

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Rick
Cox

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, was held at the Cherry School, October 25, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) On Wednesday, November 3, 2010 there will be a staff development meeting on PLPs at which time they will be implemented; 2.) On the district website there will be a link to the Strategic Facility Plan report where there will be a progress report on the construction projects. These up-dates will be done on an up-dated weekly; 3.) On Thursday evening, October 14, 2010 the board was invited to attend the Community Coalition Joint Powers Board Executive Committee Outlook session. Board Chair Bob Larson, Board member Bruns and the Superintendent attended the meeting. It was held at the Crescent Supper Club on Olson Road in Cook. Some of the topics were curriculum and student progress. There will a follow-up meeting on November 18, 2010 at the same location; 4.) Last week the Superintendent attended an advisory council meeting at the Mesabi College and received a report on their construction project; and 5.) The Superintendent has received requests from parents in the Cook School first grade to split the class. It is presently under review.

Cherry School Principal Jeff Carey reported the following: 1.) Mr. Carey welcomed everyone to the Cherry School and indicated that they had a good start to the year. Mr. Carey said the staff is outstanding in Cherry and he's excited about being there; 2.) Volleyball is #1 in the section; 3.) Enrollment is up 20 from last year with an addition of 10 new students enrolling since the beginning of the year, for a total of 30 new students; 4.) On the construction project the foundation is laid for the gym and the roof will be on next week; 5.) On the 21st Century learning – Mondo has started and the kids are enjoying it; and 6.) Things are going well in Cherry and the test scores are good.

Kevin Abrahamson reported the following: 1.) Met with the math teacher group last week and made some real progress. Names for math courses were determined so the

curriculum will be uniform throughout the district. Wednesday met with English Language Arts teachers. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 2010 with the student advisory committee. One student from grades 10, 11 and 12 will be represented for each school.

Discussion followed.

Kathy Sterk, Minnesota Department of Education Regional AYP Coordinator for the NESC gave a power point presentation to the school board on the test results for all schools. Ms. Sterk handed out the AYP results and explained that our schools are making good progress.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to approve consent agenda:
October 12, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; October 18, 2010 Special School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy: 5.21 Donations: 1.) \$25.00 from the Cook Area Credit Union, Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 2.) \$100.00 from American Bank of the North, Nashwauk, MN for the Cook School; 3.) \$200.00 from the VFW Post 1757, Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 4.) \$150.00 from Disability Specialist, Inc., Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 5.) \$250.00 from Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Tower, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 6.) \$300.00 from Cook Timberwolves Snowmobile Club, Inc., Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 7.) \$100.00 from Tim John Insurance Agency, Inc., Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 8.) \$100.00 from the Cook Fire Department Relief Assn., Cook, MN for the Cook School Youth Development program; 9.) \$500.00 from "Saturday Night Country...Live!", Iron, MN for the Babbitt-Embarrass School music program; 10.) \$1,316.98 from Target "Take Charge of Education" for the Babbitt-Embarrass School. \$734.78 from Target "Take Charge of Education" for the Cotton School; 11.) \$823.26 from Target "Take Charge of Education" for the Orr School; 12.) \$50.88 from the Orr PTSO for the Orr School; 13.) \$292.47 from the Tiger Club of Cherry for the JV football bus to AlBrook School; 14.) \$347.82 from AlBrook Academic Boosters for the AlBrook School student planners; 15.) \$500.00 from "Saturday Night Country...Live!" , Iron MN for the AlBrook School music program; 16.) \$500.00 from the Cook Lions for the Cook School Youth Development; and 17.) \$5,000.00 from Endeavor Foundation, Cumberland, WI for the Cook School Youth Development.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to accept Courtney E. Johnson's letter of resignation as an instructional aide, effective October 29, 2010.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by C. Larson to accept Melinda Warren's letter of resignation as an In-School Suspension monitor and ITV teaching assistant, effective October 18, 2010.

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

The Superintendent explained to the school board that other districts are experiencing the same need in hiring support staff.

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by A. Larson to hire Ilona Svedberg as a site secretary I, long term substitute, 8 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 7, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bjerklie to hire Melinda Warren as an instructional aide, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 5 days per week, effective October 18, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to hire Frances Smith as an instructional aide for learning readiness, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Friday only), effective October 15, 2010 and instructional aide for ECSE, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Thursday only), effective October 28, 2010, for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Rantala to hire Natalie Graves as an instructional aide, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective October 1, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Rantala to hire Gloria Ahlgren as an instructional aide, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Tuesday only, effective October 1, 2010, for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Board Chair B. Larson objected to the 2% increase in salary and indicated that he would have to vote no.

Board Member Bruns was part of the negotiating committee and said that it was a fair increase.

Board Member C. Larson also objected to the increase and indicated that it was more than other groups in the district.

Board Member Beaudry also part of the committee said that the percentage given to other groups was not comparing apples to apples and that the 2% increase was fair.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to approve the District Office (non-bargaining) agreements at 2% for 2009-2010 – 2% for 2010-2011 and MOU language on severance pay option in lieu of cash payment to apply only to Tom Cundy, Linda R. Cox and Teri Slygh who are eligible for this option.

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

On the Principal grievance the Superintendent indicated that there would be no discussion on this level. The Superintendent recommended that the board chair appoint a committee to deal with the problem.

Board chair indicated that he would give the Superintendent the names of 3 members after the meeting.

Board member C. Larson said that the chair should appoint the committee members at the meeting.

Board chair proceeded to appoint three members: Beaudry, Rantala and B. Larson will make up the committee.

2011-2012 Athletic Proposal

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.

The Superintendent recommended that the 2011-2012 Athletic Proposal be passed as presented.

Board member Bruns said that she believes that it is not the right thing to do right now and asked the board to not make the Cook and Orr schools a combined team.

Board Member Beaudry indicated that if we continue to focus on the negative it will drive the communities apart. Mr. Beaudry said that this athletic proposal is a positive thing.

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the 2011-2012 athletic proposal as presented.

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

Comments from the School Board:

Board member Beaudry thanked everyone for their positive reports.

Board member Rantala reiterated the same comments as Mr. Beaudry. Mr. Rantala commented that he has had several requests from Babbitt parents on fundraisers. They would like to be given the option to donate instead of purchase items.

Board member Bjerklie commented on the bad press that the Babbitt-Embarrass School coach received in the Mesabi Daily News for forfeiting the game. Mr. Bjerklie commended that the coach should have been commended and not criticized for considering the health of the students. Mr. Bjerklie also discussed that the Cherry School should be considered the “Central Campus” and would like it on the next agenda.

Board member C. Larson thanked everyone for their reports.

Board Chair B. Larson thanked everyone for their hospitality. Mr. Larson indicated that he’s getting the impression that the district is getting better and better and that’s the atmosphere that we want.

Superintendent Rick reported that he will be meeting with Orr Mayor Dale Long tomorrow to discuss partnering with Orr.

The regular board meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.