

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
August 25, 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, and community members.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular Meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center, September 8, September 22, October 13, and October 27. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. prior to regular School Board Meetings.

Public Forums will be held: September 23 – St. Francis High School, October 10 – Lifelong Learning Center, October 22 – St. Francis Elementary School, October 29 – East Bethel Community School.

Consideration of Visitors

None

Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Haag and seconded by Ms. Kelly to accept the agenda with revisions.
Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Grams and seconded by Ms. Lipinski. Ms. Grams requested that item A. Minutes be considered separately. Mr. Vogel requested that revisions to personnel items be highlighted or noted so that Board members know what revisions have been added.

B. THAT the Personnel actions be approved as presented.

EMPLOYMENT:

CLASSIFIED

BYRAM, MEGHAN, Art Teacher, SFMS, BA1, \$39,120.00, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 8.19.08.

HORNER, JASON, Music Teacher, SFHS, MA1, \$40,750.00, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 8.27.08.

MARLOWE, BRADLEY, Industrial Technology Teacher, SFMS, BA3, \$52,160.00, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 8.19.08.

OLSON, JENNIFER, World Language Teacher, SFHS, BA1, \$39,120.00, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 8.19.08.

PORISCH, SARAH, Title I Teacher, SFMS, BA1, \$39,120.00, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 8.19.08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

DADY, KELLY, Educational Assistant, Crossroads, \$12.06/hr., 3.5 hrs./day, 174.0 days effective 8.27.08.

HERDINA, SHERRY, Educational Assistant, Layoff-recall, SFE, 4.5 hrs./day, 163.0 days effective 9.2.08.

KNE, JERRY, 9th Grade Soccer Coach, resignation effective 8.11.08.

THUNBERG, CATHY, Educational Assistant, Layoff-recall, SFE, 4.5 hrs./day, 166.0 days effective 9.5.08.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

CLASSIFIED

HANSON-VANESSEN, REBECCA, Teacher, SFHS, Maternity LOA beginning 8.27.08
PETERSON, SUSAN, Teacher, CCCS, Medical LOA beginning 9.2.08
TRIPP, AMY, Teacher, CCCS, Return from Medical LOA effective 8.26.08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

GARDNER, CYNTHIA, Nutrition Manager, SFMS, Childcare LOA, beginning 8.21.08.
HANENBURG, SUSAN, Educational Assistant, EBCS, Return from Medical LOA effective 8.20.08.
ISUM, LARRY, Custodian, Maintenance, Return from Medical LOA effective 8.19.08.
MASSIE, ANN, Educational Assistant Extension Medical LOA effective 8.19.08.
SOLBERG, CARL, Educational Assistant, SFHS, return from Medical LOA effective 8.1.08.
STOECKEL, PAM, Cook, Nutrition Services, return from Medical LOA effective 8.25.08.

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION:

CLASSIFIED

SCHULTZ, AMBER, Dean of Students, SFHS, resignation effective 8.20.08.
WAGNER, KEVIN, Social Worker, SFE, resignation effective 8.11.08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

BRUESKE, JUSTIN, Technology Specialist, SFMS, resignation effective 8.6.08.
GRITTNER, TIM, Technology Specialist, SFHS, resignation effective 7.30.08.
HALLFIELDER, JENNIFER, Educational Assistant, CCCS, resignation effective 8.19.08.
LANGE, KAREN, Kids Connection Instructor, LLC, resignation effective 8.18.08.
MOODY, SUSAN, Health Educational Assistant, District Wide, resignation effective 7.11.08.
STEENSGARD, MELISSA, Educational Assistant, SFE, resignation effective 8.12.08.
SWEET, PHILIP, Nutrition Transporter, District wide, resignation effective 8.4.08.

C. THAT Claims and Accounts be approved as presented.

D. THAT Investments be approved as presented.

E. THAT the City of St. Francis Police Services Contract be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 approve the Police Liaison contracts with the City of St. Francis Police Department for services as specified and not to exceed \$112,842.91 for school year 2008-09.

F. THAT Gift Acknowledgements be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the following gifts be hereby accepted as set forth in the attached donor form(s)

\$30.00, Wells Fargo/Jennifer Olson, to CCCS for general supplies

\$1,410.30, CCCS PTO, for playground swings at CCCS

\$250.00, Village Bank, for Welcome Back for all staff 8/27 continental breakfast

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

A. THAT Minutes of August 11 be approved as presented. Ms. Grams was not in attendance at the August 11 meeting therefore the request to have it removed and considered separately.

Motion carried with one abstention, Ms. Grams.

Reports

Superintendent Report

The Leadership Conference was held last week with over 150 leaders, peer leaders, curriculum specialists, instructional specialists, and principals, planning for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Saxton and Mr. Neubauer attended a Rapid Response presentation on August 15. This response plan brings all the first responders together, health, fire, police and schools. The site is audited to determine where fire extinguishers are, shut off valves are, and anything needed to assist in the emergency. School representatives meet with the first responders to determine a comprehensive plan. Mr. Saxton will continue to update the School Board regarding this type of plan.

Mr. Saxton attended the ACT curriculum meeting. Ms. Scardigli and Mr. Saxton will meet to discuss assessments until the position for Curriculum is filled.

Mr. Saxton attended the SEE Legislative Committee meeting. Graphs were shown of district rankings in the state.

Ken Bergeson, US Justice Department, called to follow up on progress.

A letter from Concordia College was received, acknowledging student Lynssey Plaisance for her representation at the five day All-State Music Camp and apparent excellent instruction she received through St. Francis High School's music program.

A letter was received from the American Heart Association thanking Rowena Angell and the students at Cedar Creek Community School for outstanding support of the association by participating in the Jump Rope for Heart and/or Hoops for Heart during the 2007-08 school year.

Mr. Saxton attended an adequate yearly progress (AYP) meeting. Handouts were distributed regarding Opinion/Letters on analyzing why schools did not make the AYP, and St Francis High School Data Table. Instructor Joe Plantenberg provided information regarding the MCA II science test that students were given and scored at 30%. The science department believes this is an invalid measure. The District decided not to take the practice test. The department designed testing situations that were downloaded by working with state employees for students to practice. One reason to give the practice test was to make sure technicians knew how to download the test. There were problems downloading student names when it was time to take the test. The 30% score is not a reflection of the students. The School Board is encouraged to take into consideration that this was not a valid measurement.

School Board members do not have access only to the School Board emails yet. Ms. Hawkins continues to work with technology. Mr. Saxton referred to a letter sent to the School Board which does not have a name on it, or return address. Consensus by the Board was that if a name is not included it will not be forwarded to Board members.

School Board Reports

Ms. Lipinski attended the first girls' soccer game.

Mr. Anderson attended the Lifelong Learning Center Advisory Council meeting and reported how active and excited the parents are in getting information out to the community.

Mr. Grams requested that School Board members pair up to go on a rotating schedule for Dialogue with the School Board.

Mr. Vogel requested an update on the sound system for the Community Room. Mr. Reker reported that a new sound system has been ordered and will be here in 6 to 8 weeks.

Mr. Haag suggested that Board members pair up for Dialogue Sessions and that Chair Anderson be the substitute. If a Board member cannot attend when scheduled, that Board member would contact Chair Anderson or another member to substitute for them. Mr. Saxton will set up a rotation schedule.

Dialogue Session

Ms. Lipinski reported that three concerns were addressed at the Dialogue session. 1) why health benefit coverage is not equal in employee groups, 2) overhearing a conversation why there is only one question to the levy, 3) questions regarding Saturday school, how teachers are paid, and why students are coming in on Saturday rather than making up during the school day.

Mr. Grams and Ms. Lipinski will follow up with Mr. Reker and Ms. Hawkins regarding the health question, 2) explained that 90% of those that attended the public forum wanted one question, 3) Mr. Saxton will inquire with Mr. Neubauer how Saturday school is funded and report back.

Administrative Report

Mr. Saxton reported that there is an email from Mr. Clem to the School Board regarding the 403B plan on table top. Mr. Vike, MET Life, is here to explain the process ISD No. 15 used in selecting MET Life for the 403B contract. Representatives from all employee groups participated in the decision process. CBIZ assisted the District in choosing what investments to offer in the plan through MET Life. Mr. Vike will walk through the options available to staff at the Welcome Back session on August 27.

Mr. Saxton distributed a copy of the levy questions card and the brochure that was mailed to homes. School Board members will have the cards available when attending the open houses.

DLT members will establish a SMART goal and submit to their supervisor and to Mr. Saxton.

Mr. Saxton distributed a copy of his tentative timelines for goals for the 2008-09 school year for the School Board to review when they move into closed session to discuss his evaluation.

The School Board took a short break before moving into closed session at 8:10 p.m.

Closed Session: Motion by Mr. Haag BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the meeting move into closed session for the purpose of discussing the annual performance evaluation of the Superintendent Edward C. Saxton. Second by Mr. Grams. This meeting is closed pursuant to Minnesota Statute Sec. 13D.05 subd. 3 (a).

Motion carried.

Time: 8:17 p.m.

Those in attendance: School Board members, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Lipinski, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Grams, Mr. Vogel, Ms. Grams, Mr. Haag, and Superintendent Saxton.

Resume Open Meeting: Motion by Mr. Haag that the open meeting be resumed, second by Ms. Grams. Motion carried.

Time: 8:57 p.m.

The full Board has discussed the Superintendent performance survey. The average score for Mr. Saxton is 3.7 on a 5 point scale. All members recognize that Mr. Saxton has met all expectations on the performance survey. The Board has asked Mr. Saxton to review his relationship in regards to the four directors, curriculum assessment supervisor, and all site principals. Mr. Saxton was also asked to explain his role in the implementation of master agreements. These items are to be explained at an open meeting setting.

David Anderson, School Board Chair

Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Harry Grams, Clerk