

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruns
 Fowler
 Krog
 A. Larson
 B. Larson
 Salmela

ABSENT: Johnson

ALSO PRESENT: Rick
 Simonson
 Rinta
 Cox

The **regular** meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, was held at ISD # 2142 District Office, on Monday, **February 13, 2006, at 5:00 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance.

Board chair Bruns added Enclosure 6.26-Resolution in the Matter of Patricia A. Wold and George Stalboerger Case to the agenda.

Motion by Fowler and seconded by B. Larson to **approve the agenda with the added enclosure.**

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

Superintendent Charles Rick reported the following: 1.) Mr. Rick handed out the new enrollment figures to the school board; 2.) Congratulations to the Tower-Soudan School One-Act Play for placing first in the MSHSL sub-section; 3.) Congratulations to the 12 students who participated in the February 2 District Spelling Bee; 4.) The district will be sending two people to the multi-hazard Emergency Planning meeting, sponsored by a division of Homeland Security and Emergency Planning on February 23-24 in Duluth; 5.) The district will need to approve a Wellness Policy prior to the start of the 2006-2007 school year. We will be working with surrounding districts in a joint effort to sponsor training for teams in addressing the requirements outlined in the law; 6.) Meetings that will be attended by superintendent this week are the NESC board meeting on February 15, 2006; Superintendent's Advisory Council on February 14, 2006; Northland Learning Center Board meeting February 16, 2006 and Superintendent's District 27/28 meeting February 17, 2006.

Assistant Superintendent Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: 1.) Mr. Simonson commented that it has been very busy with issues at the sites. School board members will be informed by memo. If they have any questions, he will be happy to answer their concerns; 2.) He met with the Tower-Soudan School teachers on the reductions and indicated to them that it was the worse case scenario.

Board Chair Bruns commented on the consent agenda. Ms. Bruns asked to have the personnel section of the consent agenda removed. She would like all personnel items to be individually listed under the specific agenda action portion of the agenda. She asked if the other board members had any objections to remove the personnel section and no objections were noted.

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Krog to **approve the consent agenda: February 13, 2006 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes: *Claims and Accounts for January 2006*; Federal ACH \$107,011.07; State ACH \$46,216.09; FICA ACH \$175,446.70; Net Salaries \$761,886.85; Payroll Deduction Checks December 15th and December 29th \$258,972.60; Finance Checks November 1st through November 30th \$1,210,132.93; Voided Checks \$ 23,618.23; Total \$2,583,284.47; **Policy: Donations: 1.) \$1,282.88** from the **Estate of Arne Kangas** for the **Cook** School student activity fund; **2.) \$14,075.00** from the **Northland Foundation** for the **Orr** School "**Social Games**" project; **3.) \$750.00** from the **C.C. Riders Snowmobile Club** for the **Cotton** School cheerleader's uniforms; **4.)****

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\$500.00 from **Jack Curtis of Curtis Oil Company**, Duluth, MN for the **Cotton School**; *The following donations are for the Cotton School elementary basketball program:* 5.) **\$25.00** from **Robert and Tammy Erickson** of Kelsey; 6.) **\$35.00** from **Sarah A. Leppien-Carlson** of Cotton; 7.) **\$10.00** from **Tina and Richard Deloria** of Eveleth; 8.) **\$10.00** from **Randy and Mary Clasen** of Eveleth; 9.) **\$20.00** from **Jeff Poskie** of Cotton; 10.) **\$1,000.00** from the **Babbitt Lions Club** for the **Babbitt-Embarrass School Library**; 11.) **\$29.50** from **Emerald Recycling** for the **Cotton School**; 12.) **\$100.00** from **Johnson Timber Harvesting, Inc.** of Alborn for **AlBrook School Cisco Class**; **Personnel:** Amend retirement/resignation of teacher **Joseph Racek** effective date to **May 31, 2006**; Approve unpaid leave of absence without pay or benefits for **Kelly Ratai**, effective **January 17, 2006 to June 1, 2006**, in accord with **Master Agreement, Article 13, Section 4, other leave, between ISD 2142 and Teamsters Local 346, under the Family Medical Leave Act**; Approve unpaid leave of absence with pay or benefits for **Jeanine Rutchasky**, effective **January 13, 2006 to February 22, 2006**, in accord with **Master Agreement, Article 13, Section 4, other leave, between ISD 2142 and Teamsters Local 346, under the Family Medical Leave Act**.

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

Policy 214 Out of State Travel by School Board Members Policy, no board action needed. This is the first reading of this policy.

Policy 806 Crisis Management Policy, no board action needed. This is the first reading of this policy.

Motion by Fowler and seconded by Krog to **approve the 2006-2007 Concurrent Enrollment Agreement as presented**.

Board Member Salmela asked the superintendent to explore other colleges that might provide the same service to the district. Mr. Salmela suggested SW State University.

Superintendent Rick agreed to check into concurrent enrollment with other colleges.

Discussion followed.

Board Member Bruns suggested that Superintendent Rick should contact Larry Anderson of Fond du Lac College, a former ISD # 2142 school board member.

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

Superintendent Rick explained the need for the INAC review of the district's food service program.

Motion by Salmela and seconded by B. Larson to hire **INAC, Inc. to conduct an analysis of St. Louis County Schools, ISD #2142, food and nutrition program for a total cost of \$5,236.00 plus mileage**.

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

2006-2007 School Calendar was placed on the agenda for school board review. No discussion was taken or action was taken at this meeting.

Superintendent Rick explained the need for the resolution for reallocation. Mr. Rick indicated that allows for funds that are received at the site level to be sent to the district office level for district-wide level expenditures.

Member Fowler introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION FOR REALLOCATON OF GENERAL EDUCATION REVENUE

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.23, the school board of St. Louis County Schools hereby resolves to reallocate general education revenue for FY06 from the building level to the district-wide level for the expenditures needed in that fund area.

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

And upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson and Salmela.

Absent: Johnson

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to **add Spanish (grades 10-12 and Choir (grades 7-12) at the Tower-Soudan School for the 2006-2007 school year.**

Assistant Superintendent Simonson commented that students at every site should have the opportunity to take choir. Mr. Simonson indicated that enough students have requested Spanish to add this program, instead of French. The program would be transmitted via ITV and would require no additional FTE.

Yes-Brunns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Johnson

Against-None

**RESOLUTION IN THE
MATTER OF PATRICIA A. WOLD AND
GEORGE STALBOERGER**

Board member Salmela moved, that

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, agrees to the Stipulation allowing judgment to be entered in the matter of Patricia A. Wold and George Stalboerger vs. St. Louis County Schools, Independent School District 2142, venued in the District Court, St. Louis County, Minnesota; and, further, authorizes the school attorney to sign the stipulation on behalf of the school district.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by B. Larson and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, and Salmela.

Absent: Johnson

and the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon, said resolution was declared duly **passed and adopted.**

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to **hire Melinda Warren as In School Suspension Monitor, non-bargaining unit, 7.5 hours per week, effective November 3, 2006.**

Yes-Brunns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Johnson

Against-None

Motion by Salmela and seconded by Krog to **hire Becky Shermer as instructional aide, bargaining unit, 6.5 hours per day, Monday through Friday, effective January 17, 2006**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with Master Agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

Yes-Brunns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Johnson

Against-None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by A. Larson to **approve the District Accountant Benefits Coordinator job description at 1.0 FTE.**

Board member Salmela indicated that we need to look for administrative reductions somewhere else.

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

Motion by Salmela and seconded by Krog to **approve the Teamsters Clerical Contract for July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008.**

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela
Absent-Johnson
Against-None

Board Member Salmela introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION FOR STRUCTURAL BALANCE

WHEREAS, School District St. Louis County Schools, ISD #2142, has a tentative agreement with the Teamsters Local #346, Clerical unit, on a contract covering July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.749 (2003) requires a Board of Education to determine that any collective bargaining agreement does not cause structural imbalance; and,

WHEREAS, the School Board reviewed the budget impact of this agreement taking into account current state aid formulas and reasonable and comprehensive projections of ongoing revenues and expenditures for the period of agreement as contained in report forms; and,

WHEREAS, the attached calculations as contained in the report forms fulfill the disclosure and reporting requirements of said statute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of ISD # 2142 determines that the tentative agreement with the Teamsters Local #346, Clerical unit, does not cause structural imbalance of the School District's budget during the period of the agreement.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Board Member Krog and upon vote being taken thereon, the following members voted in favor thereof: Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, and Salmela.

Absent: Johnson

And the following members voted against the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Clerk, Board of Education

Date

Member Fowler introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DISCONTINUING AND REDUCING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142 adopted a resolution on January 9, 2006, directing the administration to make recommendations for reductions in programs and positions, and

WHEREAS, said recommendations have been received and considered by the school board,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142, as follows:

<i>PROGRAM</i>	<i>REDUCTIONS (FTE's)</i>
Art 212	1.11 FTE
English 220	2.40 FTE
ESL	0.37 FTE
French	0.40 FTE
Ojibwe 232	0.40 FTE
Health 241	0.80 FTE
Phy Ed 242	1.00 FTE
FACS 250	0.50 FTE
Ind. Tech 255	0.90 FTE
Math 256	1.80 FTE
Business 215	1.25 FTE
Music-Instr. 258	0.95 FTE
Music-Vocal 259	0.76 FTE
Science 260	1.80 FTE
Social Studies 270	2.00 FTE
SWS/ALC	1.00 FTE
Special Ed-MMMI 402	1.90 FTE
Special Ed-LD 407	3.10 FTE
Special Ed-EBD 408	1.80 FTE
Special Ed-DAPE 420	0.40 FTE
Media 620	0.67 FTE
Kindergarten	1.50 FTE
Elementary 1-6	3.37 FTE
Special Ed-Supvr	<u>0.24 FTE</u>
TOTAL	30.42 FTE
Title I teachers	11.2 FTE
ECFE	4.3 FTE
Learning Readiness	2.2 FTE

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Krog and upon vote being taken thereon:

Before vote taken Jeanne Debeltz addressed the school. Ms. Debeltz indicated that all she sees are teacher's cuts, which will bring program cuts. If programs are cut, this will in turn mean that students will leave and then the dollars will go. She said, that this is a unique district which requires unique ways for alternative funding. Ms. Debeltz asked the board to take a step back and take another look on ways to save money instead of focusing too much on dollars. When speaking Ms. Debeltz made reference to the school board taking the district into the abyss; an area in which they would not be able to recover from.

Board Chair Bruns replied to Ms. Debeltz's comments. Ms. Bruns indicated that from the first meeting with the teachers, she asked them to look for areas to save money. Ms. Bruns told teachers that the school board welcomes all there ideas and to please contact the school board.

Jeanne Debeltz replied and said that it is going to require an open mindedness on the board's part.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent Rick responded to the comments and said that this item is on the agenda because of the teacher's contract and the time lines set forth. The District Office has spent many hours looking for ways to make these reductions. We have certain parameters that have to be met. Mr. Rick indicated

that administration is looking in all programs, Special Ed, class sizes, etc. The district is doing what is necessary in preparation for transfer night.

Board member Fowler spoke briefly about his time served as a board member. Mr. Fowler indicated that he has been through tough times like this before and the school districts usually do not remain the same as they once were.

A roll call vote was taken in favor thereof: Bruns, Fowler, Frog, A. Larson, B. Larson, and Salmela.

Absent: Johnson

Whereupon said resolution was **declared duly passed and adopted.**

Motion by Salmela and seconded by A. Larson **to offer Rick Pesola a .375 FTE probationary contract for the 2005-2006 school year, effective December 5, 2005**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with Master Agreement between ISD 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Johnson

Against-None

Policy 516 Student Medication Policy, no board action needed. This is the first reading of this policy.

Motion by Fowler and seconded by Salmela to **approve the School Project agreement for the district's third party billing.**

Yes-Bruns, Fowler, Krog, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Johnson

Against-None

Board Chair Bruns informed the school board that the MSBA will be able to send a representative to speak to them regarding school board information. The dates that Ms. Bruns will be available will be March 1, 7, 8, 9, 11. Ms. Bruns asked that the board inform administration as to their availability so the representative can be scheduled.

Board Chair Bruns discussed scheduling a school board study session. It was determined after discussion that a **school board study session will be scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2006, following the regularly scheduled board meeting.**

Comments from board:

Board Member Krog commented that she knew that this night would be a difficult one and also thanked the administrative team for looking at everything, in respect to reductions in all areas of staff.

Board Member Salmela commented that it was a hard night for everybody. Mr. Salmela asked the public to examine the root cause of the problem. State promises in funding and paybacks which did not occur. He stated that the voters need to decide if we like these attitudes in our elected officials and advised, with elections this fall, voters need to go to the polls.

Board Member B. Larson commented that the district should be looking for additional funds, such as a referendum.

Board Chair Bruns commented that she was disturbed about cutting programs. Ms. Bruns indicated that she has two grandchildren attending the Orr School and does not want their education cut. Ms. Bruns invited the public to send the school board information on their ideas in the area of funding. She said that the board will be looking at all options.

Comments from visitors:

Tammy Jo Bjorge the Cotton School prom advisor spoke to the school board. Ms. Bjorge asked the board to reconsider the prom policy. She was in favor of having school proms held off site due to

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safety concerns.

An identified Cook school parent commented on her concerns about the teacher reductions and cuts.

The regular board meeting was **adjourned at 6:30 p.m.** The school board went directly into closed session.

Chairperson

Clerk