

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010.

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

ABSENT: Bruns

ALSO PRESENT: Rick
Cox
Johnson

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 November 22, 2010, at 5:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair B. Larson amended the agenda: Items removed from the agenda: Speaker Kris Lofgren of Range Mental Health; Enc. 6.35 Hire Probationary Teacher Karlene D. Lesemann.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve the agenda as amended.

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

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) A handout was given to the board explaining the District improvement plan (AYP) report. The report highlighted three goals: a.) To provide opportunities for student growth in academic achievement; b.) To support teachers in their continuous growth through a Professional Learning Community (PLC) model; c.) To transform the leadership model utilized in the District from a managerial dominant focus to an instructional leader focus; 2.) A meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2010 in the City of Cook offices to discuss a statement of Intent to Cooperate between the City of Orr, City of Cook, and the District. Board Member Beaudry will be attending with the Superintendent; 3.) Last Wednesday evening there was a meeting at the Tower-Soudan School to discuss the footprint of the new school. A final meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tower-Soudan School for the same purpose.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent report continued: 4.) Last Thursday night the Superintendent attended a JPA Community Coalition Meeting. The group wants to come up with an interim plan and meet with the school board; 5.) Board member elect Troy Swanson contacted the Superintendent and requested a meeting between Tower Administration and the school board; 6.) Last Friday the Superintendent was invited to attend a statewide conference for Minnesota Townships and helped hand out scholarship awards; 7.) Congratulations to the Cherry School girl's volleyball team for going to state.

Board member Beaudry asked if the school board needs to move on the Intent to Cooperate with the City of Cook and the City of Orr.

Superintendent Rick replied that he just needed the opinion of the board.

Board Chair Larson asked if we have a timeline on the Southern School.

Superintendent Rick responded that we plan to come to the board with a proposal on flexible scheduling. We also need to get parental feedback on where the students will be attending school. The Superintendent also indicated that the closing of the Tower-Soudan High School will be on the December 13, 2010 agenda and combining the Cook / Orr School next year needs to be discussed.

Kevin Abrahamson had a curriculum handout for the school board.

Board Member C. Larson said that he is hearing that teachers are still using 5 to 6 year old books in the classrooms.

Mr. Abrahamson replied that it is the teacher's choice which text to use. Old books are sometimes combined with the new text to broaden available information.

Discussion followed.

John Henry of JCI reported the following: 1.) Mr. Henry had a handout report for the board. They are moving forward on the South and Cherry School sites; 2.) They were able to contract with an environmental site in Schroeder, MN on the contaminated soils. The site will actually recycle the soils to be used again; 3.) Projects are working in full winter conditions; and 4.) Mr. Henry expanded on the MOU with the Cities Cook and Orr and explained that the district needs to start dialog on the water and sewer since the district does not have that the special required licenses. JCI presented uses Northeastern Testing Services for a licensed person, but the City of Cook / Orr will have a licensed person already on staff. The water towers will also require special licenses.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by C. Larson to approve consent agenda: November 8, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy: 5.21 Donations: 1.) Two (2) \$25.00 donations from Richard and Kathryn Williams of Culver, MN for the AlBrook School elementary fundraiser K-6.

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

Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to award the laboratory casework proposals for the North (\$175,409.00) and the South (\$175,409.00) Schools to Haldeman-Homme, Inc. as presented.

Superintendent Rick asked the board if they would like to see the bids in the future.

Board Chair B. Larson explained to the board that it was brought to the school board due to the cost involved.

Board Member C. Larson said that the Superintendent should keep bringing them to the board.

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

Absent – Bruns

Against – None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to award bids for the Cherry School as recommended: Site & Misc. Concrete, Hammerlund Construction, Inc. , Grand Rapids, MN \$70,650.00; Metal Fascia, M. G. McGrath, Inc., Maplewood, MN \$203,494.00; Caulking & Sealants, The Caulkers Company, Inc., Fridley, MN \$42,700.00; Skylights & Translucent Panels, W. L. Hall Company, Hopkins, MN \$62,493.00; Coiling & Overhead Door, Lipe Brothers Construction, Inc., Duluth, MN \$18,700.00; ACT, Wood, Metal, Specialty Ceilings & Wall Systems, Flament-Hampshire, Inc., Superior, WI \$109,770.00; Ceramic Tile, Grazzini Brothers & Company, Eagan, MN \$194,650.00; Athletic Wood Flooring, Haldeman-Homme, DBA: Anderson Ladd, Minneapolis, MN \$66,503.00; Carpet & Resilient Flooring, MCI, Inc., DBA: Multiple Concept Interiors, Waite Park, MN \$71,795.00; Painting, Regional Contracting & Painting, Duluth, MN \$76,304.00; Gymnasium Equipment, Center Stage Manufacturing Co., LLC, Sauk Centre, MN \$49,500.00; Gymnasium Seating, Seating & Athletic Facility Enterprises, LLC, Ellendale, MN \$49,126.00; Fire Protection, Breth-Zenzen Fire Protection, LLC, St. Joseph, MN \$127,620.00; and Terrazzo, WTG Terrazzo & Tile, Inc., Burnsville, MN \$72,085.00; Total Amount: \$1,215,190.00.

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

Absent – Bruns

Against – None

Superintendent Rick explained that the teachers approved the Q-Comp MOU and now the board need to approve it. This year (2010-2011) the district will receive \$360,000 from the State of MN. In 2011-2012 the district will levy at \$91.00 per pupil unit and receive \$320,000 in State aide. He advised the board that either the teachers or the district can back out at any time as long as it is before the deadline of June 1 of each year.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to sign and approve the Q-Comp MOU.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to award the bid for lighting controls for the South, North, and Central to Graybar Electric Co., Inc., of Duluth, MN for the amount of \$373,200.00.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the 2010-2011 winter coaching staff as presented: *Cook*-Assistant boys basketball, Rick Viita; *Orr*-Assistant boys basketball, Michael Villebrun, dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to approve Daniel Olsen as a custodian (temporary), bargaining unit, 3 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective November 8, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

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

Motion by c. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve Thomas Burnett's request for a medical leave of absence as an instructional aide, effective on or about mid-January for three (3) weeks.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve a medical leave of absence for teacher, April Glass effective on or about February 14, 2011 through May 9, 2011, in accord with master agreement article XI, Section 4, Subd. 3, between ISD # 2142 and EDMNSLCT.

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

Board Member C. Larson said that this motion to have the name, mascot and colors of the newly remodeled Cherry School remain unchanged was not necessary.

Board Member Bjerklie explained that he went back to the community and overwhelmingly the public wanted no changes for the Cherry School names, mascot and colors. Approximately 452 names were received on the petition. However, board member Bjerklie still thinks the name should be changed to Central School since he believed that it would be good the district as a whole.

Discussion followed.

Board Member Rantala said that he was in favor of name changes for the newly structured district.

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to change the Cherry School name to Central School with the mascot and colors remaining the same.

Board Member Rantala indicated that the board would be setting a precedent by passing this.

Board Chair B. Larson expressed concern about setting precedent.

Discussion followed.

Board Member Bjerklie repeated the motion and seconded by Beaudry to change the Cherry School name to Central School with the mascot and colors remaining the same.

Yes - Beaudry, Bjerklie

Absent – Bruns

Against – A. Larson, B. Larson, C. Larson, Rantala

Comments from the board:

Board Member C. Larson congratulated the Cherry School volleyball team for making it to state. Mr. Larson also congratulated the Cook School football team for a great year.

Board Member B. Larson indicated that students from AlBrook School also went to state. Mr. Larson asked the board if a district wide pep band should accompany a district team that goes to state.

Board Chair Larson scheduled a board study session for Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at 3:15 p.m. at ISD # 2142 District Office, followed by a Special Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Agenda topics at the study session would be the Tower-Soudan School footprint and daycare, also the Babbitt-Embarrass School footprint. The board would approve the Tower-Soudan School footprint at the Special Board Meeting.

Board Chair Larson told the board that the Joint Powers wants to meet with the board to explain their new plan.

Board Member Beaudry explained to the board that these people are political and want to delay and disrupt. Mr. Beaudry indicated that he does not want to meet with them.

Board Member Bjerklie said that he does not want to meet with them.

Board Member Rantala said that he does not want to meet with them, unless it benefits the district.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent Rick explained to the board that pending any further litigation the board should be aware before scheduling any meeting with them.

Board Chair B. Larson requested that the Superintendent get a written proposal from the Joint Powers on what they want to present the board with.

Discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.