

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009.

MEMBERS PRESENT:      Beaudry  
                                 Bjerklie  
                                 Bruns  
                                 A. Larson  
                                 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 Babbitt-Embarrass School on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the agenda.

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

Superintendent Charles Rick reported the following: 1.) Recap of the September 9, 2009 Board Study Session on the consequences of a no vote on the bond referendum. At present expenditures exceed revenues with no new revenues coming in, so the district cannot survive the way it is. The board explored options: reducing additional programs, but the result would affect the quality of education and closing schools for the short/long term, but decided that closing any of the schools would affect all the 7 schools. The board concluded that supporting the bond referendum will keep the students and families in the district. We need to continue to promote the plan to stabilize the future. There will be public informational meetings at Tower-Soudan School in the multi purpose room on September 21, 2009; Babbitt-Embarrass School media center on September 22, 2009; Cotton School gym on September 23, 2009; Cook School cafeteria on September 29, 2009 and Cherry School gym on September 30, 2009. Drawings will be available of the new schools; 2.) A couple of weeks ago Kevin Abrahamson, Markus Hoche and Superintendent Rick met with Ely Superintendent Langan and Operations Manager Kim Belcastro to discuss a joint pilot technical classroom; 3.) There will be a golf scramble on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Virginia Golf Course at 1:00 p.m. Proceeds from the scramble/silent auction/dinner will go to the Rick Neuenfeldt Memorial Scholarship Fund, which benefit ISD # 2142 students through scholarships; 4.) The H1N1 virus has possibly hit the Cherry School. Mary Spang is monitoring the situation. Ms. Spang has

been in contact with St. Louis County Health Department and has arranged for flu shots to be given at 2 locations in our district. Transportation is being worked out as well as permission slips; and 5.) Finally the district has met with Fond du Lac college and are working on a K-12 initiative. Congratulations to Larry Anderson on his promotion to President of the Fond du Lac technical college.

Board Member Beaudry asked if educational fees could be placed on the website and the District Newsletter.

Superintendent Rick indicated that he was working on getting that information out there.

Discussion followed.

Business Manager Kim Johnson spoke on the enrollment figures. At the end of the 2008-2009 school year enrollment was 2,034 and at present for the 2009-2010 school year the enrollment is 2,005 which declined by 29 students. Presently enrollment is holding.

Principal Gary Friedlieb reported: 1.) Welcome to the Babbitt-Embarrass School. We had a smooth start-up for the 2009-2010 school year. New faculty members are: Gail Kleinschmidt; Jennifer Kerntz and Toni Brey. 2.) The current enrollment at Babbitt-Embarrass is 325 students, 156/Secondary and 169/Elementary; 3.) The Babbitt-Embarrass School is currently offering Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) and the Applied Learning Institute (ALI). The current courses include: Public Speaking & Introduction to Novels; College Algebra & Trigonometry; College American History I & II; College Biology & Environmental Biology; Introduction to Industrial Maintenance; Cisco, Introduction to Computers; Forest Field Skills & Introduction to Natural Resources; Printing & Publishing; Principles of Accounting I & II; Masonry and Carpentry. 4.) Mr. Friedlieb indicated that our district leads the area for trained facilitators on the Minnesota Service Cooperative Online Program; 5.) Administrators attended a Data Retreat on September 11, 2009 for AYP; 6.) and finally Mr. Friedlieb spoke on the additional administrative assignments and asked for the school board's full support at this time since the district is requiring everyone to do more with less. Mr. Friedlieb read the quote, "Any job can be made great...when it is the worker more so than the work itself...that truly counts."

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the consent agenda: August 24, 2009 Regular School Board Minutes; September 9, 2009 Special School Board Minutes; Program: 5.31 2009-2010 Concurrent Enrollment Renewal Contract with Mesabi Range Community & Technical College.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to eliminate the scheduled Truth in Taxation meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2009.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve 2009 Payable 2010 Proposed Levy at maximum.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to cancel the November 3, 2009 Bond Referendum Special Election.

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

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD  
OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142  
(ST. LOUIS COUNTY)  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

HELD: SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142 (St. Louis County), State of Minnesota, was duly held in said school district on September 14, 2009, at 6:00 o'clock p.m., for the purpose, in part, of calling an election to authorize the issuance of school building bonds.

Member C. Larson moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF  
SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS AND CALLING AN ELECTION THEREON**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The board hereby finds and determines that it is necessary and expedient for the school district to borrow money in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$78,800,000 and not to exceed any limitation upon the incurring of indebtedness which

shall be applicable on the date or dates of the issuance of any bonds, for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including, the construction and equipping of a new school to serve the Alborn-Brookston-Cotton-Meadowlands attendance areas; the construction and equipping of a new school to serve the Cook and Orr attendance areas; and the remodeling and renovation of the Cherry, Babbitt and Tower Schools. The question on the borrowing of funds for these purposes shall be School District Ballot Question 1 on the school district ballot at the special election held to authorize said borrowing.

2. The actions of the administration in consulting with the Minnesota Department of Education, causing a proposal to be prepared for submission on behalf of the board to the Commissioner of Education for the Commissioner's Review and Comment and taking such other actions as necessary to comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.71, as amended, are hereby ratified and approved in all respects. The actual holding of the special election specified herein shall be contingent upon the receipt of a positive Review and Comment from the Commissioner of Education.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Commissioner's Review and Comment to be published in the legal newspaper of the school district at least twenty (20) but not more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the special election as specified in paragraph 3 of this resolution.

3. The ballot question shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the school district at a special election, which is hereby called and directed to be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, between the hours of 7:00 o'clock a.m. and 8:00 o'clock p.m.

4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the school district combined polling places and the precincts served by those polling places, as previously established and designated by school board resolution for school district elections not held on the day of a statewide election, are hereby designated for this special election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare a notice to any voters who will be voting at a combined polling place for this special election. The notice must be sent by nonforwardable mail to every affected household in the school district with at least one registered voter. The notice must be mailed no later than fourteen (14) days before the date of the election. A notice that is returned as undeliverable must be forwarded immediately to the appropriate county auditor. The notice must include the following information: the date of the election, the hours of voting and the location of the voter's polling place. This notice may be in the same form as the notice of special election to be published and posted.

5. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said special election to be given to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located, in whole or in part, and to the Commissioner of Education, at least fifty-three (53) days prior to the date of said election. The notice shall specify the date of

said special election and the title and language for each ballot question to be voted on at said special election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least ten (10) days before the date of said special election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least four (4) days before the date of said special election and to cause a sample ballot to be posted in the combined polling place on election day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be published in the official newspaper of the school district, for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of said election.

The notice of election so posted and published shall state the question to be submitted to the voters as set forth in the form of ballot below, and shall include information concerning each established precinct and polling place.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the rules and instructions for use of the optical scan voting system to be posted in each combined polling place on election day.

6. The clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election.

7. The clerk is further authorized and directed to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the following form, with such changes in form, color and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate an optical scan voting system:

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION BALLOT

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142  
(ST. LOUIS COUNTY)  
SPECIAL ELECTION

DECEMBER 8, 2009

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

**To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this:**

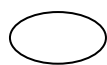


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**To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "YES" for that question.  
To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "NO" for that question.**

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**SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION 1  
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ISSUE**



YES



NO

Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 2142 (St. Louis County) be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$78,800,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including, the construction and equipping of a new school to serve the Alborn-Brookston-Cotton-Meadowlands attendance areas; the construction and equipping of a new school to serve the Cook and Orr attendance areas; and the remodeling and renovation of the Cherry, Babbitt and Tower Schools?

**BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU  
ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.**

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Optical scan ballots must be printed in black ink on white material, except that marks to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed in another color ink. The name of the precinct and machine-readable identification must be printed on each ballot. Voting instructions must be printed at the top of the ballot on each side that includes ballot information. The instructions must include an illustration of the proper mark to be used to indicate a vote. Lines for initials of at least two election judges must be printed on one side of the ballot card so that the judges' initials are visible when the ballots are enclosed in a secrecy sleeve.

8. If the school district will be contracting to print the ballots for this special election, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract in excess of \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall furnish, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04, a sufficient bond, letter of credit or certified check acceptable to the clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit, or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

9. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to provide for testing of the optical scan voting system within fourteen (14) days prior to the election date. The clerk shall cause notice of the time and place of the test to be given at least two (2) days in advance of publication once in the official newspaper, by posting a notice, and by notifying the county or legislative district chair of each major political party.

10. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of the location of the counting center or the places where the ballots will be counted to be published in the official newspaper at least once during the week preceding the week of the election and in the newspaper of widest circulation once on the day preceding the election, or once the week preceding the election if the newspaper is a weekly.

11. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to begin assembling names of trained election judges to serve at the combined polling places during the special election. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast and submit the results to the school board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Bruns. On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, A. Larson, B. Larson, C. Larson and Rantala.  
and the following voted against: None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Randy Anderson from Johnson Controls, Inc. explained the wetland delineation services and Geo tech services. The wetland delineation needs to be worked on while the leaves are still on the plants before winter and the Geo tech portion, aerial Topo mapping for design will continue throughout the winter.

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by C. Larson to approve professional wetland delineation and Geo services for the North and South primary property sites in the amount of \$78,680.00.

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

Motion by c. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to hire Connie Lippett as a teacher aide, bargaining unit, 2.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 8, 2009, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to increase the ITV teaching assistant position held by Jessica Kudis from 2 to 3 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 8, 2009, bargaining unit with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to offer Rebecca Moore a .1 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2009-2010 school year, effective September 2, 2009, 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, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, B. Larson, C. Larson, Rantala  
Against- None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Amanda J. Leppala a .2 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2009-2010 school year, effective September 2, 2009, 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, Beaudry, Bjerklie, Bruns, B. Larson, C. Larson, Rantala  
Against- None

Comments from the board:

Board Member C. Larson indicated that the Principal gave a good report and did an excellent job.

Board Member A. Larson said that he was pleased to see the number of courses being offered.

Board Member Bjerklie commented that Gary gave a good report.

Board Member Bruns indicated that it was an excellent Principal's report and said that it would be wonderful for us to provide these courses to all of the students.

Board Member Beaudry said that it was a good report and that the board appreciates the job(s) you are doing.

Board Member Rantala indicated that Gary is doing a fine job here. We as a board need to support the Principals.

Board Member B. Larson said that it sounds like we are off to a good year. Mr. B. Larson met with the President of the building trades and will be available to meet with the board. An agreement will be on the next school board agenda which will help prevent labor stoppage of the school building projects.

Superintendent Rick indicated that he had received a letter from the City of Cook that disagrees with what the board is doing.

Board Member Bruns said that she is pleased with the enrollment numbers.

Comments from visitors:

1. Former Board Member Roland Fowler said that it was good to see everyone again. Mr. Fowler indicated that there are too many people out

there that don't know all the information on the bond referendum. He stressed that it is most important to get all the information to everyone.

2. Christine Mackai, Babbitt-Embarrass community member, thanked all the board for the job they are doing. Ms. Mackai asked how we can market the good things that are happening in our schools? Ms. Mackai is also part of the PTO and commented that the community needs to support education and the kids.

Discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.