

THE EMERGENCY SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2006.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Rick
 Rinta
 Cox

The **emergency special** meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, was held at ISD 2142 District Office, on Tuesday, **January 17, 2006**, at 9:05 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair Bruns opened the meeting with a statement. Ms. Bruns stated that since last Thursday, January 12, 2006, she's has been battling with this decision and weighing the information against the students vs. the budget. She stated that teachers already get a generous portion of the budget, compared to other surrounding districts in the area. The district is facing a 1.3 to 1.5 million dollar deficit and if this is approved it will add to the problem. We are in a crisis time. The kids have to be our first priority. Ms. Bruns said that she remembered Superintendent Rick saying when he first came aboard that, "It's not about us, but the students."

Board Member Bob Larson stated that he has also been thinking about this since last Thursday, and how it will affect students. Mr. Larson indicated that he has concerns about our finances and future.

Board Member Krog stated that she was unable to stay for the entire negotiations meeting last Thursday, but realized our present situation. We cannot afford this.

Board Member Fowler stated that the district hasn't gotten any breaks on insurance costs and we can't afford to keep paying out.

Board Vice Chair Johnson stated that she was in agreement with Ms. Krog. The board has to look out for the best future of our district. In the past, we've also given the same raise to the other contracts in the district. This would add to the finance distress of the district. We have to agree on what's best for kids.

Board Member Salmela stated that negotiation time is a stressful time. He feels the pressure in 2 different directions. Mr. Salmela indicated that he would have to vote on what was agreed to at Thursdays' meeting.

Board Chair Bruns stated that this was her struggle also; however she felt that she agreed to the contract under duress. Ms. Bruns indicated that even though Superintendent Rick has recommended this contract, she cannot vote for it.

Board Member Andrew Larson stated that the board kind-of agreed to this, but when he got home and thought about the agreement, it bothered him. This is not where we want to be. We were talking about making serious cuts before this and this contract agreement only compounds the problem.

Board Chair Bruns asked for a **motion for ratification of the 2005 to 2007 teachers' contract.**

Motion by Salmela, **a second was not received.**

Board Chair Bruns asked for a second motion two (2) times. Ms. Bruns then declared that the **motion failed to pass due to lack of support.**

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The Emergency Special Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Chairperson

Clerk