

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2008.

MEMBERS PRESENT: A. Larson  
B. Larson  
C. Larson  
Bjerklie  
Bruns

ABSENT: Fowler  
Beaudry

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 the Orr School on Monday, August 25, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

A correction to the minutes of August 11, 2008 was made by Superintendent's Secretary, Linda Cox. The hiring of Denise Parson at 1.0 FTE effective August 27, 2008, was changed from probationary to tenured.

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

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

John Jirik, Dean of Students reported the following: 1.) Enrollment is up by 2 to 6 students for the 2008-09 school year; 2.) Sports are beginning with home games; 3.) There are new staff at the Orr School; 4.) There has been positive feedback on the all day everyday Kindergarten; 5.) Mr. Jirik attended an RTI (response intervention) workshop with other administrators and he is looking forward to working with the staff implementing the program; and 6.) The numbers are high in the Volleyball and Football programs for Orr School.

Discussion followed.

Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: 1.) Mr. Simonson handed out the new Student Handbooks to the school board and outlined the changes that have been included; 2.) Bus driver training took place on Thursday, August 28 and Friday, August

29 of last week. Tamara Hanson did a good job of explaining the changes in the laws to the drivers; 3.) Replacement staff are in place with only a few vacancies; 4.) Mr. Simonson spoke on the status of AYP; and 5.) Thanks to Steve Reznicek for reviewing Minnesota State Science testing result. A handout was also given to the board.

Gary Friedlieb, Babbitt-Embarrass Principal and Online Learning Coordinator reported on Online Learning. A demonstration was given to the board with an actual online course available for their review. Mr. Friedlieb encouraged the board to review compensations to teachers that are doing Online Learning courses.

Dr. Charles Rick, Superintendent reported the following: 1.) The Superintendent explained the RUS grant which is available for the district. The grant would enable the district to purchase webcams and update some of the district's technical equipment; 2.) School is beginning with new teacher orientation will be at the District Office tomorrow. Wednesday all teaching staff will be at the Cook School and Thursday and Friday the Math teachers will be at the Cook School; 3.) The first day of school for the high school will be Tuesday, September 2 and the first day of school for elementary will be Wednesday, September 3; 4.) Still working on some vacancies on the master schedule. The Superintendent will give the board a report on schedule changes in the future; 5.) Reading counts have been implemented and are now done at all the school libraries; 6.) The Schools tentative enrollment numbers will be ready at the September 8<sup>th</sup> board study session; 7.) The board is invited to attend a meeting with state legislatures tomorrow 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Nashwauk, MN; 8.) The district was notified that Cook School buses will need to be garaged in a different area by the end of September. Five (5) different options are available; and 9.) In curriculum the main focus areas will be for Pre-K to 4 (reading literacy); 5 to 8 (math improvement); and 9 to 12 (career awareness).

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by A. Larson to approve consent agenda: August 25, 2008 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes: Policy: Donations: 1.) \$85.00 from Wilbert and Bertha Hill of Tower, MN for the Tower-Soudan School Library fund; 2.) \$66.30 from Eugene Wagner of Tower, MN for the Tower-Soudan School Library fund; 3.) \$1,861.75 from the RCS Foundation for the Tower-Soudan Student Activities fund: (50% Elementary / 50% Student Council); and 4.) \$4,523.65 from the Babbitt-Embarrass PTO for the Babbitt-Embarrass School playground equipment.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by B. Larson to offer Stephanie Beaudry a .3 FTE, probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, contingent upon securing variance or provisional licensure from the Department of Education, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson

Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by A. Larson to offer Bonnie Anderson a .2 FTE, at Lane BA/Step D probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, contingent upon securing variance or provisional licensure from the Department of Education, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to offer Jenny A. Wiese a 1.0 FTE, at Lane MA/Step J, probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to offer Amanda Leppala a .75 FTE, at Lane BA/Step C, probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, contingent upon securing variance or provisional licensure from the Department of Education, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Carrie Carstens a 1.0 FTE, at Lane BA/Step E, probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to offer Terry Sawdey a 1.0 FTE, at Lane BA/Step E, probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, contingent upon securing variance or provisional licensure from the Department of Education, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to accept David Dutton's letter of resignation as ITV teaching assistant and van driver, effective June 17, 2008.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to accept Barbara Love-Hall's letter of resignation as In School Suspension Monitor and instructional aide, effective August 13, 2008.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to accept J. Sheldon Majerle's letter of retirement / resignation as custodian, effective August 20, 2008.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to hire Kathleen Walzak as a van driver, bargaining unit, not to exceed 3.5 hours per day for this position, effective September 2, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to reduce Suzanne Skafte, instructional aide, by 1 hour per day, effective September 25, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to reduce Vickie Preston , ITV teaching assistant, by 1 hour per day, effective September 25, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to reduce Kathleen Zavodnik, ITV teaching assistant, by 2 hours per day, effective September 25, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to recall Robin Licari to a .45 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by A. Larson to recall Wanda Bevis to a .50 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 27, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes- A. Larson, B. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, C. Larson  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the 2007-2009 Principal Contract as recommended.

Board member B. Larson voiced concerns over the increase recommendation and the insurance. Mr. Larson indicated that the district does not have a lot of money to work with and does not support the recommendation.

Board Chair Bruns was opposed to the recommendation and the steps that were negotiated. Ms. Bruns said that the principals are paid very well and with a 12.8% increase in health insurance and she did not support the proposal.

Discussion followed.

Yes- A. Larson, Bjerklie  
Absent- Beaudry, Fowler  
Against- Bruns, B. Larson, C. Larson

Comments from the board:

Board Member C. Larson thanked Gary Friedlieb for his presentation.

Board Member A. Larson also thanked Gary Friedlieb for this present and indicated that the new lighting at the Tower-Soudan School is very good. Mr. Larson said that new lighting was scheduled to be installed in the gym August 26, 2008.

Board Member B. Larson said that it was nice to be holding the board meetings in the schools, just to see what is going on in the buildings. Mr. Larson indicated that the Online learning report was good and positive. He said that the board has some challenges, but they also have opportunities this coming year.

Board Chair Bruns said that the presentation from Gary Friedlieb was good. Ms. Bruns asked the principals not to take the a no vote on their contract personally, but the board has some financial challenges in front of them.

Superintendent Rick indicated that the school board filings open tomorrow, August 26, 2008 through September 9, 2008. There is a board study session on Monday, September 8, 2008 starting at 10:00 a.m. and a teacher mediation meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2008 starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Northeast Service Coop.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.