

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2008.

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

ABSENT: Bruns  
Beaudry

ALSO PRESENT: Rick  
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, October 27, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent's secretary asked to have enclosure 6.32, hiring of coaching staff, be removed from the agenda.

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to remove enclosure 6.32 from the agenda.

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

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

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

Ron Rykken, East Range Athletic Association President addressed the school board on the girl's hockey team. He indicated that the team has a successful 2007-08 year, both as a sport's team and academically. The team currently has 25 girls and that are scheduled for 12 away games and 11 home games, which include one game in Ft. Francis, Canada and one in Webster, Wisconsin. To participate in the program each member is required to make fundraiser commitments and pay \$550.00 to play, plus pay for equipment. Last year, the team raised approximately \$23,000 with the largest expenses being transportation and ice costs. Mr. Rykken asked that the board to grant

permission to have a team again this year and also asked for permission to travel out of state to the 2 out of state scheduled games. He also indicated that any financial help the board could give would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Rykken also indicated that there are Tower-Soudan School girls interested in participating in the program; however, they would need transportation from Tower to participate in the team.

Superintendent Rick indicated that that hockey agreement and scheduled travel details would be included on the next board agenda for approval.

Mr. Rykken indicated that practice begins on November 3, 2008, so he needed permission for them to begin.

The Superintendent and board granted permission for Mr. Rykken to begin the girl's hockey practice.

Dr. Charles Rick, Superintendent reported the following: 1.) Dr. Rick indicated that he had completed all the referendum informational meetings last week. He gave a special thank you to Chet Larson for coming to all of the meetings and said that it helped having board members at these meetings. He also thanked Darrell Bjerklie for helping with the strategic long term planning information at the meetings. The Superintendent will be addressing the school staff at all sites about the referendum. This morning he was at the Cotton School. Tuesday morning, October 28, 2008, he will be at the Orr School and Cook School in the afternoon. Wednesday morning, October 29, 2008, Cherry School is scheduled with AlBrook School in the afternoon. Thursday morning, October 30, 2008, he will speak to the Tower-Soudan School and Babbitt-Embarrass School in the afternoon; 2.) At 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2008, there will be a gathering sponsored by the Rouse family in Babbitt, MN. The party is being held to thank the people involved in the renovation project of the Babbitt-Embarrass School auditorium; 3.) We will be canvassing the votes at the next school board meeting on the deadline date of November 10, 2008; 4.) The Superintendent will be attending a meeting with Johnson Controls at UMD concerning the transportation grant; 5.) Dr. Rick read a letter from Lake Country Power thanking the school board for investing in efficient lighting technology at the Cook and Orr Schools. The improved lighting will save the district \$6,000 in energy every year and the district received a rebate check in the amount of \$8,080. for the district's conservation investment; and 6.) The Superintendent handed out a copy of an article he wrote for the Cook News Herald and the Timberjay concerning the upcoming referendum.

Discussion followed.

Board member Chet Larson commented that there was a good turnout of 23 children at the October 24, 2008 ECFE Family Event meeting in Meadowlands. He commented about changing the name of the Cotton School to the Cotton-Meadowlands School.

Discussion followed.

The Superintendent added to his report that the Cook School board member will be sworn in at the next school board meeting since this position was previously an appointed position with 2 years left on the term.

Assistant Superintendent Sidney L. Simonson reported the following: 1.) Mr. Simonson commented that the Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement annual report needs to be approved at this meeting. The report indicates that improvement is needed in the areas of Special Education-reading and math; and Free and Reduced lunch in math; 2.) The board also needs to approve the Local Education Agency Representative authorizing him as representative in reviewing and filing the improvement plan for the district; 3.) In the area of transportation, the vehicle drivers must now have proper certification / training. The Type III vehicle certification and training is online, this does not include school bus drivers, since they are already certified. A questionnaire will need to be completed at the end of the training, along with an exam; 4.) Everything is going well at all of the sites; 5.) We are almost done with fall sports. The coaches are to be congratulated for their work; and 6.) The AYP plan will be given to the school board at the beginning of November, 2008.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Fowler to approve consent agenda: October 14, 2008 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; *Policy: 5.21 Donations:* 1.) A bass clarinet, valued at \$1,250.00 and trumpet, valued at \$300.00 donated by Pastor Ruth Gangloff of Orr, MN for the Orr School music department; 2.) A MBM folder 352, valued at \$1,000.00 donated by Gary Albertson of the Cook News Herald of Cook, MN for the District Office; *5.3 Program: 5.31 2007-2008 Annual report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement; 5.32 2008-2009 Local Education Agency (LEA) representative formally authorizing Sidney L. Simonson as representative in reviewing and filing the improvement plan for the District.*

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

Superintendent Rick explained that approval was needed for the GASB Actuarial Services Proposal. This is a requirement of the IRS to determine the district's long term debt. The superintendent recommended that VanIwaarden Associates of Minneapolis, MN be approved.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Fowler to approve the GASB Actuarial Services proposal through VanIwaarden Associates of Minneapolis, MN for the 2008-2009 school year.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to hire Kathleen M. Zavodnik as teacher aide, bargaining unit, 1 hour per day, 5 days per week, effective October 20, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to offer Morgan Klatt a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective October 28, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Comments from the board:

Board member Bjerklie thanked everyone for getting the word out on the referendum. Community members have also been busy handing out information on the referendum.

Board member Fowler indicated that he has talked to a lot of people about the referendum. Some of the people were for the referendum and some were not.

Board member C. Larson said that he hasn't heard negative comments on the referendum. The PTSO presidents were in favor and spoke out at the Tower-Soudan and Babbitt-Embarrass informational meetings.

Board member A. Larson commented that the district has been running a pretty efficient operation compared to other surrounding school districts.

Board member B. Larson said that the referendum has been a big issue on their minds. Mr. Larson indicated that he hopes that it passes, because the school district could really use it. Mr. Larson said that he appreciates the superintendent and all the work that he has done. He suggested that the district recognize the retiring teachers. Mr. Larson asked what has been done in the past to acknowledge them.

The regular board meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.