

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2011.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruns
 B. Larson
 C. Larson
 Feist
 Rantala
 Swanson
 Zupetz

ALSO PRESENT: Strong
 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 August 8, 2011, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Feist to approve the agenda.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Superintendent Strong report: 1.) Things have been busy for a few weeks. Finalizing the August calendar for teachers with a leadership meeting on August 9, 2011 on ipad training; 2.) Working on staff development and training.

Board Member B. Larson asked if the test scores are out yet.

The Superintendent replied that the test scores will be delayed due to the State shut down.

Board Member Zupetz asked if the advertising is helping.

The Superintendent said that it has helped. We presently have 35 new students enroll to south Ridge School and additional students enrolled at Cherry School.

John Henry report: At South Ridge the water tower is being painted today and the building is being dressed out; In Cherry the remodeled school will be on time, but it has issues. The construction crews have been working all weekend; In Babbitt and Tower the crews are cleaning up. The North site is getting the water tower next week. The walls

for the elementary are going up and the power will be going in next week. The site is moving along well.

Discussion on the Orr School playground:

Mary Gabrielson spoke on behalf of the Orr community. Mrs. Gabrielson spoke in favor of keeping the playground equipment in Orr since it was purchased and constructed by the Orr community.

Mayor Dale Long spoke to the board and displayed a list of people who were donors in the playground project. Mayor Long was also in favor of keeping the playground equipment in Orr.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Bruns and seconded by Rantala that the playground equipment that was removed from the Orr School be returned to Orr by the district and sold to the City of Orr for \$1.00.

Discussion followed.

Board Chair Bruns said that it is the right thing to do. The Orr community has lost its school and this is a good gesture for the board to do and there is no issue with liability.

Board Member Swanson indicated that we don't need to burn anymore bridges.

Discussion followed.

John Henry commented that when the board passed to close the Orr School it was discussed with the board that the equipment would be removed due to liability issues.

Board Chair Bruns said that maybe the motion should be amended to include any community that wished to use the playground equipment could do it.

The original motion was read again: Motion by Bruns and seconded by Rantala to state that playground equipment that was removed from the Orr School be returned to Orr by the district and sold to the City of Orr for \$1.00.

Discussion followed.

Board Chair Bruns said the original motion was adequate.

Board Member Feist thanked the people of Orr for doing what they did.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz

Against – None

Mayor Long also inquired about the school trophies and asked if the city could take some to display at the city of Orr offices and keep them until they could be displayed at the North Woods School.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to approve the consent agenda: July 18, 2011 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; July 25, 2011 Special School Board Meeting Minutes.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by B. Larson to approve change orders for the North Woods School project: Peterson Companies-\$895.00; Nelson-Collie-\$15,971.00; Ben's Steel-\$(646.00); Thelen-\$2,683.00; Mulcahy Nickolaus-\$(600.00); SAAFE-\$13,258.00; St. Germain's Glass-\$(10,311.00); Haldmeman-Homme-\$(30,000.00); Peterson Companies-\$5,670.00, for a total of \$(29,596.00).

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Rantala and seconded by C. Larson to approve change orders for the Northeast Range School project: Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$66,903.31; Tromco Electric-\$4,400.00; Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$4,229.50; Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$7,462.40; Tromco Electric-\$223,626.00; Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$4,492.88; Bob Hecimovich Mechanical-\$23,039.80; Tromco Electric-\$4,008.00; Tromco Electric-\$3,515.00; Tromco Electric-\$3,375.00; Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$841.50; Max Gray Construction, Inc.-\$957.00, for a total of \$346,850.49.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Feist and seconded by Zupetz to approve change orders for the Cherry School project: Dynamic Structural Steel-\$(380.00); Red Cedar Steel Erectors-\$760.00; Red Cedar Steel Erectors-\$380.00; Red Cedar Steel Erectors-\$285.00; Dynamic Structural Steel-\$(285.00); Red Cedar Steel Erectors-\$570.00; Dynamic Structural Steel-\$(570.00); Regional Contracting & Painting-\$690.00; Breth-Zenzen Fire Protection-\$2,067.45; Mesabi Glass, Window & Door-\$304.00; Klamm Mechanical-\$2,760.18; Max Gray Construction-\$690.77; Hammerlund Construction-\$(690.77); Max Gray Construction-\$237.60; Klamm Mechanical-\$(164.15); The Caulkers Company-\$840.00; MCI-\$(117.61); Max Gray Construction-\$(580.00); Northern Door & Hardware-\$2,430.00; Regional Contracting & Painting-\$5,226.00, for a total of \$14,453.47.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by C. Larson to approve change orders for the South Ridge School project: Parallel-\$5,500.00; WE Neal Slate-\$1,670.00; Red Cedar Steel-\$1,520.00; Stack Brothers-\$2,742.57; Parallel-\$4,248.00; Anderson Ladd-\$1,200.00; Steinbrecher-\$1,252.00; Maguire Iron-\$5,700.00; Parallel-\$47,062.00; Parallel-\$74,250.00; SAAFE-\$(26,751.00); Thelen-\$1,549.00; Mesabi Glass-\$450.00; Acoustics-\$6,324.00; Custom-\$13,734.00; Wagner-\$14,106.00, for a total of \$154,556.57.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Feist to approve the 2011-2012 school year MSHSL: Cooperative Sponsorship agreements for boy's and girl's cross country for the South Ridge / Cherry / and North Woods Schools.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Superintendent Strong explained the YMCA Before / After School Proposal for the Cherry/North Woods/Tower-Soudan/South Ridge Schools which is for K-6 students and fee based. The district would provide a room for the program with a minimum of 12 students to enter into the program. Financial assistance would also be available through the YMCA. Superintendent Strong explained the necessity of having the district commit to this program.

Discussion followed.

The superintendent also explained that we will be offering more Community Education programs for high school students.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by C. Larson to continue looking at the YMCA Before / After School program to have them come in.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Zupetz to grant permission to explore the service of on-line payments through Infinite Campus.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to approve the Lake Country Power Agreement for the North Woods School in the amount of \$52,092.00.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz

Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to approve the purchase of a 2008 Bluebird, 48 passenger school bus #1BAKBCPH99F255556 for the amount of \$52,000. plus tax and license and trade of a 1998 International school bus #26 for a price of \$1,750.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Swanson and seconded by Rantala to approve change orders for the Tower-Soudan School project: Lenci Enterprises, Inc.-\$1,837.00; Lenci Enterprises, Inc.-\$922.00, for a total of \$2,759.00.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Feist and seconded by Swanson to accept the Field township offer to dismiss the lawsuit.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Rantala to not support the request for a MSHSL Cooperative Sponsorship for Cross Country between EdVisions Off Campus and South Ridge/Cherry/North Woods Schools.

Discussion followed.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Zupetz
Against – Swanson

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to offer Brian Rosenberg a .4 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2011-2012 school year, effective August 31, 2011, contingent upon applying and 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 – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to offer Alizabeth Beseke a .2 FTE tenured teaching contract for the 2011-2012 school year, effective August 31, 2011, contingent upon applying and 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 – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to offer Scott Process a .2 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2011-2012 school year, effective August 31, 2011, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to offer Robin Licari a .2 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2011-2012 school year, effective August 31, 2011, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Feist and seconded by Zupetz to offer Megan Hagberg a 1.0 FTE probationary teaching contract for the 2011-2012 school year, at BA C, effective August 31, 2011, contingent upon applying and 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 – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Feist and seconded by Rantala to approve a medical leave of absence for Lynn Dee Lehto, teacher, effective August 31, 2011 in accord with master agreement Article XI, Section 7, Subd. 3 and 4, between ISD # 2142 and EDMNSLCT.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to approve the 2011-2012 coaching staff as presented, dependent upon appropriate levels of high school (grades 9-12) participation: Cherry: Assistant Football-Scott Sauter; Northeast Range: Head Volleyball-Jim Mackai; Assistant Volleyball-Kristin Cornwell; South Ridge: Assistant Volleyball-Shelby Slygh; and Assistant Girls Basketball-Shelby Slygh.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Feist to hire Kathy Vraa as a cook aide, 2 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 6, 2011 for the 2011-2012 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamsters Local #346.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Zupetz to deny the Ellen Pierce grievance at the board level.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Feist to eliminate the site I secretary position, 6 hours per day, 5 days per week, held by Elizabeth Cook effective the 2011-2012 school year.

Yes – B. Larson, Bruns, C. Larson, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz
Against – None

Comments from the board:

Board Member Rantala said that there are rumors out there that Northeast Range and the other schools won't be open for the start-up of school. Mr. Rantala would like the public to be informed that school will be starting on September 6, 2011.

Board Member C. Larson indicated that we need to hire the Dean of Students at the Orr School and also need to hire a curriculum director.

Board Chair Bruns asked to have John Jirik hired as Dean of Students on the next agenda.

Discussion followed.

Superintendent Strong explained that Kevin Abrahamson will be the full time principal at the Tower-Soudan School and he will also be assigned to be the curriculum director. Mr. Abrahamson will be housed at the Tower-Sudan School.

Board Member B. Larson inquired about the Just kids dental for free dental.

Board Chair Bruns asked to have Smiles Across Minnesota added to the next agenda.

Board Member B. Larson indicated that he has had parent inquiries into students maintenance of grades while participating in sports. He also said that the district needs to advertize the AlBrook, Cotton and Orr Schools. Mr. Larson also asked about the status of Community Ed.

Board Member Swanson said that he would like a meeting to explore Community Education. Mr. Swanson also indicated that facebook is working good.

Board Member Zupetz said that she is glad that the district is doing an after school program.

Board Member Feist indicated that she has had a lot of inquires from parents concerning the after school program. Ms. Feist also said that she was glad that the playground equipment was given back.

Board Chair Bruns said that she informed Mayor Long about listing the Orr School. In addition, Mayor Long is working with attorneys and FDH regarding a wastewater management agreement at a better price.

The board meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.