

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
May 27, 2008
Retiree Recognition – 6:00 p.m.
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, Student School Board representatives Ryan Enerson, LaNae DesRosier, and community members.

Chair Anderson reported that the District acknowledged the individuals retiring in the 2007-08 school year at Retiree Recognition Program held 6:00 p.m.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular Meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center June 9, June 23, July 14, and August 13. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. June 9, July 14, and August 13.

Site Report – Cedar Creek Community School

Principal Darin Hahn reported that the K-5 building now has 1073 students. Mr. Hahn provided a summary of student activities which included; safety patrol, bus patrol, student council, 5th grade party, Tree Trust tree planting, lunch with the Principal, and Wellness Reward. The Q Comp goal for 2008 is that 64% of students in grades 2 through 5 meet or exceed this targeted goal.

Consideration of Visitors

The following community members addressed the School Board. Mr. Zokaites spoke regarding the photography clause in the student handbook. Ms. Ness expressed disbelief that the District will hold a referendum asking one, not three questions. Mr. Day provided a short video news clip from WCCO Channel 4, on Vehicle Day sponsored by the Early Childhood Advisory Council on May 3. Ms. Sauer acknowledged the School Board for keeping the education of the students as the top first priority. She also noted that the Teachers Union has donated \$500 to the Vote Yes committee for the Operating Levy Referendum. Ms. VanDenburgh commented on the following topics; posting of the agenda, budgeting for the operating levy, the recommendation from the Financial Planning Action Committee, its members, dates of the meetings, bus purchases, staffing, hiring of staff with grant money, lack of written articles in the Courier about the grant(s), lack of website information on actual staffing but does include information on budgeted staffing. She is not able to follow the logic as to why the District needs the 4.5 million operating levy.

Communications

Mr. Saxton referenced a statement made at the public forum regarding administrative salaries. A report from Educational Cooperative Service Unit (ECSU) shows 45 schools' district and school administration costs with St. Francis at \$224.81 per pupil, the next lowest district at \$275, and ranges up to \$551 per student. An email from Jennifer York Bar, University of Minnesota Professor, acknowledges Amy Worden, Teacher Academy Coordinator in ISD No. 15, for her presentation and training for mentor teachers in a professional development class.

Mr. Saxton reported that Director Amy Kelly has been elected to another three years serving on the Board of Schools for Equity in Education, SEE.

A reminder during Dialogue with the School Board that discussions follow the stipulations of open meetings. Mr. Saxton will address history of curriculum in the District later in the meeting.

Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Ms. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Haag. Mr. Vogel requested that item G. be considered separately, and Ms. Grams requested the A. minutes be approved 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

SEBALD, STEVEN, Teacher, SFHS, Teacher 1, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 08/27/08.

LEVINE, LILLIAN, District Health Service Coordinator, District Wide, \$65,320.00/yr., 8.0 hrs./day, 210.0 days effective 08/01/08.

TALBOT, ERICA, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, MA-1, 8.0 hrs./day, 186.0 days effective 08/26/08.

NON-CLASSIFIED

BRUGGENTHIES, CHRISTINA, Administrative Assistant, Special Services, B21/2. 7.5 hrs./day, 195.0 days/yr. effective 08/18/08.

JACOBI, TRACI, Administrative Support Clerk, LLC, \$13.24/hr., 4.0 hrs./day effective 05/28/08.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

CLASSIFIED

JENSEN, TERESA, Teacher, SFE, Medical LOA beginning 04/28/08.

ROWLES, JESSICA, Teacher, SFMS, Medical LOA beginning 05/21/08.

WILLIAMS, JULIE, Instructional Program Supervisor, T-15, Return from Maternity LOA effective 05/19/08.

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION:

NON-CLASSIFIED

JOHNSON, LAUREN W., Educational Assistant, Resignation effective 04/11/08.

LERO, JACQUE, Educational Assistant, CCCS, Resignation effective 05/16/08.

SIMONSON, WANDA, Educational Assistant, SFE, Temporary Title I, position terminated effective 05/30/08.

C. THAT the Claims and Accounts be approved as presented.

D. THAT Investments be approved as presented.

E. THAT the Capernaum Pediatric Therapy, Inc. Contract be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the agreement with Capernaum Pediatric Therapy, Inc., be approved as presented.

F. THAT the Bid Award for Milk, Bread, & Prime Vendor be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the contract for the bid for milk which was awarded for the 2007-08 school year with an option to renew for one additional year, the 2008-09 school year, be renewed with Land O' Lakes Milk for milk and milk coolers. The current contract is based on the escalator clause for fluid milk prices.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the contract for the request for proposals for bread for the 2008-09 school year, be awarded to Pan-O-Gold Baking Company with a cost proposal of \$48,564.00.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the contract for the request for proposals for prime vendor for the 2008-09 school year, be awarded to U.S. Foods with the lowest "market basket" proposal of \$501,946, including storage and delivery of the district's USDA commodities.

H. THAT the Out of State Travel – HOSA be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the High School HOSA program for Out of State Travel to attend the National Leadership Conference, June 18 – June 22, 2008 be approved as requested.

I. THAT the Out of State Travel – Student Council be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the High School Student Council for Out of State Travel to attend the National Association of Student Councils Convention, June 24 – June 29, 2008 be approved as requested.

J. THAT the 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)

\$350.00, SFE APT, 23 T-Shirts for participants in collaborative journalism project with SFHS Crier
\$150.00, David Bawm, support for SFHS Athletics for Prep Sports Online
\$7,076.07, St. Francis H.S. Youth Softball Assoc., for salaries for extra coaches for softball program
\$1,400.00, St. Francis Basketball Assoc., payment for extra coach for boy's basketball

\$2,500.00, St. Francis Homerun Club, payment for salary for extra baseball coach
\$2,500.00, Minnesota State High School League, Grant applied for by Ron Larson for Drug-free Youth Activities for 2008-09
\$13,190.00, North Branch H.S. ISD #138, Girls Hockey Co-op Sponsorship with SFHS
\$1,350.00, Choir Boosters, Solo & Ensemble Registration Fees for 90 students
\$42.44, SFE APT, pay for Sally Kivisto for working the SFE Activity Night as a health assistant
\$500.00, St. Francis High School Student Council, student scholarship for past/current member
\$619.00, Lifetouch National School Studios, to EBCS for general supplies
\$600.00, Ron and Cindi Foster, \$300 Amanda E. Foster - Memorial Citizenship Award, and \$300 Amanda E. Foster - Memorial Music Scholarship
\$250.00, Choir Boosters, music scholarship –TBD by music faculty
\$850.00, National Honor Society, to be given to NHS member determined at a later date and awarded at the Awards Ceremony

Motion carried.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.15 that the contract with Clouddancer Enterprises Inc. for exterior campus security services at St. Francis High School for the 2008-09 school year in an amount not to exceed \$29,133.00 be approved.

Mr. Vogel requested clarification of the contract. Mr. Haag explained that the person oversees security of the parking lot. There is a .009% increase from the previous contract. Motion carried.

A. Motion to approve the minutes for May 12, was made by Mr. Haag and seconded by Ms. Grams. Motion carried.

A. Motion to approve the minutes of May 20, was made by Mr. Grams and seconded by Ms. Lipinski. Motion carried with one abstention, Ms. Grams.

Reports

City of St. Francis

St. Francis City Administrator Matt Hylan communicated that cooperation and communication with the District is great. The City is saving money through contracting with the District in maintenance of heavy equipment. Previously the City drove the vehicles to Ramsey. Driving to Ramsey could involve two employees, two days, two trips, and two vehicles in indirect costs. The District has the machinery, equipment, facilities, and DOT certified staff to supply the City the services needed which is mutually beneficial to both.

Grounds Report

Mr. Krause, Grounds Supervisor, provided a power point presentation regarding the grounds in the District. Changes that were made over the past 1 ½ years were summarized which included; staffing changes, grounds responsibilities, grounds positions, employee job descriptions, improvement made to building sites, improved snow removal of all sites, and the efficiency of budget. Chair Anderson commended the work of the department.

Students' Report

Ryan Enerson and LaNae DesRosier provided the student report. Graduation will be held June 6, the senior summit meeting is June 26, summer school begins June 9, The Crier competed at the Minnesota High School Press Association with 6 of the 12 students receiving awards, and Destination Imagination attended the Nationals taking fifth place. Chair Anderson thanked Ryan and LaNae for their interest, commitment, and participation in representing the high school. The students received a stipend for their contribution.

School Board Report

Ms. Kelly reported that a representative from the Minnesota's Education Technology Task Force presented ways to improving technology to school districts. Our District has received grant funding. Ms. Hawkins and the Technology Committee were instrumental in receiving the \$141,000 grant. Representative Mindy Greiling will be at the Jackson Middle School to review House File 4178, which is the "new Minnesota Miracle" Bill on May 28.

Ms. Lipinski reported that negotiations with Educational Assistants continue.

Mr. Anderson attended the Awards Night, a great witness to student achievement. Oak Land graduation will be May 29. Congratulations to Ms. Kelly for her appointment to the Board of SEE.

Mr. Grams attended Awards Night, and thanked the many organizations that donate scholarship funding. He

also participated in the football/baseball charity golf tournament.

Mr. Vogel attended the Awards Night. Mr. Vogel inquired about the status of the complaint regarding the firearms on the land. Mr. Reker continues to research the complaint.

Mr. Haag acknowledged the Crossroads plant sale. He participated in a golf tournament sponsored by girls' softball.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Saxton provided an overhead presentation on the history and process of curriculum in the District. An editorial written to the Anoka Union in the past month contained inaccuracies about curriculum in the District. Mr. Saxton presented the chronological list, alignment of curriculum, implementation materials purchase, ISD No. 15 curriculum review, and development cycle. The Curriculum Coordinator is also responsible for overseeing all testing in the District.

Mr. Anderson communicated that when the District was searching for a Superintendent, staff stressed the need to select a Superintendent who could address curriculum concerns. Mr. Anderson acknowledged that an outstanding job has been done with the correct people in place.

Other Matters

Operating Levy Referendum Resolution

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

RESOLUTION TO CALL SPECIAL ELECTION – OPERATING REFERENDUM

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The Board hereby determines and declares that it is necessary and expedient for the school district to increase its general education revenue by \$671.65 per pupil. A portion of this proposed referendum authorization would replace the school district's prior authorization which has expired. The additional revenue will be used to finance school operations and the property tax portion thereof will require an estimated referendum tax rate of approximately .000576030 of the referendum market value of the school district for taxes payable in 2009, the first year it is to be levied. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be an increase of \$287.90 per pupil over the school district's expired authorization. The proposed new referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for seven (7) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. The question on the approval of this referendum revenue authorization shall be School District Ballot Question 1 on the school district ballot at the special election held to approve said authorization.
2. The question on increasing the general education revenue of the school district shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the district at a special election, which is hereby called and directed to be held in conjunction with the state general election on Tuesday, the 4th day of November, 2008.
3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this special election are those precincts and parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The voting hours at those polling places shall be the same as those for the state general election.
4. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said special election to be provided to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located, in whole or in part and to the Commissioner of Education, at least fifty-three (53) days before the date of said election. The notice shall specify the date of said special election and the title and language for each ballot question to be voted on at said special election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least ten (10) days before the date of said special election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least four (4) days before the date of said special election and to cause a sample ballot to be posted in each polling place on Election Day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be published in the official newspaper of the district, for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of the election.

The notice of election so posted and published shall state the question or questions to be submitted to the voters as set forth in the form of ballot below, and shall include information concerning each established precinct and polling place.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the rules and instructions for use of the optical scan voting system to be posted in each polling place or combined polling place at which an optical scan voting system is being used on Election Day.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a notice of the election to be mailed by first class mail to each taxpayer in the district at least fifteen (15) but no more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the special election. The notice shall contain the required projections and the required statement specified in Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, Subdivision 9, paragraph (b). The clerk is also directed to cause a copy of this notice to be submitted to the Commissioner of Department of Education and to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located in whole or in part at least fifteen (15) days prior to the day of the election.

The clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials and to take such other actions as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election and generally to cooperate with election authorities conducting the state general and other elections on that date. The clerk and members of administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with those other elections, including entering into agreements with appropriate municipal and county officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots, election administration and cost sharing.

5. The clerk is further authorized and directed to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the following form, with such changes in form and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate the use of an optical scan voting system:

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION BALLOT
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
ST. FRANCIS
SPECIAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 4, 2008

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice, like this:



To vote for a question, completely fill in the oval next to the word "YES" for that question.

To vote against a question, completely fill in the oval next to the word "NO" for that question.

REPLACING EXPIRED REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION – MAINTAIN
STUDENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Board of Independent School District No. 15 has proposed to increase its general education revenue by \$671.65 per pupil. A portion of this proposed referendum authorization would replace the school district's prior authorization which has expired. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be an increase of \$287.90 per pupil over the school district's expired authorization. The proposed new referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for seven (7) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.



YES

Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 15 be approved?



NO

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

The ballot cards must be printed in black ink on white colored material, except that marks to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed on another color ink. The name of the precinct and machine-readable identification must be printed on each ballot card. Voting instructions must be printed at the top of the ballot card on each side that includes ballot information.

The instructions must include an illustration of the proper mark to be used to indicate a vote. Lines for initials of at least two election judges must be printed on one side of the ballot card so that the judges' initials are visible when the ballots are enclosed in a secrecy sleeve.

6. If the school district will be contracting to print the ballots for this special election, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract exceeding \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall furnish, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04, a sufficient bond, letter of credit, or certified check acceptable to the clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit, or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

7. The individuals designated as judges for the state general election shall act as election judges for this special election at the various polling places and shall conduct said election in the manner described by law. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast and submit the results to the school board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by

and upon vote being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF ANOKA

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Independent School District 15, St. Francis, Minnesota, hereby certify that the attached and foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the school board of said district duly called and held on the date therein indicated, so far as such minutes relate to the calling of a referendum on increasing the referendum revenue authority of said district, and that the resolution included therein is a full, true and correct copy of the original thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such clerk this 27th day of May, 2008.

Clerk

Discussion followed: Mr. Vogel - Disappointed in the lack of options, with costs going up for taxpayers, the District would be taking a gamble. Ms. Grams – With emails and minutes of the Public Forum, her understanding is one question, simple to understand, and let the community make the choice. Mr. Grams – Let the community make the decision, it is a gamble but the people have the option, the School Board listened to those that spoke at the Forum. Ms. Kelly – Listened intently at the Forum and heard: one question. The Board has been criticized in the past for not listening, the Board represents the students, and hope that the Board promotes what this District needs for education. Mr. Anderson – Heard from the public, calls and emails, to put the best format out there for the kids, make it simple: one question. The Board needs to communicate to sites, and public, and let the public make the decision.

Motion carried with six directors voting aye, and one nay, Mr. Vogel.

Discussion of Policies 106 and 109

Mr. Haag opened discussion on Policy 106 addressing that it is important that the business portion of the meeting take place at the beginning. His suggestion for order is Board Calendar Dates, Agenda, Consent Agenda, Reports, Other Matters, Other Business, Site Reports, Communications, Consider of Visitors, and Adjournment. Discussion included: people come to address the Board under consideration of visitors for many reasons and should be left at the beginning, this would be a better working model, it is important that the business portion of the meeting is first, reports are important however the business part of the meeting should be first, and do not want to minimize any report. Mr. Haag and Mr. Saxton will meet to formulate a draft for a new agenda format and submit to Board members for further review.

Dialogue with the School Board will take place prior to every meeting beginning in August, 2008. Any conversation discussed at the Dialogue session must follow Open Meeting practice.

109 – Is Policy 109 telling the public that they can be on the agenda, and is it publicized? It is on the website. A person that wishes to be on the agenda can contact the School Board Chair or the Superintendent, with the responsibility of the Chair to decide if the request is available. There are avenues to talk to School Board members about questions and concerns. Community member Ms. VanDenburgh addressed the Board regarding requests to speak during a School Board meeting.

Ms. Lipinski left the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Mr. Reker reported that Education Minnesota has withdrawn the Level III Grievance regarding Nutrition Services, and a compromise and has been agreed to.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Harry Grams, Clerk