

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2007.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bjerklie
Fowler
A. Larson
B. Larson
Salmela

ABSENT: Bruns
Krog

ALSO PRESENT: Rick
Simonson
Johnson
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, **January 22, 2007**, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Rick deleted Enclosure 6.34 Support Staff Medical Leave of Absence from the agenda. The employee has returned to work.

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to **approve the amended agenda.**

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

Superintendent Charles Rick reported the following: 1.) The “Applied Learning Initiative: A Renewal of Secondary Career and Technical Education,” concept paper was given to the school board. The superintendent explained that the initiative would be phased in over a 2 year period and would be directed towards juniors, seniors and adults who have not graduated from high school. Dr. Rick indicated that he would give more information to the board as it became available; 2.) The superintendent handed out an outline of Governor Pawlenty’s State of the State address and proposal; 3.) Strategic Planning met last week and will be meeting next week. Superintendent Rick thanked Larry Salmela for leading the group.

Board member Salmela stated that another key person involved in the Strategic Planning is Edie Carr. Mr. Salmela indicated that she is a good meeting facilitator. He added that the identification of barriers will be discussed at the next meeting.

Discussion followed.

Assistant Superintendent Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: 1.) Mr. Simonson distributed a copy of the testing letter that was mailed to parents. The tests will be administered tomorrow, January 23, 2007 with make-up tests on Wednesday, January 24, 2007; 2.) A second handout was given to the board, which informed parents of diploma requirement. This year seniors will not be able to modify their scores, as in previous years. All score modifications will need to be done prior to testing; 3.) Student Survey handout was given to the board; 4.) Staff Development workday was Monday, January 15, 2007 at the Cherry School and the NESC. Meetings went well.

Board member Bjerklie stated that he was glad to see that we are supporting our educators. Mr. Bjerklie asked, “if we provide assistance to students that fail?”

Assistant Superintendent Simonson responded that help is available prior to testing. He also indicated that pass tests can be given to parents to help the students.

Discussion followed.

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the **consent agenda: January 8, 2007 Reorganizational / Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy: Donations: 1.) \$1,500.00**

from **Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation** for the **St. Louis County Schools Respect & Civility program**; and 2.) **\$50.00** from **Kathy and Tony Zavocnik** of Soudan, MN for the **Tower-Soudan School** shooting machine.

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

Member Bjerklie introduced the following resolution and moved as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF HEARING OFFICER AND TO EXPEL STUDENT “X1-07”
FOR REMAINDER OF 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the administration had proposed student “X1-07” for expulsion in that there is substantial evidence that said student committed a serious and flagrant violation of school district policy, and the laws of the state of Minnesota, to-wit: possession of knife on school grounds and school locations; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, student “X1-07” and his mother had been given written notice of the proposed expulsion and of the hearing date along with a copy of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, and his father was notified of this hearing by certified mail but the letter remained unclaimed by him; and

WHEREAS, in efforts to reach student’s father, he said he would waive the right to a hearing but did not; however, student “X1-07” and his mother have signed and executed the Waiver of Right to a Hearing and Consent to Expulsion, but there is some question as to whether the mother, who lives out of state, may have legal and custodial rights with regard to the student. Consequently, a hearing was held although no one appeared in behalf of the father or student in spite of being given proper notice to do so;

WHEREAS, a default hearing was held and conducted on January 11, 2007, before independent hearing officer Gail Murray who, based upon her review of the evidence submitted at the hearing, has submitted her Findings and Recommendation to the Board of Education;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, to adopt the Findings of the independent hearing officer as its Findings, and to, further, accept the hearing officer’s recommendation to expel student “X1-07” for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, that student “X1-07” be expelled for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year.

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

and the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon, said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Member Bjerklie introduced the following resolution and moved as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF HEARING OFFICER AND TO EXPEL STUDENT “X2-07”
FOR REMAINDER OF 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the administration had proposed student “X2-07” for expulsion in that there is substantial evidence that said student committed a serious and flagrant violation of school district policy, and the laws of the state of Minnesota, to-wit: possession of knife on school grounds and school locations; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, student “X2-07” requested a hearing in conjunction with his proposed expulsion; and

WHEREAS, a hearing was held and conducted on January 11, 2007, before independent hearing officer Gail Murray who, based upon her review of the evidence submitted at the hearing, has submitted her Findings and Recommendation to the Board of Education;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, to adopt the Findings of the independent hearing officer as its Findings, and to, further, accept the hearing officer’s recommendation to expel student “X2-07” for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, that student “X2-07” be expelled for the remainder of the 2007-2007 school year.

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: Bjerklie, Fowler, A. Larson, B. Larson and Salmela. Absent: Bruns, and Krog. and the following voted against the same: None
Whereupon, said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW RESOLUTION

Fowler moved, that

Whereas, there has been a reduction in student enrollment and this reduction in student enrollment must include discontinuance of positions, and curtailment or discontinuance of programs and

Whereas, as determination must be made as to which teachers’ contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

Be It Resolved, by the School Board of ISD 2142,

That the School Board hereby directs the superintendent of schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs and positions, and, as a result of reduction in enrollment, make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, the curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions, curtailment of positions.

The motion for the foregoing was duly seconded by Member A. Larson.

Board members discussed having another **study session to review 2007-2008 Program recommendations.**

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to **approve Enstrom Studio, Inc. as the official portrait photographer and yearbook publisher for the Cherry School for the 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years.**

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

Superintendent Rick advised the board that the 2007-2008 school calendar has to be adopted before March 1st. If there is a question on the proposed calendar it could be postponed.

Board member Salmela asked how this calendar aligns with the other Quad Cities schools.

Superintendent Rick replied that it aligns with the other schools with the exception of the January date.

Board member Fowler questioned the graduation times and dates.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to **approve the 2007-2008 School Calendar and graduation dates.**

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to **approve Business Manager, Kim Johnson as a designated authority on transactions with the State Bank of Tower for checking account #47830 and Flex checking account #47825.**

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Fowler to **table the request for the Orr School vending machine monies** to be deposited directly into the Student Activities account.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Fowler to **accept Kerry Bidle's letter of resignation as Special Ed teacher, effective January 12, 2007.**

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to **accept Christine C. Peters letter of resignation as speech pathologist, effective January 15, 2007.**

Board member B. Larson questioned if the speech pathologist position was being covered.

Superintendent Rick replied that the speech pathologist that was working part-time is now working this position.

Discussion followed.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve leave of absence for Jo Holen under the family medical leave act, effective on or about February 6, 2007** for up to 12 weeks, pursuant to M. S. 122A.46 and in accord with Master Agreement, Article XI, Section 4, Subd. 1, between ISD #2142 and EDMNSLCT.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve Laura Sylvester as Indian Home School Liaison, bargaining unit, 6 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 4, 2007**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD #2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

Yes- Bjerklie, Fowler, A. Larson, B. Larson, Salmela

Absent-Bruns, Krog
Against-None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to **approve Kelly Florence as Indian Home School Liaison, bargaining unit, 7 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 16, 2007**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD #2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to **approve Mindy Adkins as cook aide, bargaining unit, 1.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective December 7, 2006**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD #2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to **approve Joshua Carlson as bus driver, bargaining unit, not to exceed full time equivalency for this position, effective January 16, 2007**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

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

Comments from the board:

Board member B. Larson commented on teacher evaluations from the principals. Mr. Larson also commented on the curriculum mapping workshop that he attended at the MSBA conference.

Discussion followed.

Board member Bjerklie commented that going with technical education is vital and that the district continue with college courses. Mr. Bjerklie suggested that the district have a grant writer to get the word out.

Board member Fowler commented on the evaluations that are completed by the principals.

Board member A. Larson stated that he was glad to see the district working on technical education. Mr. Larson also suggested that the board have a study session to discuss curriculum mapping.

Board member Salmela indicated that he learned a lot and was invigorated by the MSBA conference.

Superintendent Rick added that the district had received notice from Education Minnesota to start teacher contract negotiations.

The school board meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk