

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
June 9, 2008
Dialogue Session – 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson at 7:02 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 June 23, July 14, August 13, and August 25. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. July 14, August 13, and August 25.

Consideration of Visitors

The following community members addressed the School Board. Mr. Powell, representing the Administrative Council of St. Francis United Methodist Church, read a statement relative to the racial incident at the high school. Ms. Jabas wanted to inform the Board that monies raised were private donations for Communities Together for Schools to conduct the voter survey and the survey was independent of the District. Ms. Sauer inquired whether there would be a question 2 on the operating levy referendum. People need to focus on state to fairly fund our schools. Ms. Sauer referenced a website regarding demography referenced in Mr. Vogel's article published in the Courier. She stated that the sight showed increased births. Ms. Carlson wanted to make sure the Board received information regarding violations of the School District, which was sent by email. The matter was not forwarded to School Board members due to Data Privacy issues. Mr. Day thanked the Board for listening to the Public at the forum and approving one question, inquired whether there would be a second question, and stated the importance in getting information out to the public. Ms. Bray expressed disappointment that no notification was made to the parents regarding the first incident of racial threat. Ms. Rootes, junior, communicated that safety steps should have been taken immediately during the first racial incident and prior, that this is a disappointment to the student body as a whole.

Communications

Mr. Saxton reported on MCA preliminary test results were released on June 6. A formal report will be made when final results are in.

Agenda

Motion was made by Ms. Grams and seconded by Mr. Haag. Mr. Vogel requested that School Board Dialogue session be added to the agenda under School Board Reports. He also recommended that the agenda item of Minority Liaison Officer be moved ahead on the agenda due to those in attendance. Chair Anderson reported that people are also in attendance to provide reports that are on the agenda. The Agenda will stay in the format as written. Motion carried with on nay, Mr. Vogel.

Consent Agenda

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

A. THAT the Minutes for May 27, be approved as presented.

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

BENJAMIN, JANE, Licensed School Nurse, LLC, Teacher, MA3, 4.25 hrs./day, 186.0 days/yr. beginning 08/26/08.

BOTHUN, ANN, Long Term Substitute Teacher, EBCS, \$120.00/day, 8.0 hrs./day, 22.0 days. Beginning 08/26/08.

ELLISON, GLEE, ESY Teacher, Summer School, \$27.00 /hr., 4.0 hrs/day, 8.0 days beginning 06/09/08

HASSELBERG, MARIANNE, Teacher, SFHS, MA1, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days/yr. beginning 08/27/08.

JEROME, NANETTE, ESY Teacher, Summer School, \$27.00 /hr., 4.0 hrs/day, 8.0 days beginning 06/09/08.

UDOMAH, MELISSA, Teacher, SFHS, MA2, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days/yr. beginning 08/27/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

BAUMANN, DONETTE, Assistant Cook, SFMS, Nutrition, \$11.29/hr., 6.25 hrs/day, 176.0 days beginning 08/26/08.

FRYER, ANDREW, Grounds, \$14.20/hr., 8.00/hrs./day, 68.0 days beginning 05/27/08.

GUZY, PATTY, Cook, SFHS, Nutrition, \$12.25/hr./5.0 hrs./day, 176.0 days beginning 08/26/08.

LANGE, KAREN, Educational Assistant, EBCS, \$12.01/hr., 2.5 hrs./day, 173.0 days beginning 08/27/08.

MICKELBERG, ANNE, Administrative Support Assistant, CCCS, \$13.89/hr., 7.5 hrs./day, 215.0 days/yr. beginning 06/09/08.

WHITTLEF, VICKI, Custodian, SFMS, Temporary Night Lead, \$16.62/hr., 8.0 hrs./day, 16.0 days beginning 06/09/08.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

CLASSIFIED

MEYERS, SHIRLEY, Teacher, CCCS, .25 LOA effective 07/01/08.

VANDEBOGERT, TIFFANY, Teacher, SFMS. Return from LOA effective 05/23/08.

SCHMOLL, CASSIE, Teacher, EBCS, Return from LOA effective 06/05/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

JOHNSON, SUSAN, Administrative Assistant, LLC, Medical LOA effective 05/27/08.

MAY, RICHARD, Custodian, SFMS, Return from Medical LOA effective 05/27/08.

SOLBERG, CARL, Educational Assistant, SFHS, Medical LOA effective 05/27/08.

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION:

CLASSIFIED

FISCHER, JILL, Teacher, SFHS, resignation effective 06/05/08.

JOCHIM, PATTI, Teacher, CCCS, retirement effective 06/06/08.

LINTGEN, FRANK, Teacher, SFHS, retirement effective 06/06/08.

MADSEN, JANINE, Teacher, CCCS, retirement effective 06/06/08.

PLANTENBERG, JOE, Teacher, SFHS, retirement effective 06/06/08

WITT, MOLLY, Teacher, SFMS, resignation effective 06/05/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

HILLESHEIM, TERI, Educational Assistant, Sandhill, Termination effective 05/30/08.

JENSEN, BEV, Educational Assistant, SFHS, termination effective 04/11/08.

JOHNSON, LAUREN, Educational Assistant, EBCS, resignation effective 04/11/08.

LEY, JESSICA, Career Advisor, SFHS, resignation effective 06/04/08.

PETERSON, SCOTT, Bus Driver, Transportation, resignation effective 05/31/08.

C. THAT the Non Resident Student Report be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

Reports

Nutrition Services

Ms. Klobe provided a power point presentation overview of the Nutrition Services program. Topics that were covered are the school meal program, current environment, and local issues. Students are served healthy meals, that are affordable and meet Federal guidelines. Food Services operates as a business and is self supportive with all expenses are covered by meal sales or Federal and State reimbursements. Challenges in food service are food safety issues, employee training, and funding. Wellness efforts have had a huge impact on how we do business. What is being worked on now is a National Nutritional Standard.

Legislative Update

Ms. Hawkins provided a brief overview of the 2008 Legislative Session. There were many changes in the law related to school districts. A summary of the changes can be found on the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) websites. Highlights of the following

were summarized; 2009 Budget Bill changes, 2009 Policy changes, 2009 Tax Bill changes, 2009 Election changes, Threshold changes, Type III Bus Drivers, Data Practices, Closed Session Recordings, Pension Law Changes, Pension Law 403(b), and 2010 School Trust Fund.

Staff Development Teacher Academy

Mr. Fink and Ms. Worden, Teacher Academy Coordinators, provided a brief history of the academy which runs professional development for the teachers in the District, the Metro Program, new teacher orientation, and the re-licensure seminars for teachers. The main component this past year was the Career Ladder Evaluation committee who evaluated 2-years worth of data. Many recommendations were made including looking at courses offered, study groups, Districts expectations of what teachers should be taking, and re-evaluating the allocation of the budget for Career Ladder positions. Highlights were summarized for the 2007-08, overview of the academy, courses, professional development, and the Mentor Program. The Mentor Program is based the Minnesota Standards of Teaching and is part of the state legislation. Ms. Worden had the opportunity to speak to an administrative group at the U of M. The volumes of questions from the administrators regarding the Academy Program and Mentor Program, is a credit to the work and support provided by the Teacher Academy in this District. Mentor training for teachers from outside the District will be taught by Mr. Fink and Ms. Worden June 16, 17, and 18. School Board members are invited to attend the Leadership Conference August 12 – 14.

Q Comp Annual Report

Mr. Keillor provided a summary of the Q Comp annual report. The money allocated by the state, \$51 per pupil, was for unused Q Comp funds and does not affect the Q Comp funding the District receives. Over the last year the University of Minnesota did the research to see what the impact was for teachers, and what results are seen with students. Today the preliminary findings were issued and begin on page 7 of the handout. The final report will be presented on August 12, at the Leadership Conference.

School Board Report

All School Board members attended the graduation ceremony June 6. Mr. Haag reported that the All Night Party for seniors went well.

Ms. Grams and Mr. Anderson met with parents and students regarding the racial incident.

Mr. Vogel received ten phone calls regarding the racial incident, and three calls about the survey and the caller not identifying themselves. Mr. Vogel noted the Board packet was not on the website. Mr. Vogel wanted to clarify why certain emails given to the Board are marked confidential, and the email regarding a special education student and the response from MDE was not sent to the Board. Mr. Saxton explained the Special Education law about releasing information, which is to protect the rights of parents and students. Mr. Vogel is requesting that some kind of message be sent to the Board, without releasing the confidential content. Mr. Saxton recommended that MSBA training be set up to review the role and involvement of a School Board member in Special Education matters.

Ms. Lipinski inquired whether the School Board can have individual email addresses for community to contact the School Board. Ms. Kelly suggested that be reviewed at the training with MSBA.

Mr. Grams recognized the many volunteers who helped at the All Night Graduation party.

Mr. Anderson suggested that the Board do meet with Ms. Rhode, MSBA, in July. Ms. Lipinski will be out of District July 3 – 14.

Ms. Kelly will attend the Schools For Equity in Education Executive Board meeting next week and the legislative session will be discussed.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Saxton distributed copies of a reformatted School Board agenda and asked that Board members review before discussion on June 23. Policy revisions can be acted on without a first reading.

New Business

Ms. Hawkins provided a brief summary of the first reading of the preliminary 2008-09 Budget. Staffing continues to change therefore an additional two pages will be included in the final report. Budget Development and Budget Analysis were reviewed. The District will continue to look for new sources of revenue as the state continues not to match the growing rate of inflation. School Board members should submit any questions to Ms. Hawkins.

Mr. Saxton as the District moves forward reductions will be much more specific. Ms. Kelly requested that the more certain cuts be communicated to the public. Mr. Saxton will bring dollars figure reductions per site to the June 23, meeting.

Other Matters

Resolution Expelling a Student

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

Motion carried.

Hiring a Minority Liaison Officer

Mr. Saxton recognized Ms. VanDenburgh who requested the Minority Liaison Officer subject be added to the agenda. Ms. VanDenburgh provided background of her request to hire a liaison officer two years ago. Now after the recent racial incidents she believes that the District should develop a social justice department to deal with students of color in the District. She recommended the curriculum teach sensitivity about cultural and ethnic differences. Ms. Stringer addressed the Board about the racial incidents that transpired. She acknowledged the change in policy of how the second communication was delivered. We need to help students understand these actions are not acceptable. There are many speakers out there to talk to students. All students need to be prepared for the world we live in today.

Mr. Saxton requested that Mr. Neubauer review different incidents that have taken place and what was done, and then where we need to go. Mr. Neubauer distributed a handout of incidents and how the situation was handled. Discussion followed. High School Administrators will meet with representatives from Anoka Hennepin in June or July regarding their program. A committee of District staff, parents, and students will meet to

review what ideas the District will put into place for the 2008-09 school year.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Harry Grams, Clerk