

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010.

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

ABSENT: Beaudry
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, August 9, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Member Rantala arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) The Superintendent attended a financial refresher at the NESC on July 27 & 28; 2.) Last Wednesday the Superintendent attended a back to school Department of Education conference at the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park, MN. There are changes in Q Comp and we will be re-submitted our proposal within 30 days; 3.) We received a letter from Jodi Summit, Board Chair of the Vermilion Country School. We will be scheduling a formal meeting with them to discuss the details; 4.) The district has received notice that the Highway 169 North Improvement Task Force will be meeting on Thursday, August 19, 2010 at the Tower Civic Center; and 5.) On Thursday, Channel 11 and 6 will be meeting with Principal Kristi Berlin doing a story on education at the AlBrook School which will focus on the new school project.

Discussion followed.

Principal Kevin Abrahamson spoke about Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction. He gave the school board several handouts and reviewed the MCA II tests in

math, reading and science. The secondary language arts committee will be meeting on August 28th to review the current curriculum map. 21st Educational planning team will meet on August 23rd to review progress during the past year and the proposed next steps. RtI training with Amy Maki will occur on August 26th at the NESC. The district will implement RtI for math in grades K-2 and expect to move to full implementation during the 2011-12 school year. A data retreat has been scheduled for August 30-31 with Kathy Strek at the NESC. Mr. Abrahamson attended the MN Assessment Conference in Roseville on August 5th. Sessions were informative and beneficial. Grades 3-8 math MCAs will be online this year. The Department of Education is planning to implement new tests and standards in English/language arts, science and math. For the second year we have decided not to offer summer re-testing for GRAD portions due to extremely low numbers of attendees. GRAD re-test session is scheduled for October.

John Henry of Johnson Controls reported that the Cherry School project is moving forward. The structural package is out for bids and the demolition is done. The Babbitt-Embarrass School chimney is done and the asbestos will be done before the start of school. Architectural Resources, Inc. will be starting the design of the Tower-Soudan and Babbitt-Embarrass Schools. All permits are in for the Southern site except the MPC permit. The Northern School site meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Board Committee Report: Board Chair B. Larson asked if there was any word from the City of Babbitt regarding the land swap.

Board Member Rantala indicated that we have not heard from Babbitt.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to approve consent agenda: July 19, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy-Donations: 1.) \$219.75 from the Tower-Soudan Lion's Club for the Tower-Soudan School Youth Development program; Program: Lease Agreement on property located at Southern Site (Northeast Quarter of Northwest Quarter, except that part North of County Road 47, Section 30, Township 52 North of Range 17 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, located in the County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota; 2010-2011 Student Handbook.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Rantala to award the milk bid to Franklin Foods for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bruns to award the coal bid to C. Reiss Coal Company for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bjerklie to award the propane bid to Ferrellgas for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bruns to award the fleet insurance bid to Dwight Swanstrom Agency for the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to award bids for the South Campus K-12 Site and Building Construction Contracts to the following: 1.) Building Concrete to Hammerlund Construction, Inc., Grand Rapids, MN-\$590,000.00; 2.) Structural Precast Concrete Wall Panels & Concrete Plank to Hanson Structural Precast, Inc., Maple Grove, MN-\$572,505.00; 3.) Masonry to Harbor City Masonry, Inc., Duluth, MN-\$2,101,729.00; 4.) Structural & Misc. Steel-Supply to Thurnbeck Steel Fabrication, Inc., Forest Lake, MN-\$652,979.00; 5.) Structural & Misc. Steel Erection to Red Cedar Steel Erectors, Inc., Menomonie, WI-\$227,600.00; 6.) Plumbing to Stack Brothers Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Superior, WI-\$1,098,000.00; 7.) Site Grading, Earthwork, Excavation, Backfill & Site Utilities to Wagner Construction, Inc., S. International Falls, MN-\$1,760,660.00; 8.) Highway 47 Turn Lane to Veit & Company, Inc., Rogers, MN-\$121,000.00; for a Total in Contract(s) of \$7,124,473.00.

Board Member A. Larson asked if this was only a partial bid.

John Henry of Johnson Controls indicated that it was and that there are 44 more bid packages to award.

Board Member Bruns said that she has a problem with voting on the partial bids since there is still one permit that hasn't been received.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Rantala to approve revising the 2010-2011 school calendar to include two (2) staff development days: November 3, 2010 and February 22, 2011.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bjerklie to approve signature changes and up-dates for Queen City Federal; American Bank and First National Bank for the 2010-2011 school year as follows: Cherry – Queen City Federal: Jeff Carey, Principal; Charlene Nelson, Site I Secretary; Sheri Lee, Teacher; Cotton – American Bank: Kristi Berlin, Principal; Lori Miller, Site I Secretary; Cook – First National Bank: John Metsa, Principal; Gloria Bartlett, Site I Secretary; Carol Erickson, Site II Secretary; and William Fierke-Kleppe, Teacher.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to approve the purchase of the Mondo Bookshop program for on or about \$143,304.00.

Board Member Bruns asked is this program will be place this year.

Principal Kevin Abrahamson said yes.

Kristen Cooper, Cherry School teacher presented the curriculum to the board as examples of the curriculum. Ms. Cooper indicated that this curriculum will create consistency throughout the district and that it works with existing reading materials. Ms. Cooper said that the teachers are excited about this (user friendly) program.

Superintendent Rick told the school board that parents will be informed of the new curriculum on the first day of school.

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

Principal Kristi Berlin explained the TIES program. Ms. Berlin indicated that the district will be the first in the area for K-12 tool and will organize all of the district data.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to approve the TIES Personalized Learning Program for three (3) years: \$15,400. for year 1; \$9,500. for year 2 and \$9,500. for year 3.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by A. Larson to accept Dr. Charles Rick's letter of retirement / resignation, effective January 3, 2011.

Board Member Bruns indicated that she is sorry that the Superintendent won't be around to see all this happen.

Board Member Bjerklie said that he hoped that the Superintendent would be around if the district needed extra help.

Motion by Bruns and seconded by Rantala to accept Nancy Lindbeck's letter of retirement / resignation as an instructional aide effective August 31, 2010.

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

Motion by Bruns and seconded by A. Larson to accept Kerrisa Malmstrom's letter of resignation as health assistant effective September 17, 2010.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to accept Leslie Provencher's letter of resignation as teacher aide and In School Suspension Monitor effective the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to rescind the hiring of Peter Backstrom as a 1.0 FTE teacher effective September 1, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year.

Superintendent Rick explained that the hiring of Peter Backstrom needed to be approved since Mr. Backstrom could not receive his teaching licensure due to a lack of classes.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to accept Susan Lindmeier's letter of resignation as a teacher, effective 2010-2011 school year.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Rantala to accept Virginia A. Leander's letter of resignation as a Title I teacher, effective August 31, 2010.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to accept Anna Jurenes's letter of retirement / resignation as a teacher, effective August 4, 2010.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to hire Kristin Cornwell as co-assistant volleyball coach at the Babbitt-Embarrass School for the 2010-2011 school year, dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Bjerklie to amend the hiring of Jim Mackai to reflect that Mr. Mackai is hired as a co-assistant volleyball coach at the Babbitt-Embarrass School for the 2010-2011 school year, dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to recall Claire Rugar to a .75 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Against – None

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to offer Claire Rupar a .15 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010 with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Bruns and seconded by Rantala to recall Bernadine Kantola a .3 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010 with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to recall Robin Licari to a .5 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010 with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Robin Licari a .1 tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Erin Cox a 1.0 Tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Board Chair B. Larson indicated that he has a concern about the amount of .7 FTE for the dean of students portion.

Superintendent Rick stated that as the schedule develops the dean of students will probably be less than .7 FTE.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to offer Lara Conrad a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step C, BA, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Bruns to offer Paula Wolfe a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step C, BA, effective September 1, 2010, 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, B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Bjerklie, Rantala
Absent - Beaudry
Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to offer Ann Demoski-Roberts a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step L, MASEQ, effective September 1, 2010, 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, B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Bjerklie, Rantala
Absent - Beaudry
Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer John Babineau a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step F, BA30, effective September 1, 2010, 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, B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Bjerklie, Rantala
Absent - Beaudry
Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to offer Rachel Pastoor a .8 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step L, MAEQ, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Clarice Beresford a .9 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, effective September 1, 2010, contingent upon securing a 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.

Board Member Bruns questions how the special education portion of her assignment could be district-wide.

DaNeil Sirjord, ECFE Director replied that all of our ECSE teachers are district-wide

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bruns to offer Elysa Kemen a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step C, BA, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to offer Peter M. Klabecek a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step E, BA, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Scott Process a .5 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step C, BA, effective September 1, 2010, 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.

Board Member A. Larson indicated that he noticed that several of these teachers have variances. Mr. Larson asked if there are any problems getting the variances.

Superintendent Rick answered that we have not had any problems.

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

Comments from the board:

Board Member Rantala apologized for being late to the meeting.

Board Member Bruns thanked Principal Kevin Abrahamson for the report.

Board Member Bjerklie expressed to Superintendent Rick that he hoped that he enjoys his retirement. Mr. Bjerklie said that Dr. Rick has done a lot for the district.

Board Chair B. Larson congratulated Dr. Rick on his retirement and thanked him for what he's done for the district; Mr. Larson spoke about a Superintendent search committee. He was in touch with the MSBA and they will have something available to aide in the Superintendent search starting October 1, 2010. Mr. Larson asked if the school board would like to hire a firm to assist them, use MSBA or work independently.

Board Member Bruns and C. Larson indicated that they would like to work independently.

Board Chair B. Larson scheduled a board study session for Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at ISD # 2142 District Office. Other topics for the agenda are: Meet with the Principals; Fine Arts Collaboration; and Plans for 2010-2011. Mr. Larson also explained to the board that he has met with the City of Orr Mayor J. Dale Long. The City of Orr needs a letter of support for their assisted living project and Mr. Larson would like to the board's support.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Bruns to add to the agenda to include a motion of support for the City of Orr's assisted living project.

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

Motion by Bruns and seconded by Rantala to support the assisted living project in the City of Orr.

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

Absent - Beaudry
Against – None

Board Chair Larson also advised the board about delaying the curriculum director position due to the Superintendent search. The position was advertised and three (3) applications were received.

Board Chair also spoke briefly about the Vermilion Country Charter School.

The regular school board meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.