

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Rick  
Johnson  
Cox

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, was held at the Cook School on Monday, September 22, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair Bruns indicated that the scheduling of a Board Study Session would be added at the end of the board meeting.

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

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

Principal Kevin Abrahamson reported the following: 1.) Welcomed the school board for their attendance at the Cook School; 2.) The Cook School building is in great shape overall thanks to the custodial staff; 3.) School year is off to a good start, thanks to staff and students; 4.) Student population down about 22 from last spring. However, graduated 47 and now have 24 Kindergarten students, but overall have maintained numbers; 5.) There are new elementary teachers in Cook: Hazel Appleby; Candy Babich; and Deb Hill. New secondary teachers are: Bonnie Anderson; Stephanie Beaudry; Kim Seopa; and Carrie Carstens. Rick Pierce also returned to full-time status; 6.) Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to Dr. Rick, Mr. Simonson, District Office staff, Cook School staff and Mr. Beaudry for the support I received during the most recent illness and eventual passing of my father. I'd like to particularly acknowledge Gloria Bartlett and Carol Erickson in the office and Will Kleppe, who subbed for me. They steered the ship effectively and kept me informed as needed. I am lucky to be here and appreciate being the Principal in Cook.

Dr. Charles Rick, Superintendent reported the following: 1.) The District will be receiving a \$10,000 transportation study grant. A detailed study using a (GIS) Geographic Information System will be used in the analysis. The study will begin this fall and end the summer of 2009; 2.) The first public informational meeting will be tomorrow at the Orr School at 6:30 p.m.; 3.) The District applied for a USDA RUS grant in the spring of 2008 and has been chosen to receive the grant. It is a matching grant in the amount of \$178,673.95 to be used for technology; 4.) On October 3, 2008 there will be Teamsters mediation at the District Office; 5.) On Saturday, the annual Rick Neuenfeldt Memorial Golf Scramble was held. \$2,713.00 was raised for ISD # 2142 scholarships. A trophy is being display at the District Office and will remain there for 6 months; and 6.) There will be a MSBA meeting at the Virginia High School on Wednesday.

Discussion followed.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve consent agenda: September 8, 2008 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; September 11, 2008 Special School Board Meeting Minutes: Policy: 5.21 Donations: 1.) \$182.00 from the Family Reading Program for AlBrook School Library books.

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

Superintendent Rick commented on the Proposal for Phase II Determination and Evaluation of Sustainable Options for the District. Dr. Rick indicated that it would accomplish the following: Evaluate the academic and physical education space needs for ISD # 2142 as a District; Develop options that address the needs evaluated in Phase I; Conduct transportation study (with UMD) for efficiency improvements for the District; Generate any necessary construction budgets or operating cost projections for the options; and Draw conclusions and make recommendations. Johnson Controls would guide the board and district in available options and solutions.

Discussion followed.

It was concluded that the board wants to remain informed with Johnson Controls during the entire process.

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by B. Larson to approve Phase II Determination and Evaluation of Sustainable Options Proposal by Johnson Controls.

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to accept University of Minnesota Northeast Region Sustainable Development Partnership grant in the amount of \$10,000 for a detailed transportation system analysis.

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

Superintendent Rick and Business Manager Kim Johnson explained the levy. Ms. Johnson indicated that the amount will likely increase due to Health and Safety money. Ms. Johnson recommended that the board vote on the maximum amount.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to approve 2008 Payable 2009 Proposed Levy at maximum.

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

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to split the Babbitt-Embarrass School Kindergarten class for the 2008-2009 school year and post for an additional 1.0 FTE Kindergarten teaching position, effective September 23, 2008.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the new location for storage of the Cook School buses.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to hire Vickie Preston as a teacher aide, bargaining unit, for an additional ½ hour, 5 days per week, effective September 3, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to hire James Stella as a custodian, bargaining unit, 8 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 2, 2008, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers Local #70.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to accept Charles Fosness' letter of resignation as a bus driver, effective September 12, 2008.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to offer Mary Castellini a .2 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective September 12, 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, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Fowler and seconded by A. Larson to offer Jane Bradford a .15 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective September 22, 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, Fowler  
Against- None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to approve the 2008-2009 Winter coaching staff as presented, and dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation as follows: **AlBrook:** Head Boys Basketball-Damien Paulson; Assistant Boys Basketball-Travis Paulson; Head Girls Basketball-John Villebrun; Assistant Girls Basketball-**Open**; **Babbitt-Embarrass:** Head Boys Basketball-Jon Anderson; Assistant Boys Basketball-Ron Marinaro; Head Girls Basketball-Greg Eisenhuth; Assistant Girls Basketball-**Open**; **Cherry:** Head Boys Basketball-Robert Asuma; Assistant Boys Basketball-Bradley Mayry; Head Girls Basketball-**Open**; Assistant Girls Basketball-Kirk Johnson: **Cook:** Head Boys Basketball-Will Fierke-Kleppe; Assistant Boys Basketball-Leo Wilenius; Head Girls Basketball-Ashlee Strandberg; Assistant Girls Basketball-William Lehto: **Cotton:** Head Boys Basketball-Bradley Matuszak; Assistant Boys Basketball-Gage Ratio; Head Girls Basketball-Michael Frye; Co-Assistant Girls Basketball-Heather Kowarsch/Melissa Randall: **Orr:** Head Boys Basketball-**Open**; Assistant Boys Basketball-John Jirik; Head Girls Basketball-Lisa Bruns; Assistant Girls Basketball-Jacqueline Villebrun; **Tower-Soudan:** Head Boys Basketball-**Open**; Assistant Boys Basketball-John Lilya; Head Girls Basketball-Steven Moodie; and Assistant Girls Basketball-**Open**.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to reduce Suzanne Skafta as instructional aide from 8 hours to 7 hours per day, effective September 25, 2008, as per Article 7, Section 5, Subd. 3 of the Teamsters Contract.

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

Against- None

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Fowler to reduce Kathleen Zavodnik as ITV teaching assistant from 3 hours to 1 hour per day, effective September 25, 2008, as per Article 7, Section 5, Subd. 3 of the Teamsters Contract.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to eliminate the instructional aide position of Jennifer Peterson, effective September 15, 2008.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to terminate Cindy Szveduik as instructional aide, effective September 16, 2008.

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

Comments from the Board:

Board Member Beaudry thanked Kevin Abrahamson for hosting and for his informational report.

Board Member B. Larson indicated that District is facing many challenges this year but they are positive ones.

Board Member C. Larson said that it was good to be back at the Cook School again.

Board Member Bjerklie asked that the Study Session be scheduled for negotiations strategy planning.

A Board Study Session was scheduled for Monday, September 29, 2008 at the District Office for 2:30 p.m.

Board Member Fowler thanked Principal Kevin Abrahamson for his positive report.

Board Member A. Larson also thanked Mr. Abrahamson for his report.

Board Chair Bruns said that it was nice to be at the Cook School. Ms. Bruns also reminded everyone that there is a need for labeling and stuffing envelopes at the District Office, starting Monday, September 29, 2008.

Comments from Visitors:

Cook School student Jill Brinker spoke to the school board in support of the Cook School Math League.

Principal Abrahamson indicated that he recommended that the program be discontinued since it was the only Math League in the district and because of the costs involved with the program.

Cook School student Tom Hill also spoke and explained why he was in support of continuing the Math League program.

Discussion followed by School Board.

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