

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

ABSENT: Bruns

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, **March 12, 2007, at 6:01 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Salmela **added two (2) items to the agenda: 4.3 Art Specialists program and 4.0 AlBrook students who wanted to address the board regarding French III class availability.**

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

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

Three (3) students from the AlBrook School petitioned the board to offer French III for the 07-08 school year. The students introduced themselves as: Phillip Hubert, Andrea Johnson and Tony Fremling. The students indicated that there are 11 AlBrook students and 3 Cotton students who are interested in taking French III.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent Charles Rick reported the following: 1.) On March 28 and 29 there will be a MSBA joint legislative conference in St. Paul. Board Chair Zelda Bruns would like the board to attend. Please let Linda Cox know if you plan on attending; 2.) The administration is finalizing the master schedule and will look at French III again. The reductions are now 7.5 FTE instead of the 8.6 FTE proposed reductions. Administration is also reviewing the transfer list for transfer day, which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cherry School; 3.) Superintendent stated that it is Fine Arts week and the District Office is having an Art Show displaying student art work from the entire district; 4.) There will also be a Band performance for all seven (7) schools performing together on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cherry School. The school board was invited to attend; 5.) Last week interviews were held for the Special Education Director. Three people were interviewed and are being reviewed; 6.) Wednesday, March 7, 2007, the Superintendent attended the Day at the Capitol. Legislators are concerned about the growing special education funding gap and will try to address the issue. It is a possibility that they will raise taxes; 7.) Strategic Planning met last week, March 5, 2007, and is accelerating action; 8.) The Superintendent met with the AlBrook School staff last Friday morning, March 9th. The staff spoke about class sizes, schedules, pressures, etc. The Superintendent visited classrooms and viewed the Cisco I students working on computers; 9.) The Community Survey will be in the District newsletter. The home school and open enrollment surveys were mailed out last Friday; and 10.) The Superintendent will be out of the office starting March 13 to 26. He is taking a trip to Russia. Dr. Rick will see the Russia educational system and the university where students are trained and licensed to become administrators.

Assistant Superintendent Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: Thank you to the Art Specialists for the display at the District Office; 1.) The Assistant Superintendent met with Math, English, Social Studies and Sciences teachers on February 27 and March 6 to discuss curriculum review. These departments need to see the different components of the educational program before sending to Administration for review. There were concerns that the district offer classes to be available to all schools. There was also interest in the Study Island Program / Remedial Development Program; 2.) MCA testing in math will be taking place soon. In April, the 2nd half of testing will be complete. The test results will show

which students to target; 3.) The Assistant Superintendent has been dealing with issues at the sites; 4.) The district has a positive sports program this year. Orr will be playing at UMD this week; and 5.) Awards have been made for students and have been sent to the sites. Each site will determine when they will be distributed and parents will be notified accordingly.

Carolyn Olson, Art Specialist at the AlBrook School spoke to the school board. Ms. Olson introduced the other Art Specialists that were present: Sue Anderson-Tower-Soudan, Darilyn Ronn-Babbitt-Embarrass; and Lynette Reed-Cook / Orr Schools. Ms. Olson gave a power point presentation on the Art enhanced program. The presentation illustrated that students knowing past history gives them a better understanding of the present. Art enhanced programs are designed to meet the needs of kids on a whole, connecting them with culture, Science, English, and Music. Ms. Olson indicated that students educated on a global level, will in turn create better citizens.

Superintendent Rick commented that these types of programs make kids like school.

Discussion followed.

Carolyn Olson reported that she is submitting a CAPP grant for additional funding and asked the board to write a letter of support to be sent with her grant application. She also indicated that a letter of support from the Superintendent will have the most impact.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Krog and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve the consent agenda:** February 26, 2007 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; March 5, 2007 Special School Board Meeting Minutes; *Policy:* Donations: \$500.00 from the Lions Club of Babbitt for the Babbitt-Embarrass School all night grad party; \$400.00 from the Cook PTO for the Cook School fundraising account for the Media Center; and \$30.00 from Roger and Katherine Kluck for the Cook School Media Center.

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to **approve Enstrom Studio, Inc. as the official portrait photographer for the Babbitt-Embarrass School for the 2007-2008 school year.**

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to **grant approval to the Cherry School PTSO to proceed with the Lowe's Community grant proposal for the Cherry School playground project.**

Board member Bjerklie commented to the board, "He thinks that this is a win win situation."

Superintendent Rick commented that this will not cost the district anything.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to **approve the 2006-2007 Spring coaching staff as presented, and dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation, as follows: *AlBrook:* Head Softball-Tim Anvid; Assistant Softball-Jodi Collelo; *Cherry:* Assistant Softball-Scott Sauter; *Cook / Orr:* Assistant Baseball-Nathaniel Tibbetts; and *Cotton:* Head Baseball-Robert Stevenson.**

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Krog to **approve Jeanette Baasi as instructional aide, bargaining unit, 6.5 hours per day, 1 day per week, effective September 13, 2006**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Krog and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve Janis Wendell as teacher aide, non-bargaining unit, 2.25 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective February 5, 2007.**

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by B. Larson to **approve Tom Burnett as instructional aide, bargaining unit, 2 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective December 4, 2006**, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to **accept Donna Ongalo's letter of intent to retire / resignation, as teacher aide, effective May 31, 2007.**

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

Comments from the board:

Board member Krog thanked the AlBrook School student for their thoughts and asked Ms. Olson to convey the message. Mr. Krog thanked all the Art Specialists.

Board member Bjerklie congratulated the Cherry School 9th grade class. The 9th graders wrote an essay and received the grant from Toyota Drive for Education.

Board member Fowler commended the Art Specialists for being at the meeting and all the student for their displayed art work.

Board member A. Larson indicated that he was impressed with the art presentation, which gave him a better appreciation of all the other programs involved in the art program.

Board member B. Larson said that it was a good meeting because of talking about instruction. Mr. Larson also appreciated the art presentation and the AlBrook School student for coming to the District Office to address the board about their concerns. We want the student in a French program at AlBrook, not at another school. Congratulations to Erin Cox, music teacher at the AlBrook School, who received a \$2,500.00 music award.

Board member Salmela expressed thanks to the Art Specialists and the presentation of the full program.

The school board meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk