

THE REORGANIZATIONAL / REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142, ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS, HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011.

MEMBERS PRESENT:       Bruns  
                                  B. Larson  
                                  C. Larson  
                                  Feist  
                                  Rantala  
                                  Swanson  
                                  Zupetz  
ALSO PRESENT:       Rick  
                                  Cox  
                                  Johnson

The reorganizational meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2142, St. Louis County Schools, was held at ISD # 2142 District Office on January 10, 2011, at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF SCHOOL BOARD  
OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2142  
(ST. LOUIS COUNTY)  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Reorganizational / Regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142 (St. Louis County), State of Minnesota, was held in said school district on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2011, at 5:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present:

and the following were absent:

Member C. Larson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES  
OF ELECTION AND DIRECTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK  
TO PERFORM OTHER ELECTION RELATED DUTIES**

**WHEREAS**, the board has canvassed the general election for school board members held in conjunction with the state general election on November 2, 2010.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142, State of Minnesota, as follows:



This is to certify as follows:

1. The School Board of Independent School District No. 2142 on November 8, 2010, canvassed the general election of school board members held on November 2, 2010.
2. Lynette Zupetz received the largest number of votes cast for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 2142 for Election District No. 5 for a full four (4) year term.
3. Therefore Lynette Zupetz is elected to the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 2142 for a full four (4) year term beginning on the first Monday in January, 2011 and expiring on the first Monday in January, 2015.

By authority of the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142, pursuant to resolution dated January 10, 2011.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION  
ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2  
(Cook) (Full 4 Year Term)**

This is to certify as follows:

1. The School Board of Independent School District No. 2142 on November 8, 2010, canvassed the general election of school board members held on November 2, 2010.
2. Jody Feist received the largest number of votes cast for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 2142 for Election District No. 2 for a full four (4) year term.
3. Therefore Jody Feist is elected to the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 2142 for a full four (4) year term beginning on the first Monday in January, 2011 and expiring on the first Monday in January, 2015.

By authority of the School Board of Independent School District No. 2142, pursuant to resolution dated January 10, 2011.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk









Board Chair Bruns called for nominations for Clerk. Member Zupetz nominated Gary Rantala for Clerk. Board Chair Bruns asked for any other nominations two (2) times and then asked for a vote for Gary Rantala for Clerk.

Gary Rantala was voted for unanimously.

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

Board Chair Bruns called for nominations for Treasurer. Member Rantala nominated Chet Larson for Treasurer. Board Chair Bruns asked for any other nominations two (2) times and then asked for a vote for Chet Larson for Treasurer.

Chet Larson was voted for unanimously.

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

The reorganizational meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

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 January 10, 2011, at 5:12 p.m.

Superintendent Rick reported the following: 1.) On January 17, 2011 there will be a teacher workshop at the Cook School with agenda topics: Q-Comp discussions on professional growth plans; school groups; Compass Learning; Mondo reading; employee benefits; Aimsweb; Reading Counts; curriculum area discussions; and a Special Education staff meeting with Northland Special Education Director Reggie Engebritson; 2.) St. Louis County Board of Adjustment Meeting for the North Site will be on Tuesday, January 18, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. at the Northland Office Center, Virginia; 3.) The State Auditor's office is conducting an examination of the School District pursuant to a petition filed concerning the 2009 Bond Referendum; 4.) The Superintendent attended an Education Innovation Partners meeting on January 3, 2011, who are discussing a change of education on the Iron Range with collaboration between schools and community college. A meeting is being scheduled for February; and 5.) The school board will be attending the MSBA Conference scheduled for January 11-14.

Cook Community Education Coordinator, Cathy Tousey, spoke to the board on the status of the pool at the Cook School. Ms. Tousey reported that Community Ed has been successful in training and securing a lifeguard during the day and has set up a schedule for elementary students. She is presently working on a schedule for the junior and high school students. The Community Ed would like to keep the pool open for the months of February and March in order to keep the elementary and physical education students swimming, since the cost is minimal. Community Education would like to offer a Red Cross and life guard training course with recertification open for the Babbitt-Embarrass, Tower-Soudan and Cook Schools.

Member C. Larson asked for a recommendation from the Superintendent.

Superintendent Rick said that he had no problem with leaving it open for the months of February and March.

Discussion followed.

Business Manager Kim Johnson indicated to the board that there is Community Education monies available.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to approve leaving the all the district pools open for the months of February and March, 2011, to be funded by Community Education.

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

Board Chair Bruns commented that she would like the Orr students to be able to use the Cook School pool.

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Feist to approve consent agenda: December 13, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes; December 22, 2010 Special School Board Meeting Minutes: Policy: 7.21 Donations: 1.) \$25.00 from Target for the Babbitt-Embarrass School music program; 2.) \$88.12 from the Babbitt-Embarrass music boosters for the Babbitt-Embarrass School music program.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by Zupetz to approve Queen City Savings Bank for the months of January and February 2011.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Feist to approve Liquid Asset Fund (Cadre Services) as designated depositories for district funds for 2011.

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

**Salary:** For regularly scheduled school board meeting to be \$225.00 per month, and an hourly rate of \$10.50 per hour for additional meetings that require attendance at meetings, workshops, and conventions, including travel time.

**Mileage:** Follow IRS established rates of .51 per mile. (Effective January 1, 2011)

**Per Diem:** Shall be consistent for all employees at the following rates:

Within Region 7	Breakfast	\$5.00
	Lunch	\$7.00
	Dinner	\$15.00
Outside Region 7	Breakfast	\$10.00
	Lunch	\$15.00

Dinner

\$20.00

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to approve salaries and other compensations for 2011 as presented.

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

Against – None

**Appointments made by Board Chair Zelda Bruns for 2010 calendar year:**

*Continuing Education*                      Troy Swanson

*Staff Development*                         Bob Larson

*Human Rights Officer (s)*                 Gary Rantala  
Jody Feist

*MSHSL Board Representative*             Lynette Zupetz

*Legislative Liaison*                         Troy Swanson  
Zelda Bruns

*Board Representation for Negotiations Contract Renewals:*

*Teachers -*                                         Zelda Bruns  
Bob Larson  
Chet Larson

*Teamsters – (Aides, Food Service, Health Services (COTA)*

Jody Feist  
Gary Rantala

*Operating Engineers – (Custodians, Bus Drivers, Clerical)*

Bob Larson  
Chet Larson

*Principals -*

Chet Larson  
Troy Swanson

*Non-bargaining Unit Employees -*

Lynette Zupetz  
Gary Rantala

Member C. Larson suggested that when the cuts are available, the board have a closed session for negotiation purposes to have everyone on the same page.

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to recognize Colosimo, Patchin, Aronson, Kearney & Brunfelt, Ltd. Law Firm as legal counsel for ISD # 2142 for the year 2011.

Member B. Larson indicated that in the past the board has asked for a certain attorney in a law firm to work with the district and asked for discussion.

Board Chair Bruns said that 3 years ago we requested Mitch Brunfelt to work with the district.

Superintendent Rick commented that attorneys within the firm have expertise in certain areas.

Discussion followed.

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

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Swanson to recognize Knutson, Flynn & Deans P. A. Law Firm as legal counsel for ISD # 2142 for the year 2011.

Member B. Larson asked if there are times that we use this law firm.

Superintendent Rick replied yes.

Board Member C. Larson indicated that Knutson, Flynn & Deans is one of the most leading firms in the state.

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

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by B. Larson to recognize Larkin, Hoffman, Daly & Lindgren Law Firm as legal counsel for ISD # 2142 for the year 2011.

Member C. Larson asked if there is a reason why we should hire them.

Superintendent Rick explained that we are using this law firm to handle the district's building and permit process for the new buildings.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Rantala to award the official district newspaper bid to the Cook News Herald at \$1.05 pr column inch on 14 column, for 2011.

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

Motion by Feist and seconded by Rantala to accept final ISD # 2142 final audit for year ending June 30, 2010.

Greg Knutson, CPA from Walker, Giroux & Hahne, Ltd. explained the audit to the school board.

Discussion followed.

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

Against – None

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

B. Larson moved, that

**Whereas**, there has been a reduction in student enrollment and this reduction in student enrollment must include discontinuance of positions, and curtailment or discontinuance of programs and

**Whereas**, as determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

**Be It Resolved**, by the School Board of ISD 2142,

That the School board hereby directs the superintendent of schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs and positions, and, as a result of reduction in enrollment, make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, the curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions, curtailment of positions.

The motion for the foregoing was duly seconded by member Zupetz and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, Feist, B. Larson, C. Larson, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz

And the following voted again the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Member B. Larson explained that the board needs to come up with a plan in all areas not just the teachers. Mr. Larson asked to have different groups meet with the board for discussion concerning cuts.

Discussion followed.

Board Chair Bruns said that this should be a topic for an upcoming board study session.

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to approve the new school name for the South attendance area to South Ridge School; Mascot-Panthers; and Colors-Black, Royal Blue & Silver, effective the 2011-2012 school year.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Zupetz to approve the hybrid flex schedule for the 2011-2012 school year.

Superintendent Rick commented and recommended that the board approve the flex schedule. Dr. Rick said that it gives the students choice, has community involvement and goes towards what we said we we're going to be doing. It reaches out to students and everyone is excited about this schedule. We need to begin to move forward on this and it has the support of staff and the unions.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to recall Diane Swanson as a tenured Title I teacher for the 2010-2011 school year, to the extent of 4 hours per day, effective January 10, 2011, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and SLCTEM.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by Feist to hire Elizabeth Cook as a site I secretary, bargaining unit, 8 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 3, 2011 for the 2010-2011 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Operating Engineers Local #70.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to hire Kathleen Fisher as head cook, bargaining unit, 7 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective December 14, 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, C. Larson, Bruns, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz  
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by Feist to hire Donna Ruhl as an instructional aide, bargaining unit, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective December 2, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year, with terms and conditions of employment in accord with master agreement between ISD # 2142 and Teamster Local #346.

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

Motion by B. Larson and seconded by C. Larson to hire Laura Sylvester as Indian Home School Liaison, bargaining unit, 1 additional hour per day, 5 days per week, effective January 3,

2011 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, C. Larson, Bruns, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz  
Against – None

Motion by Rantala and seconded by Feist to hire Diane Soxman as instructional aide (long term substitute), bargaining unit, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., 5 days per week, effective January 3, 2011 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, C. Larson, Bruns, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz  
Against – None

Motion by Zupetz and seconded by C. Larson to hire Kariann Kolocek as instructional aide, bargaining unit, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 4, 2011 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, C. Larson, Bruns, Feist, Rantala, Swanson, Zupetz  
Against – None

Motion by Feist and seconded by B. Larson to hire Ilona Svedberg as a site I secretary, bargaining unit, 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 Operating Engineers Local #70.

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

Motion by C. Larson and seconded by B. Larson to ratify the 2009-2011 Clerical contract.

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

Comments from the board:

Board Chair Bruns welcomed the new board members and said that she looks forward to working with them.

Board Member Rantala thanked Greg Knutson and Cathy Tousey for speaking to the board. Mr. Rantala indicated that 54 students came over from the Tower-Soudan School. There was an exceptional motivational speaker and the students were all involved in choosing the new name and school color process. Kids were excited.

Member Zupetz said that she is looking forward to working with the board and is excited about the new flex schedule.

Member C. Larson welcomed the new board members and indicated that the new South school is going up.

Member B. Larson also welcomed the new board members and asked for a review of Q-Comp. Mr. Larson asked to have a Board Study Session scheduled.

Board Chair Bruns scheduled a board study session on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. and a Special School Board Meeting on Monday, January 31, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., both meetings will take place at ISD # 2142 District Office.

Member Feist thanked the board for working with her schedule and said that she is looking forward to this experience.

Member Swanson thanked the board for working with him and also expressed that he is looking forward to being a board member.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.