

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2010.

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

ABSENT: Bruns

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, October 12, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) Superintendent Rick read a letter of support that the school board received from St. Louis County Commissioner Dahlberg on the South site ground breaking ceremony; 2.) The Superintendent and board chair Bob Larson attended a RAMS meeting on September 30, 2010 and received an up dated report on the Mid Mile Fiber project; 3.) The Superintendent had a proposal which he handed out on the process of selecting names and school colors and mascots for the schools which would be completed by November; 4.) The Superintendent and Board Members were invited to attend the Community Coalition Joint Powers Board Executive Committee meeting scheduled to meet on October 14, 2010; 5.) The Superintendent is currently collecting information from all the principals regarding parking facilities and non-parking facilities to address the transportation safety issues. After gathering all the information he will report to the school board; and 6.) The Range Mental Health agency will have a presentation for the school board on "Bullying." The presentation will be given between now or the next couple of board meetings.

Principal John Metsa reported the following: Mr. Metsa thanked the PTO for providing the refreshments. He gave the school board a hand-out outlining his report on Academics. They are in the process of reviewing test scores, identifying their G55 students and developing Personal Learning Plan. Mr. Metsa reported that Industrial Arts classes are building many items and selling them for fundraisers. Math League and Knowledge Bowl are both up and running. He reported on the Extra-curricular program(s) which included Homecoming and sports. In student activities the students have been involved in Student Appreciation Day; Leos affiliated with the Lions Club;

Students Council; IRYA “Iron Range Youth in Action;” SADD red ribbon week; and student tutoring. Mr. Metsa also reported that Q Comp is preceding forward and 3 minute teacher observations are going well.

Discussion followed.

Charles Hartley and Bruno Zagar from Fond du lac reservation gave a power point presentation on their renewable resource Biomass Project. They asked the school board to be considered as a supplier of pellets for the district and asked for a letter of intent if they were considered by the district.

Kevin Abrahamson gave a handout to the school board which reported on the statewide testing status for the district. NWEA MAPS tests are administered to grades 2-8 the last week in September into the first week in October. MCA GRAD Reading and Math retests grades 10-12 between October 5 and October 13 and GRAD writing retests are November 2, with retesting dates in December. PLAN and EXPLORE assessments are ordered for grades 8 & 10. All MCA math tests for grades 3-8 are online this year. Curriculum meetings are scheduled as follows: October 20-Secondary math for teacher groups; October 27-Grades 6-12 English language arts teacher groups; November 10-Secondary Science teacher group; and November 18-Art teacher groups. October 12-13-Principal training in three minute walk through evaluations; October 19-Administrator training on TIES; and November 3 Teacher In service Day with training for teachers on PLPs.

John Henry of Johnson Controls reported: Mr. Henry had written reports on the Cherry campus and the South campus with future written reports to be handed out during the first board meeting or each month. Randy Anderson also gave a Summary Cost Status Report handout to the school board.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to approve consent agenda: September 27, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; October 1, 2010 Special School Board Meeting; Policy: 5.21 Donations: 1.) \$232.16 from the Cook School PTO to purchase dictionaries for the 3rd grade classroom at the Cook School; 2.) \$5,000.00 from the Cliff’s Foundation for the Babbitt-Embarrass School swimming program; Program: 6.31 Permission granted for students from the Babbitt-Embarrass, Cook and Tower-Soudan Schools to travel out of state to participate in Chorfest (Honors Choir) at UWS, Superior, WI, on November 5, 2010.

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

Absent – Bruns

Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to proceed with the process of closing the AlBrook and Cotton Schools and direct the Superintendent to follow the statutory procedure necessary to bring about closure.

Superintendent Rick explained the board that he will come back to them with a timeline.

Board Chair B. Larson explained that the 2011-2012 Athletic Proposal was on the agenda for informational purposes only. The board will vote on the proposal at the next October 25, 2010 school board meeting.

2011-2012
South Campus (AlBrook/Cotton)

FALL 2011

Action: (1) Combined Football Team
(1) Combined Volleyball Team
(1) Combined Boy/Girl Cross Country Team

Rationale: School closings at AlBrook and Cotton
WINTER 2011-2012

Action: (1) Combined Boys Basketball Team
(1) Combined Girls Basketball Team

Rationale: School closings at AlBrook and Cotton
SPRING 2011-2012

Action: (1) Combined Baseball Team
(1) Combined Softball Team
(1) Combined Boys/Girls Track

Rationale: School closings at AlBrook and Cotton

North Campus (Cook/Orr)

FALL 2011-2012

Action: (1) Combined Football Team
(1) Combined Volleyball Team
* Option of addition of boys/girls Cross Country

Rationale: Possibility of schools combining
WINTER 2011-2012

Action: (1) Combined Boys Basketball Team
(1) Combined Girls Basketball Team

Rationale: Possibility of schools combining

SPRING 2011-2012

Action: (1) Combined Softball Team
(1) Combined Baseball Team
(1) Combined Boys/Girls Golf

Cherry Campus

FALL 2011-2012

Action: (1) Football Team
(1) Volleyball Team
• Option of coop with New South for boy/girl Cross Country

Rationale: No changes in athletic programming at this time

WINTER 2011-2012

Action: (1) Boys Basketball Team
(1) Girls Basketball Team

Rationale: No changes to athletic programming at this time

SPRING 2011-2012

Action: (1) Baseball Team
(1) Softball Team
(1) Combined Boys/Girls Track with New South

Babbitt-Embarrass Campus

FALL 2011-2012

Action: (1) Football Team
(1) Volleyball Team
(1) Girls Swim Team
• Option of Cross Country with north site

Rationale: No Change in athletic programming

WINTER 2011-2012

Action: (1) Boys Basketball Team
(1) Girls Basketball Team

Rationale: No change in athletic programming

SPRING 2011-2012

Action: (1) Baseball Team

- (1) Softball Team
- (1) Boys and Girls Golf Team

Rationale: No change to athletic programming

Tower-Soudan Campus:

Depending on where students attend? See Babbitt-Embarrass or Cook-Orr Options

****Possibility of adding individual sports in each season if necessary****

ISD 2142 Athletic Transition Plan

Plan outlines athletic options as our school district moves from seven high schools to four high schools in 2011-2012. Specifically, transfer options for our high school student athletes.

2010-2011 School Year:

- Maintain extra-curricular offerings at all sites dependent on appropriate levels of participation.
- Establish cooperative agreements combining programs as dictated by numbers for the 2010-2011 school year.
- All student transfers during the 2010-2011 school year would fall under the provisions of MSHSL bylaw 111 – Transfer and Residence.

2011-2012 School Year:

- A **one-time intra-district transfer** for students entering grades 10-12 (2011-2012 school year) should be declared and school board of approved by May 1, 2011, with a list of approved intra-district transfers submitted to the MSHSL by May 15, 2011.
- Any transfers that are not school board approved or do not meet the aforementioned time lines will be subject to the provisions of MSHSL bylaw 111-Transfer and Residence.
- Once a student completes an approved intra-district transfer any subsequent transfers would fall under the provisions of MSHSL bylaw 111 – Transfer and Residence.

All Transfers outside of ISD 2142 will be subject to MSHSL bylaw 111-Transfer and Residence.

An intra-district transfer form will be developed for students choosing this option.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to dedicate the Babbitt-Embarrass School pool in honor of Richard Niss of Babbitt for his outstanding work with St. Louis County School students.

Board Member Rantala told the board that Mr. Niss has been an important part of the swimming program and the development of the program.

Board Chair B. Larson indicated that he did not support the idea of dedicating the pool.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship in Girls Hockey for the 2010-2011 school year with Silver Bay, Two Harbors, Cook County and Ely School Districts, with St. Louis County Schools not being responsible for transportation.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to change the time of the December 13, 2010 regular school board / budget meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m.

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

ISD # 2142 – South Site – Proposed Boundary Description – Additional Area

Those parts of Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, and the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, and the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, and the North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 17 West, St. Louis County, Minnesota, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the West Quarter corner of said Section 30; thence South 86 degrees 35 minutes 58 seconds East along the south line of Government Lot 2 of said Section 30, a distance of 1307.64 feet to the point of beginning, said point also being the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence South 86 degrees 35 minutes 58 seconds East along the south line of the said Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, a distance of 880.97 feet; thence North 43 degrees 52 minutes 54 seconds East, a distance of 1138.77 feet; thence North 46 degrees 07 minutes 06 seconds

West, a distance of 296.84 feet; thence North 43 degrees 52 minutes 54 seconds East, a distance of 431.84 feet; thence South 46 degrees 07 minutes 06 seconds East, a distance of 296.84 feet; thence North 43 degrees 52 minutes 54 seconds East, a distance of 710.41 feet to the centerline of County Road 47 as laid out and traveled, thence South 78 degrees 52 minutes 23 seconds East along said centerline, a distance of 137.93 feet to the intersection with the east line of the said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 00 degrees 06 minutes 01 seconds East along the said east line and the east line of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, a distance of 1719.66 feet to the Southeast corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 86 degrees 35 minutes 58 seconds West along the south line of said Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter a distance of 492.28 feet; thence North 27 degrees 23 minutes 59 seconds East, a distance of 489.36 feet; thence North 62 degrees 36 minutes 01 seconds West, a distance of 600.00 feet; thence South 27 degrees 23 minutes 59 seconds West, a distance of 756.49 feet to a point on the south line of said Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 86 degrees 35 minutes 58 seconds West along the south line of said Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter a distance of 152.98 feet to the Southwest corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 00 degrees 06 minutes 26 seconds East along the east line of said North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 626.03 to the Southeast corner of said North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds West along the south line of said North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 1300.42 feet to the Southwest corner of said North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds West along the west line of said North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 642.01 feet to the point of beginning.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to authorize property purchase in the South as outlined in the legal description.

Superintendent Rick explained to the board that he had spoken with district counsel Mike Patchin and he reviewed the purchase agreement and approved it.

Discussion followed.

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

Absent – Bruns

Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve the copier lease extension for the 2010-2011 school year as presented.

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

Absent – Bruns

Against – None

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to accept Benjamin W. House's letter of resignation as a special education teacher, effective October 1, 2010.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to approve the 2010-2011 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-Bradley Olesiak; Assistant Girls Basketball-Earl Otis; *Babbitt-Embarrass*: Head Boys Basketball-Jon Anderson; Assistant Boys Basketball-Ronald Marinaro; Head Girls Basketball-Susan Hams; Assistant Girls Basketball-Joseph Scherer; *Cherry*: Head Boys Basketball-Robert Asuma; Assistant Boys Basketball-*Open*; Head Girls Basketball-Timothy Sauter; Assistant Girls Basketball-Kirk Johnson; *Cook*: Head Boys Basketball-William Fierke-Kleppe; Assistant Boys Basketball-*Open*; Head Girls Basketball-Ashlee Strandberg; Assistant Girls Basketball-William Lehto; *Cotton*: Head Girls Basketball-Michael Frye; Assistant Girls Basketball-*Open*; *Orr*: Head Boys Basketball-Chris Raridon; Assistant Boys Basketball-*Open*; Head Girls Basketball-Matthew Rutchasky; Assistant Girls Basketball-*Open*; *Tower-Soudan*: Head Boys Basketball-Derik Bjorgo; Assistant Boys Basketball-*Open*; Head Girls Basketball-Sтивен Moodie; Assistant Girls Basketball John Lilya.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to hire Susan Hams as a Title I teacher for the 2010-2011 school year, to the extent of 1 hour and 24 minutes per day, 5 days per week, effective September 22, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to hire Cindy Szweduk as an instructional aide, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 7, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD #2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bjerklie to rescind the Superintendent's retirement resignation effective date of January 3, 2011 and change to a retirement date effective June 30, 2011.

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

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142
And
Charles O. Rick, Superintendent of Schools**

WHEREAS,

The parties agree to implement a post retirement payment into a 403(b) account in lieu of a health care savings plan (HCSP) or cash severance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

All severance benefits will be placed in the retiring employee's 403(b) account, in accordance with Section 415(c) of the IRS tax code. Should the employee choose to participate, at any time, in any / all of the districts health insurance programs or any other plan of his choosing beyond the provisions provided in the contract for the employee, the employee shall be responsible for all premiums.

This MOU, when approved, will become part of the employee's contract as was approved by the District #2142 Board of Education for the contract period beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2011.

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

Comments from the board:

Board member Bjerklie thanked everyone for coming and for the reports.
Board member Beaudry had a thank you for everyone that came to the board meeting.
Mr. Beaudry indicated that he was confused as to why there was no vote on the Athletic Transition Plan

Superintendent Rick explained that this athletic transition plan was given to the school board for review and will be voted on at the next board meeting in October.

Board member Beaudry asked about the class sizes in Cook and why they are so large.

Principal Metsa explained that the numbers have since decreased since the first of the year due to families moving and he and Dr. Rick are watching the number closely.

Discussion followed.

Board member C. Larson thanked everyone for attending.

Board member Rantala thanked everyone for the good reports and stated that hopefully we can keep Knowledge Bowl going. Mr. Rantala then invited everyone to attend the Knowledge Bowl competition.

Board member A. Larson stated that it was good to be back after missing several board meetings.

Board member B. Larson said that we need to promote Knowledge Bowl. Mr. Larson also said that we are watching the technology program.

The school board meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.