

SCHOOL BOARD  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15  
St. Francis, Minnesota  
April 14, 2008  
Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Directors H. Grams, S. Grams, Haag, Kelly, Lipinski, Vogel, and Superintendent Saxton.

Others present were Director of Business Affairs Mae Hawkins, Director of Human Services Jay Reker, Director of Special Services Jacque Stein, Director of Community Services Tom Larson, Student School Board representatives Ryan Enerson, LaNae DesRoser, and community members.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular Meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center April 28, May 12, May 27, and June 9. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 12 and June 9. The Retiree Recognition program will be held on May 27, at 6:00 p.m.

### **St. Francis High School Site Report**

Mr. Neubauer presented a table of student data inclusive of the following information from years 2000-01 through the end of trimester two of the 2007-08 school year: 1<sup>st</sup> table - average daily membership, PSEO equivalents, college on campus credits, Fulltime equivalents, average class sizes, ACT test scores, BST/MCA writing passing percentages, graduation rate, and drop out rate. 2<sup>nd</sup> table – suspensions, referrals, chemical violations, violence, absence numbers, tardy numbers, and unexcused absences. 3<sup>rd</sup> table – number of A's, number of failing grades, and grade point averages. In 2002-03 there was no attendance policy. In 2003-04 the numbers of A's increased by 600 however the number of failures increased also. These numbers are tracked. Mr. Neubauer also reviewed numbers for student transactions including additions, drops, summer drops, multiple records for students, reasons for summer drops, and why the population fluctuates so much.

### **Consideration of Visitors**

Ms. Ness addressed the School Board on the upcoming proposal of a study to poll the community regarding an operating levy. Ms. Ness is against spending the money on the study.

### **Communications**

Mr. Saxton addressed an email sent to the Board regarding the driver of the bus accident. Mr. Saxton reported that the driver never drove any students after the date of the accident. The District Leadership Team provided consensus that the Board should go out for an operating levy in the fall, and that any research that could help with that would be a positive move. The Financial Planning Action Committee was in favor of an operating levy and all but one member voted in favor to do research.

### **Agenda**

Motion was made by Mr. Haag and seconded by Ms. Kelly. Motion carried.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Mr. Grams and seconded by Ms. Lipinski. Ms. Grams requested that A. be considered separately, and Mr. Vogel requested C. be considered separately.

B. BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.15 that the Personnel actions as listed below be approved:

### **EMPLOYMENT:**

#### CLASSIFIED

**BRYANT, SCOTT**, Teacher, Crossroads, Long Term Substitute, \$120.00/day, effective 04/07/08.

**LUTTERMAN, GRETA**, Teacher, SFHS, Long Term Substitute, Salary Teacher 1, effective 04/07/08.

**LYNCH, NICOLE**, Teacher, Long Term Substitute, EBCS, Salary Teacher 1, effective 04/07/08.

**MORSE, ELIZABETH**, Teacher, Long Term Substitute, SFHS, Salary MA/1, effective 04/09/08.

#### NON-CLASSIFIED

**BECK, KAREN**, Educational Assistant, CCCS, \$12.66/hr., 6.25 hrs./day prorated from 172.0 days/yr. beginning 04/08/08.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE:**

CLASSIFIED

**BAAR, AMY**, Teacher, CCCS, Return LOA beginning 04/07/08.  
**MARTIN, LORRAINE**, ECFE Educator, LLC, Medical LOA beginning 03/31/08.  
**MODEEN, JAMES**, Teacher, Crossroads, Medical LOA extension to 10/01/08.  
**TROST, ERICA**, Teacher, SFHS, Family Leave Unpaid 2008-09 School Year.  
**WILLIAMS, JULIE**, Instructional Program Supervisor, T-15, Maternity LOA beginning 04/07/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

**HANENBURG, SUSAN**, Educational Assistant, EBCS, Medical LOA extension to 05/05/08.  
**HELEY, ANITA**, Educational Assistant, SFE, Return LOA 03/31/08.  
**MASSIE, ANN**, Educational Assistant, EBCS, Medical LOA beginning 04/01/08.  
**RIEKEN, JACQUE**, Educational Assistant, SFMS, Return from Medical LOA beginning 04/09/08.

**RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION:**

CLASSIFIED

**GREEN, JENNIFER**, Ell Teacher, SFE resignation effective 06/28/08.  
**GOEBEL, RUSSELL**, Work Experience/Handicap Coordinator, SFHS, retirement effective 06/05/08.  
**HIRSCH, GLEN**, Teacher, SFHS, retirement effective 06/05/08.  
**JOHNSON, MARC**, Technology Coordinator, District Wide, resignation effective 04/30/08.  
**LAQUA, DELARY**, World Language Instructor, SFHS, resignation effective 04/02/08.  
**NUTTER, TERRY**, Teacher, SFHS, retirement effective 06/05/08.  
**SPRENGER, PAULA**, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, resignation effective 03/01/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

**ANSTETT, PATRICIA**, Bus Driver, Transportation, resignation effective 04/01/08.  
**BOERBOOM, MARIAN**, Cook, Nutrition Services, Crossroads, retirement effective 06/06/08.  
**HAHN, JULIA**, Educational Assistant, CCCS, resignation effective 04/11/08.  
**OVERVOLD, SHEILA**, Custodian, District Wide Float, resignation effective 03/31/08.  
**WATSON, GEORGE**, Educational Assistant, Crossroads, retirement effective 06/30/08.

D. THAT the Gift Acknowledgements be approved as presented.

- \$5.00, Brenda Gegen, to SFE for curriculum
- \$107.71, Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign, to SFHS at Principal's discretion
- \$2,846.77, Target – Take Charge of Education Program, to SFHS at Principal's discretion
- \$4,000.00, EBCS PTO, to EBCS for library books
- \$1,000.00, Ham Lake Lions, two scholarships @ \$500, one student going to a 2/4 year college and one to a student going to a technical school
- \$250.00, Minnesota Forest Industries, to CCCS for Schoolyard Garden Grant
- \$500.00, Cedar Creek Community School PTO, for student scholarship
- \$605.00, CCCS PTO, to CCCS for Special Education swing for playground
- \$1,500.00, Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce, to SFHS for scholarships

Motion carried.

A. THAT the minutes for March 10 and March 24 be approved as presented.

Motion was made by Ms. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Grams.

Ms. Grams motioned that the minutes for March 10 and March 24 be approved separately due to her absence at the March 24 meeting was seconded by Ms. Kelly. Motion carried for March 10 minutes.

Motion was made to approve March 24 minutes by Mr. Haag and seconded by Mr. Vogel.

Motion carried with one abstention, Ms. Grams.

C. THAT the Purchase Agreement for Transportation Vehicles be approved as presented.

Motion was made by Ms. Grams and seconded by Mr. Haag.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the purchase agreement with National Bus Sales for one 2005 Freightliner/Thomas 71 passenger bus with a purchase price of \$53,000 and one 2002 Thomas/Cat HDX 84 passenger with a purchase price of \$53,900 be approved.

Mr. Vogel requested clarification in purchasing the vehicles. Ms. Hawkins communicated that the purchases

are compatible with the current fleet of buses owned by the District to prepare for the next school year. The funds to purchase these buses are available within the transportation budget. Motion carried with six aye votes and one nay vote, Mr. Vogel.

## **Reports**

### *Mathematics Professional Development*

Paul Agranoff, Teacher and Curriculum Math Specialist, reported on a Japanese Lessons study model. Over the past two years Mr. Agranoff has facilitated the 32 hour study group for sixth through twelfth grade mathematics. The Japanese model is being used and implemented in the study group format. There are significant differences in the way curriculum is developed in the two countries. The Japanese model systemically and systematically improves the instruction by examining the effect on students. Mr. Agranoff provided a complete overview of the lesson study model.

### *Research – Don Lifto, Springsted, Inc.*

Don Lifto presented a power point presentation regarding resources that are available to public school districts in preparing for and conducting either operating or bond referendums. Research of the District would include the Secretary of State voter file, demographic characteristics, resources and planning tools, participation by gender/age/voting habits/and region in past elections, post-election analysis, scientific survey, exploring what voters think of the job the District is doing, performance of the School Board, Administration, or Teaching staff, and support for referendum by gender/age/voting habits/and region.

### *Students' Report*

LaNae DesRoser and Ryan Enerson provided the students' report. HOSA accepted donations for the Alexandra house. MCA testing is taking place at SFHS and around the district. Mr. Messerschmidt was named top coach for girls' basketball in District sections. Foundation 15 scholarship event is April 18. In Skills USA competition Sam Homan will represent MN at the National Leadership and Skill Conference. Sophomore college tours will be April 16. May 5 – 9 is spring week. Prom was held April 12.

### *School Board Report*

Mr. Haag attended the St. Francis Business Expo sponsored by the Chamber. Mr. Haag met with Dean Krause, toured the bus garage and acknowledged Mr. Krause in his leadership in transportation. Mr. Vogel recommended that School Board members read the most recent issue of School Board Journal. Mr. Vogel questioned if the District does background checks on coaches. Yes the District does. Mr. Vogel will contact Mr. Ron Larson regarding concerns with the hockey program. Mr. Vogel attended the Spring Show Case Recital.

Mr. Grams also attended the Business Expo and the St. Francis Elementary carnival, SMC and APT meetings. Mr. Grams questioned whether all sites have SMC constitutions. Yes all sites have constitutions. Mr. Grams received a critical anonymous letter regarding the article written for the Courier, he cannot respond without a name. Mr. Grams communicated with Mr. Zokaites regarding the changes to the student handbook policy. Mr. Grams attended the Prom Grand March.

Mr. Anderson followed up with communication to Mr. Zokaites and the handbook policy. A SMC site constitution received was forwarded to Mr. Saxton. A request has been made for School Board members to write a monthly article in the Courier.

Ms. Lipinski attended the St. Francis Elementary Carnival with family, and also attended the Business Expo. On Friday, April 11, the activity night was cancelled and rescheduled for April 18, which she will participate as chaperone.

Ms. Kelly received two anonymous letters. She encouraged those writing to include their name. Ms. Kelly talked with Mr. Zokaites and Mr. Neubauer regarding the student handbook policy change.

Mr. Haag reminded all that the Foundation 15 Scholarship event is April 18.

### *Dialogue with School Board Report*

Mr. Grams reported that Mr. Gardner questioned school policy on signage that states no fire arms are allowed on existing school properties. Mr. Larson will report back. Ms. Untereker questioned a charge added on for traveling baseball at the middle school. Mr. Larson will report back.

### *Superintendent's Report*

Mr. Saxton talked with Mr. Zokaites about the student handbook policy change. Mr. Saxton attended the Cedar Creek Community School PTA meeting. He also attended the East Bethel Community School PTO meeting. Mr. Saxton met with Ms. Untereker and Ms. Imm on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> regarding questions they had of the District. They suggested that the Superintendent and School Board be open to meeting with

community members off site somewhere. Education matters in the District are going well. PRT observations are being completed.

### **Old Business**

#### *World Wide Web*

Motion was made by Mr. Grams and seconded by Ms. Grams.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the new School Board policy 590 World Wide Web be approved.

Motion carried.

### **Other Matters**

#### *Approval of Contract- Springsted, Inc.*

Motion was made by Mr. Grams and seconded by Ms. Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.15 that the proposal for data analysis and scientific polling services with Springsted, Inc. with a total cost of \$17,100.00 be approved.

Discussion included the following comments: Is the research necessary, no guarantees that this would help the District pass a referendum, would appreciate the data however cannot support the research, remember who elected us, also remember who we represent which are the children, make recommendations to try to make the best decision to promote education, the District has tried a number of referendums and bonds with negative results and it is not because the District did not try, the District did not have the right expertise, the research will help identify voting members, expending funds the District does not have is a large issue with the community, the District just spent money on the study from Dr. Worner, if the District does not use this tool the District will go into a debt spiral, the Board is the voice of the community, the study would assist the Board in knowing if the community is willing to participate and at what level, not looking at the research as passing the referendum, the Board does not know what the community wants, is it affordable, trust, property taxes, the Board does not have those answers, and the District needs to identify what the community will support.

Motion failed with aye votes Mr. Anderson, Mr. Grams, and Ms. Kelly, and nay votes Ms. Grams, Mr. Haag, Ms. Lipinski, and Mr. Vogel.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Harry Grams, Clerk