

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007.

---

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

ABSENT: Bruns  
Fowler

ALSO PRESENT: Rick  
Simonson  
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 **Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 5:00 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Foster and seconded by B. Larson to approve agenda.

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

Superintendent Charles Rick reported the following: 1.) There will be a Strategic Planning committee meeting on Monday, December 3, 2007, at 5:00 p.m., at the District Office. The committee will review goals, activities and strategic directions; 2.) As everyone knows the Operating Referendum did not pass 56% no and 44% yes. The next board study session will be important. Issues of concern are how property taxes are distributed by the state. The two issues of concern by the voters were the Combined polling places and the times the polls opened. We will now need to charter a new direction of what the district is going to do in the future. The board needs to decide if another referendum should go to the voters. Dr. Rick indicated that he cannot recommend another referendum unless there is some compelling reason to do so; 3.) We are moving forward on AYP, which is due on November 30; 4.) Teacher negotiations are scheduled for December 6; 5.) The Superintendent commented that even though the referendum didn't pass, we still need to do what is best for students; 6.) The Superintendent thanks "Saturday Night Country...Live for their donation to all of our school music programs.

Assistant Superintendent Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: 1.) Mr. Simonson reported that he has been extremely busy working on the AYP report. The Administrators have met to identify areas of needed improvement. The report should be ready next week; 2. Testing begins on November 27; 3.) Mr. Simonson handed out his annual report on curriculum, instruction and student achievement to the school board and explained the report.

Discussion followed.

Vice Chair Salmela moved Enc. 5.32 East Range Hockey Agreement off the consent agenda and placed it under Program: Enc. 6.23 for discussion.

Motion by Foster and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve the amended consent agenda: October 22, 2007 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy: 5.21 Donations:** 1.) A used trumpet valued at \$150.00 from Rick and Peggy Vidmar for the Cherry School music program; 2.) \$650.00 from the Orr PTSO for the Orr School ECFE program. (\$150.00 of this amount was donated by Lake Country Power); 3.) \$750.00 from the Tower-Soudan Lion's Club for the Tower-Soudan School youth development program; 4.) \$827.33 from the Target "Take Charge of Education" school fundraising program, for the Cook School; 5.) \$300.00 from the Tower Fireman's Relief Assn. for the Tower-Soudan School Community Ed program, (Halloween Party); 6.) \$500.00 from the Fond Du Lac Reservation for the AlBrook School; 7.) \$500.00 from Saturday Night Country...Live! for the Tower-Soudan School music program; 8.) \$1,000.00 grant from the Northland Foundation for the AlBrook

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007.

---

School Class of 2009; 9.) \$31.75 from Ohio Pyl Prints, Inc. for the Cook School; 10.) \$500.00 from the Cook PTO for the Cook School art program; 11.) A used flute valued at \$125.00 from the Debra Rees Family for the Cherry School music program; 12.) The following musical instruments were donated to the Orr School: A used flute from Shelly Berts; A used clarinet from Jennifer; A used tenor sax from Carol Fox; A used trumpet from Nancy Eichholz; A used trumpet from Donna Perrault; A used trombone from Dr. Cam Jayson; and Two (2) used cornets from Brian Lamppa; **Programs:** 5.31 MSHSL Foundation Grant Applications for the AlBrook and Cherry Schools.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve the Cooperative Sponsorship for Boys' and Girls' Alpine Skiing with the Virginia, Mesabi East, Eveleth-Gilbert and Tower-Soudan Schools for the 2007-2008 winter season.**

Board member B. Larson asked if this will cost the district any money.

Superintendent Rick replied that the cost for the district is \$100.00, which is the membership fee for MSHSL. All other costs will be paid by the participating student.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Foster to **cancel the Truth in Taxation hearing dates for the Initial Hearing on Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the ISD # 2142 District Office and Secondary Hearing on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the ISD # 2142 District office.**

The Superintendent explained that there is a threshold that the district has to meet in order to hold a Truth in Taxation hearing. Since the referendum did not pass we are not required to hold one. The only problem would be the timeline of when the taxpayer notices are sent by the St. Louis County Auditor's. Linda will check with the auditor's office for the status.

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

Ron Rykken representing the East Range Athletic Association spoke to the school board concerning the renewal of their agreement with the district. He had a handout for the board explaining the operating costs of the organization. Mr. Rykken asked the board for their consideration in helping the organization with transportation costs.

Board Member Salmela explained that the board would approve the existing renewal and would discuss the transportation costs at the next board study session.

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Foster to **renew the agreement with the 2007-2008 East Range Athletic Association.**

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to **approve a leave of absence for Tammy Bjorge under the family medical leave act, effective on or before January 22, 2008 to March 28, 2008, pursuant to M. S. 122A.46 and in accord with Master Agreement Article XI, Section 4, Subd. 3, between ISD 2142 and EDMNSLCT.**

Board Member B. Larson asked if the board should assume that this recommendation comes from the Superintendent.

Superintendent Rick indicated that this is his recommendation.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to **approve the 2007-2008 Fall coaching staff as presented, and dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation: Heather Parenteau as assistant volleyball coach at the Cherry School.**

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Foster to **approve the 2007-2008 Winter coaching staff as presented, and dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation: Lisa Bruns as head girls basketball coach at the Orr School; Ryan Lindsay as assistant girls basketball coach at the Tower-Soudan School.**

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

Motion by Foster and seconded by B. Larson to **schedule a School Board Study Session for Monday, November 26, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. at the District Office.**

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

Comments from the board:

Board Member Bjerklie said that even though the referendum failed the district needs to move forward with the strategic plan. The board needs to think of new ways.

Board Member Salmela indicated that last year the board attended the MSBA. At this meeting there were individuals with expertise in holding a referendum. Perhaps the board should consider a professional for advice. This coming January, there will be presentations again. The board should listen to them for tactics.

Board Member A. Larson said that he concurs with Board Member Bjerklie to be positive in spite of the failed referendum. We need to provide the best education for our kids.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

---

Chairperson

---

Clerk