

CONSENT AGENDA ENCLOSURE 5.11

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009.

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

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 ISD # 2142 District Office on Monday, March 9, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Rick added 8.1 scheduling a Board Study Session for March 12, 2009, at ISD # 2142 District Office at 8:00 a.m.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bruns to approve the agenda.

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

Superintendent Rick introduced speaker Dr. Charles Speiker from the Minnesota Department of Education Finance.

Dr. Charles Speiker spoke to the school board on Statutory Operating Debt, also know as SOD. Dr. Speiker indicated that SOD is a nasty condition that undermines the community; demoralizes staff and removes flexibility from the school board. Dr. Speiker distributed handouts to the school board and explained expenditure limitations; reserved revenue for staff development; referendum revenue; payment of aids and credits to school districts; and hold backs. He informed the board that the district has done a good job in exploring all possibilities with long range planning and now decisions will have to be made for the future of the district.

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) Today at a board study session the board received 17 different options from Johnson Controls. On Thursday,

March 12, 2009 the board will reconvene and narrow the options down. The superintendent indicated that the options will have to meet 4 criteria: 1. be financially acceptable; 2. be philosophically acceptable; 3. politically acceptable; and 4. socially acceptable. These decisions will not be easy; community meetings will be scheduled for discussions, however, we must think about the students in the district; 2.) The Superintendent thanked Dr. Speiker for coming to the board meeting and speaking on the subject of SOD; 3.) There is a board study session scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009 at ISD # 2142 District Office from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; 4.) The superintendent said that he had a good time reading to the Cotton School elementary students last week during Dr. Suess Day; 5.) The teacher mediation scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009 has been changed from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; 6.) Dr. Rick's focus is on the budget for this fall; 7.) The superintendent is working on the schedule which should be completed by Wednesday. He is looking at final numbers and FTE's. The information will be brought to the board for action on the first meeting in April; 8.) The district is still receiving information on the pool situation with quite a bit of public interest; 9.) Sports teams are ending their seasons this week; and 10.) We are monitoring the weather situation for school tomorrow.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the consent agenda: February 23, 2009 Regular School Board Minutes; Donations: 1.) \$125.00 from Tower Fireman's Relief Assn. for the Tower-Soudan Youth Development program; 2.) \$248.45 from Enstrom Studio, Inc. of Bovey, MN for the Tower-Soudan School National Honor Society; and 3.) \$300.00 from Amos and Grace Martin for the Grace Martin Scholarship.

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

Superintendent Rick addressed the board on the Johnson Controls, Inc. Planned Service Agreement renewal. Dr. Rick indicated that this is another area that assists in maintenance. Dr. Rick recommended that the renewal agreement be renewed.

Board member Bruns asked if they are in the buildings often.

Dr. Rick explained that they check all of our buildings.

Jeff Schiltz continued and indicated that the company checks the boiler water, steam traps, computer systems and does preventive maintenance for better efficiency.

Discussion followed.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bruns to approve the Johnson Controls, Inc. Planned Service Agreement Renewal in the amount of \$136,682.00 for the term of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010, to be billed on a quarterly basis.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Rantala to rescind Anna Jurenes; request of intent to retire / resignation effective the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Yes- A. Larson, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, Rantala
Against- B. Larson, D. Larson

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to hire Michael Tremblay as a van driver, bargaining unit, not to exceed 4 hours per day for this position, effective February 23, 2009, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to approve leave of absence for Morgan Klatt effective, May 20, 2009, until the end of the 2008-2009 school year, in accord with Master Agreement Article XI, Section 4, Subd. 3, between ISD # 2142 and EDMNSLCT.

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

Comments from the board:

Board Member Rantala said that he was very pleased with the presentations today. Mr. Rantala liked the 4 points that the Superintendent brought out; social and political will stir the pot.

Board Member C. Larson indicated that it was a pretty good presentation today. The presentation from Dr. Speiker on SOD was outstanding.

Board Member A. Larson said that there was a lot of stuff today, a lot to think about and tough decisions to make.

Board Member Beaudry announced that today was his one year anniversary on the board. Mr. Beaudry indicated that the board received good information today and he is looking forward to the future.

Board Member Bjerklie stated that there was good information today. Mr. Bjerklie said that today he saw that we can survive.

Board Member Bruns indicated that the quality of the information was outstanding and the quantity was overwhelming. Johnson Controls did an outstanding job for the district and Dr. Speiker was very informative.

Board Member B. Larson said that the board received a lot of information today and the district definitely wants to avoid SOD. The board has a lot of decisions to make in 2 days.

Board Member Rantala commended business manager Kim Johnson on all the work that she did with Johnson Controls and Dr. Speiker. Well done. Mr. Rantala invited everyone who is interested in education to attend the knowledge bowls throughout the district. The students of ISD # 2142 are holding up well.

Board Member C. Larson stated that the Cotton School 5th graders want Dr. Rick to come back and read to them again. They enjoyed him coming and reading to them.

Board Chair B. Larson said that we have to look at the numbers to see how we can keep students from leaving the district and review why students have left. Mr. Larson also spoke about up-coming Phase III training in April for the board in Proctor.

The board meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.