Bills Due for Payment
- C. Staff Resignation
 - Steven Kramer - Head Football Coach – Effective immediately.
 - Jeff Conway - Head Gymnastics Coach – Effective immediately.
- D. Position Authorization
Technology Integrationist - Additional .5 FTE, resulting in a 1.0 FTE
- E. Staff Employment
 - Michelle Soper - Paraprofessional Driver – Approximately 4 hrs/day – Student contact days - New Position
 - Mary Ann Graf - Community Education Secretary – 752 hrs/year – New Position
 - Claire Steffen - Special Education Teacher – Long Term Substitute - 1/2/14 – 3/19/14

F.	Amber Wieser - ECSE Teacher – Long Term Substitute – 2/25/14 – 4/4/14 Maternity/Child Care Leave		
	Nicole Johnson - Language Arts Teacher – 5/19/14-end of 2013/14 school year and 9/2/14-10/15/14		
G.	Electronic Transfers		
	<u>Bills & Payrolls</u>		
	February 7 Health insurance		\$137,396
	February 14 Payroll (gross) \$336,341	(net)	\$191,471
	February 28 Payroll (gross) \$381,435	(net)	\$207,041
	February Bills		\$299,369
	February 14 Fed/FICA/Med Withholding Tax		\$ 69,410
	February 28 Fed/FICA/Med Withholding Tax		\$ 76,772
	February 14 MN Withholding		\$ 11,265
	February 28 MN Withholding		<u>\$ 12,574</u>
	Total		\$1,005,298

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Wilke requested the Board’s action to address the two additional school closing days not built into the 2013/14 school calendar. He advised that two recommendations from administration would be to (1) not extend the student contact days into the week following the original calendar end date and to (2) consider the days be designated for staff development.

MOTION: Tornow moved to extend the last day of school to Friday, June 6th, midday, and if there is another snow day, schedule a staff workday on the following Monday.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Nissen moved, Wright seconded, to move the last student contact day to Thursday, June 5th, with a staff development day on Friday, June 6th.

As clarification, the last student contact day would be a half day for students and a half work day for staff.

Discussion followed regarding why both makeup days would not be made student contact days. Administration indicated there is a strong need for the additional professional development time to support district initiatives such as Lancer Learning HD and the district’s curriculum review and design work.

A call of the motion followed:

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

Voting No: Tornow

Motion passed.

Cheri Olson, Representative of the LaCrescent Youth Basketball Association, addressed the Board with additional considerations regarding their request to bring middle school basketball under District programming and the Association’s intent to assist with program costs through fundraising. Superintendent Wilke and Activities Director Dave Schulte provided information on a survey of the

interest of other middle school sports programs to return to District programming and the costs of that transition to be considered. The baseball, softball and golf programs expressed their interest; soccer stated they were okay for now. Consideration was given to a “hybrid” approach that could involve a sharing of cost and responsibility for the programs with the Boys and Girls Club. However, Superintendent Wilke stated he felt it was necessary to sponsor all middle school athletics, both for the concern of liability issues and for the value of in-school programming by all. The highest concern of District sponsored middle school sports was the ongoing expense that would be incurred and the district’s ability to sustain those costs.

MOTION: Tornow moved, Morken seconded, to add back the middle school sports of boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball and golf programs for one year and revisit them at that time. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Tornow stated that funding assistance provided by the sporting clubs should be a priority to assist with the sustainability of the programs.

Superintendent Wilke advised that following the Board’s action in February to consider contracting with the Kraus-Anderson Construction Company, Wieser Brothers General Contractors approached the District with a proposal to provide those services. That proposal was presented to the Buildings and Grounds Committee on March 18th and it was their unanimous recommendation to accept the proposal. It was noted their proposed costs were 1.75-2% of the project, while Kraus-Anderson’s was 2-3%. Overall it was felt the employment of local business was important and their services would be a “good fit”.

MOTION: Wright moved, Morken seconded, to rescind previous Board action to consider the proposal by Kraus Anderson to provide construction management services for the upcoming facilities project. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Wright moved, Summerfield seconded, to approve the Wieser Brothers Contractors proposal to provide construction management services for the District facilities project. Motion carried unanimously.

An update on the LancerLearning HD initiative was provided by Superintendent Wilke. He noted the first year implementation was well underway and reaffirmed that the point of the initiative is to redefine the learning environment. An updated action plan was provided for the Board’s review.

Superintendent Wilke informed the Board that work continues toward a potential August 12th bond referendum and discussed the next steps and actions necessary. He noted the timeline was very short for the aspects of completion needed. The potential next window available for an election would be between December 30th and mid-January 2015 or after May 5th, 2015. In consideration of the workload and timelines associated with the project, the Board was also requested to consider additional work sessions be set, with the first Wednesday of the month suggested. Superintendent Wilke will communicate with the Board regarding the logistics of that meeting.

Community Education Director Beth Theede, Karn Schwartzhoff, Early Childhood Coordinator, and Megan Wall School Age Child Care Coordinator provided an update on the Early Childhood Program. The main focus of the update was the name change to the Discovery Preschool and the implementation of Discovery Company Surround Care, which is available for children in the K3, 4-K, and 4K Plus

classes. The intent of the coordinated program is to better serve children with the resources Community Education has in place. Discovery Company will be based on the Creative Curriculum that is used in Discovery Preschool, to provide even more opportunity for learning that is aligned with the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress as they prepare to enter kindergarten.

A review of the pupil enrollment chart was provided by Business Manager Julie Holman who indicated the numbers were holding steady.

Administrative, Board Member, and Education Minnesota reports followed.

MOTION: Tornow moved, Wright seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Ruth Nissen, Clerk