

SCHOOL BOARD  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15  
St. Francis, Minnesota  
Dialogue Session - 6:30 p.m.  
Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
February 8, 2010

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Kelly at 7:01 p.m. with the following members present:  
Directors: Anderson, H. Grams, S. Grams, Haag, Van Denburgh, Vogel and Superintendent Saxton.

Others present were Director of Business Services Mae Hawkins, Director of Human Resources Jay Reker, Director of Special Services Jacque Stein, Director of Community Services Tom Larson, student representatives Dylan Sowers, Jakki Thompson, and community members.

**Board Calendar Dates:** Regular Meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center, February 22, March 8, March 22, and April 12, 2010. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meetings.

**Site Report – Cedar Creek Community School**

Principal Darin Hahn, and Assistant Principal Jill Kelly reported what is happening at Cedar Creek Community School. Facility Update – the media center is now a library again and there are three functioning gymnasiums. Site Goals for 2008-09 were reviewed. Goal percentage increased 3% over last year's achievement. Technology Infusion – currently installed are: projectors, speakers, document cameras and Tandberg Camera. SMART boards will be coming to the site soon. Community Outreach: include strong parent volunteers, Courier articles, and classroom websites.

**Consideration of Visitors**

None

**Agenda**

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

**Consent Agenda**

Motion was made to approve the revised Consent Agenda by Mr. Grams and seconded by Mr. Vogel. Mr. Vogel requested item A. and Ms. Van Denburgh requested that item E. be considered separately.  
B. THAT the Personnel Items be approved as presented.

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

**EMPLOYMENT:**

CLASSIFIED

**GROVER, MATHEW**, Science Teacher, SFHS, Temporary, 8.0 hrs./day, 78.5 days effective 2.8.10.

**NORDIN DAWN**, Teacher, Targeted Services, SFMS, Additional Assignment, 2.0 hrs./day, 43.0 days effective 12.8.09.

**CALVERT, KATIE**, Teacher, Targeted Services, SFMS, Additional Assignment, 2.0 hrs./day, 43.0 days effective 12.8.09.

**WARD, SARA**, Title I Math Instructor, SFMS, Temporary 8.0 hrs./day, 41.0 days effective 1.27.10.

NON-CLASSIFIED

**ADDISON, SUNSHINE**, Educational Assistant, Transportation, Step 12, 7.5 hrs./day, 64.0 days effective 1.21.2010.

**HALL, CARRIE**, Educational Assistant, Job Coach, T-15, B23, 6.0 hrs./day, 170.0 days prorated.

**LARSON, CATHERINE**, Educational Assistant, SFE, From Layoff, B 22, 6.5 hrs./day, 172.0 days prorated effective 2.1.10.

**SHORE, TAMMIE**, Educational Assistant, EBCS, Targeted Services, B22, 1.0 hr./day, 18.0 days effective 2.11.10.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE:**

CLASSIFIED

**HANOWSKI, LORI**, Special Education Teacher, SFMS, Medical LOA effective 2.5.10.

**TALBOT, ERICA**, Speech/Language Pathologist, EBCS, Maternity LOA effective 4.21.2010.

NON-CLASSIFIED

**CARLSON, ALEXIS**, Nutrition, SFHS, Medical LOA effective 1.19.10.

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

NON-CLASSIFIED

**BLANCHETTE, HEIDI**, Educational Assistant, SFE, Resignation effective 1.22.10.

**MCQUERTER, EDITH**, Educational Assistant, SFHS, Resignation effective 1.21.10.

C. THAT the Teacher Seniority List be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the Teacher Seniority List, as posted, be adopted.

D. THAT the Ten Paid Holidays for 2010-2011, & 2011-2012 be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the following dates be recognized paid holidays for District 15 staff under applicable terms and conditions of employment:

School Year 2010-2011:

July 2, September 6, November 25 & 26, December 23 & 24, 31 of 2010

February 21, April 22, May 30 of 2011

School Year 2011-2012:

July 4, September 5, November 24 & 25, December 23 & 26 of 2011

January 2, February 20, April 6, May 28 of 2012

Motion carried.

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)

\$1,089.25, Lifetouch National School Studios, to SFHS at principal's discretion

\$133.95, Broadcasting Program, to purchase equipment for the Broadcasting Program at SFHS

\$1,000.00, A. Oscar and Val Carlson, 2008-09 JDK Scholarship

\$400.00, Len Roskoski, to the Dr. Noel Johnson Memorial Scholarship, with matching funds from Medtronic Inc. to be applied also

\$1,400.00, St. Francis Dance Team Booster Club, ½ salary for dance team JV coach Megan Hogendorf

\$39.90, SFE APT, for paper to use for APT materials

\$102.34, Wells Fargo Community Support Program, to SFHS at Principal's discretion

\$70.00, Amy Keller & Rachel Muonio (Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign), to SFE for supplies as needed

\$1,000.00, A. Oscar and Val Carlson, for the 2008-09 JDK Scholarship

Motion carried.

A. THAT the minutes of January 25 be approved as presented.

Motion by Mr. Grams and second by Mr. Vogel. Mr. Vogel noted a correction in a word from medication to mediation. Ms. Van Denburgh questioned how abstentions are listed in the vote. Discussion followed.

Motion carried with corrections as noted.

E. THAT the Nutrition Services Managers Contract be approved as presented.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the terms and conditions of employment with Nutrition Services Managers be approved as presented for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years.

Ms. Van Denburgh explained that she would not vote in favor of the contract due to an increase.

Motion carried with one nay Ms. Van Denburgh. 6 – 1.

## **Reports**

### *Student Report*

Dylan Sowers and Jakki Thompson provided the student report. The high school continues to work on the budget and mission statement. The Speech team had multiple students honored at the tournament in Apple Valley. Snow Week king Andy Benik and queen Melissa Borstner. DECA competed in Districts last week, and a group will be competing at State. Current records: boys' basketball 5-13, girls' basketball 17-3, boys' hockey 15-6-1, and girls' hockey 4-19. Gymnastics took 1<sup>st</sup> place, and if St. Francis wrestlers win against Cooper, they will be first in the North Suburban Conference. Student Council is holding a Week of Caring. Saints vs. Cancer will continue through the end of February. HOSA competes in late April. MCA retakes were last week. Black History month includes Minority History month and there are silhouettes and depictions of black/minority history on display in the hallways.

### *Superintendent Communication and Report*

Mr. Saxton has a meeting with high school principals to review the progress on the vandalism that occurred at the high school. In review of instant messaging for communications, it is costly. The District will continue exploring ways to communicate more clearly.

There was a meeting with Oak Land and superintendents of the cooperative. Mr. Saxton will be meeting with Ms. Kelly and Mr. Anderson to discuss Targeted Services and the TAIP program.

Mr. Saxton's reports included: participation in a science class observation at the middle school, a meeting with Johnson Controls to review ideas, iPod Touch training February 5, and Cancer Awareness week. He provided a review of the competitions attended, boys' hockey, girls' and boys' basketball, and gymnastics.

Mr. Vogel and Ms. Van Denburgh had questions regarding the vandalism at the high school and what actions might take place. Mr. Saxton responded. Ms. Kelly will request that Mr. Neubauer come and report about the Diversity Outreach Team (DOT) committee and school initiatives. Curriculum is designed to be nonbiased.

### *Dialogue Session*

Mr. Vogel reported that one citizen is concerned with ongoing issues in special education at one site in particular.

### *School Board Reports*

Mr. Anderson reported about the ECSU meeting, SMC at the middle school, and Joint Standing committee meeting.

Ms. Van Denburgh attended Early Childhood Advisory Council meeting. She has had phone calls about the vandalism, possible reward being made public, the campaign to bring back students, and special education concerns. She inquired if attorneys for the District are on retainer. Ms. Hawkins responded that the District is not on retainer but charged for work done.

Ms. Kelly urged Board members to forward concerns and questions to administration. Mr. Saxton addressed how a reward has been given in the past.

Mr. Grams talked with students that were not happy about the vandalism, and he also donated \$50 for the reward. He attended MSBA officer training, the St. Francis Elementary SMC meeting, and Technology Meeting. He acknowledged Mr. Tramm for his work in technology. He received another letter regarding special education and inquired about meeting in closed session. He thanked all groups that have settled in contract negotiations.

Mr. Vogel attended the communication meeting, and reported that Transportation negotiations continue. He encouraged Board members to view the Webcast that City of St. Francis uses and requested discussion at the next meeting.

Ms. Grams requested that the Board be apprised as to where the District is with updates of things that occur. Mr. Haag reported on student of the month and the acknowledgement that is given to students. He attended the MSBA officer training. He acknowledged the Nutrition Managers for settling their contract. He referenced a STAR Tribune article regarding being proactive in searching out students that have left school districts.

Ms. Kelly reported about the DOT meeting. St. Francis High School SMC meeting was cancelled.

Ms. Kelly contacted Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) to plan a work session with the Board. The work session will be April 5, at Sandhill Center.

In regards to a request of a Board member to review special education files, Ms. Kelly contacted MSBA regarding the request. School Board members who have an interest in gathering information should make the request at a School Board meeting. The Board will discuss the request and with consensus or by majority vote will direct the superintendent to gather needed information. The representative from MSBA also requested that Board members be reminded that there is a clear distinction between policy decision making and administrative decision making. Mr. Vogel has no desire to get details but some reassurance that topics are being addressed. Mr. Anderson suggested that the process designed for Individual Educational Plans (IEP) be reviewed. Ms. Stein provided a summary of the process. Ms. Grams suggested a subcommittee of School Board, Mr. Saxton, and Ms. Stein meet to discuss issues. Ms. Van Denburgh added that it could be a policy change that may need to be looked at. Ms. Kelly reported that many policies are federally mandated. Mr. Anderson requested that Mr. Saxton be given copies of the two letters to review and report back. Mr. Vogel requested information and status as to ongoing cases. After polling of the Board Mr. Saxton is directed to investigate what is reported in two letters that were sent to Board members, and report back information that can be shared in accordance with data privacy. A report, also in accordance with data privacy, is requested regarding active special education cases that have reached mediation dating back three years to date. Ms. Kelly acknowledged Board members for respectful dialogue.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Haag and seconded by Mr. Grams. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 9:07 at p.m.

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Joseph D. Haag, School Board Clerk