

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010.

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

ABSENT: Beaudry
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 Cotton School, September 13, 2010, at 5:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by C. Larson to change the agenda by deleting enclosure 6.361, which eliminated the instructional aide position, held by Gloria Autio.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by A. Larson to approve the amended agenda

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

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1. The Superintendent reported that we currently have 1,886 students enrolled in the district. A handout was given to the board with the enrollment information.

Business Manager, Kim Johnson, explained the losses and gains. Ms. Johnson also had a handout and will be updating the board monthly.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent Rick continued his report: 2.) Dr. Rick spoke on the Biomass energy grant of approximately \$600,000. for the Northern schools, Tower-Soudan and Babbitt-Embarrass Schools. He explained that the district has had one extension but the project(s) must be completed by December 31, 2010. People involved in the project will be meeting with Reed Erickson from the Department of Economic Development on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the District Office to update him on the status of the project. The district could possibly bid and purchase the equipment with installation in the spring. At present the intent is to use the grant and to move forward unless the board advises not to; 3.) Tomorrow, September 14, 2010, there will be a meeting regarding the Tower-Soudan School community meeting of September 20, 2010; 4.) The MSBA is sponsoring a meeting in Hibbing, MN on Wednesday, September 15, 2010; 5.) The staff meeting on September 1, 2010 at the Babbitt-Embarrass School went well; 6.) The levy document will be on the next agenda; 7.) The Superintendent suggested that the building management team committee start meeting again in order to improve communication. Dr. Rick indicated that the district should have regularly scheduled meetings; 8.) Transition planning for athletics needs to be addressed before the end of the year.

Kevin Abrahamson spoke on the Inservice and workshop training schedules that occurred for staff during the summer of 2010. Mr. Abrahamson gave the school board a handout on the dates and indicated that there was approximately 85% of the staff was involved.

Cotton School Principal Kristy Berlin reported the following: 1.) Ms. Berlin reported that there is a great staff at the Cotton School and they have made many changes in the classes and curriculum. Students are appreciative for Mondo and she is integrating the AlBrook and Cotton Schools in different areas since both schools will be mirroring each other. Ms. Berlin invited the school board to a football game that the 3rd and 4th graders will be playing on Friday.

Discussion followed.

John Henry of Johnson Controls reported: 1.) Mr. Henry reported that all the trees have been cut on the South project and have been shipped to the mills. The outstanding permit should be issued within 2 weeks and then all permits will be in; All permits are in on the Cherry School project and the footings are going in before cold weather sets in. Architectural Resources is gearing up to be with the district for the Tower-Soudan Community meeting on Monday. On the Northern project we are putting the answers together for the County and the MPCA permit was approved.

Discussion followed.

Board Committee Report:

Board Member Rantala met with Babbitt Mayor Anderson and they are willing to work with the district on the ball fields. Mr. Rantala indicated that their ball fields need a

lot of up-dating and advised not entering into any agreement with the city at this time. He will continue to work with the City of Babbitt if the board desires.

Board Chair B. Larson replied that he should continue to move forward.

Board Member Beaudry arrived at the board meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Board Member Rantala indicated that there are a lot of questions from Babbitt concerning the remodel. There are 18 people on the committee who would like to meet. A community meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Babbitt-Embarrass School Media Center. John Henry of Johnson Controls and Architectural Resources will be in attendance.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve consent agenda: September 13, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; Policy: 5.21 Donations: \$180.00 from Hector Communications Corp. (Arrowhead Internet) for the Cotton School; 5.31 Mesabi Range Community & Technical College Concurrent Enrollment Renewal Agreement for the 2010-2011 School Year.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to approve the Culture Based Arts Integration Grant Liaison Service agreement between Independent School District #94 of Cloquet and St. Louis County School District #2142.

Director of Indian Education, Lowana Greensky, spoke to the board about the agreement. She was approached by Jean Ness from the University of Minnesota for this project, which will resurrect the CAPP Committee to develop K-8 cultural based arts where the community will become part of our schools. This project will be able to use local people and pay them for their expertise. Ms. Greensky explained that the end result will develop resource people for the district.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Beaudry to offer Maria Strom a .9 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step J BA-30, 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Against – None

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to offer Timothy Rand a .9 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by C. Larson to offer Benjamin W. House 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by C. Larson to offer Trudy Halverson a .6 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, at Step D BA, effective September 1, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to offer Scott Process a .3 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by Bjerklie and seconded by Rantala to offer Kathleen Niska 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Against – None

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to offer Chelsea M. Blomberg a .9 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Rantala to offer Kelly Chick 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Rantala to accept Kathy Zavodnik's letter of resignation as Site Secretary III and ITV Teaching Assistant effective, September 1, 2010.

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

Motion by A. Larson and seconded by Rantala to accept Jeanne Jensrud's letter of resignation as an instructional aide effective, August 30, 2010.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to accept Dennis Wyrum's letter of resignation as bus driver effective, September 3, 2010.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Bjerklie to hire Bret Wardas as a bus driver, bargaining unit, not to exceed full time equivalency for this position, 5 days per week,

effective September 7, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to hire Carrie Erickson as an assistant cook, bargaining unit, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week (temporary for up to one (1) year), effective September 7, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by C. Larson to hire Jessica Hagolin as health assistant, bargaining unit, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., 5 days per week, effective September 13, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Beaudry to hire Linda Tindell as van driver, bargaining unit, AM / PM route, 5 days per week, effective September 7, 2010, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers #70.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to approve Robert R. Astleford as the assistant football coach at the Orr School for the 2010-2011 fall season, dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation.

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

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by Rantala to recall Bernadine K. Kantola to a .05 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, Beaudry, C. Larson, Bjerklie, Rantala
Absent - Bruns
Against – None

Motion by Beaudry and seconded by C. Larson to recall Todd Olson to a .2 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2010-2011 school year, 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 ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Beaudry to approve the elimination of the instructional aide position, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, held by Tammy T. Smith, effective September 20, 2010.

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

Comments from the board:

Board Member Rantala said that he appreciates everything at the Cotton School and all the reports given tonight.

Board Member Bjerklie thanked everyone for coming.

Board Member C. Larson acknowledged Ms. Zupetz, candidate of Cherry, for coming, and also the two candidates from Cook.

Board Member Beaudry apologized for arriving late, it was due to attendance at a funeral in International Falls.

Board Member B. Larson spoke to the board about the board committee made up of three (3) members to attend the construction projects. Mr. Larson suggested perhaps a rotation of board members on the committee for communication purposes.

Board Member Bjerklie emphasized that the Superintendent, a board representative, and a principal should be involved.

Board Member C. Larson questioned why the board needs a committee when they are already getting reports from John Henry?

Discussion followed.

Board Member Beaudry suggested the possibility of conference calls.

Board Member Rantala indicated that committees would be in order because of the communication part of it.

Discussion followed.

Board Member Beaudry said “Delays are going to start costing our kids.”

Board Chair B. Larson indicated that the Superintendent will call the board committee members, principals, Tom Cundy and Kim Johnson. The committee can then report to the board. Mr. Larson then indicated that the board members need to focus on the big picture; The ground breaking for the Southern site was positive; We need to contact Tom Deans about the board member count; and School closings should be done by January 2011.

Superintendent Rick told the board that curriculum will be done in November.

Board Member Rantala asked to have the topic of closing schools added to the September 22, 2010 board study session agenda.

It was discussed changing the time of the board study session to 4:00 p.m. instead of 5:00 p.m. to accommodate the addition of closing schools on the agenda.

The regular board meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.