

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
Dialogue with School Board-6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
March 9, 2009

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

Others present were Director of Business Affairs Mae Hawkins, Director of Human Services Jay Reker, Director of Community Services Tom Larson, and community members. Student Representative LaNae DesRosier and Dylan Sowers were not present.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular Meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center, March 23, April 13, April 27, and May 11, 2009. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meetings.

Consideration of Visitors

None.

Site Report – Cedar Creek Community School

Darin Hahn, Principal, provided a report of student population, overview of student activities, and changes on the horizon.

- Student enrollment is at 998 which is down from the projected 1,023.
- Student Activities – The student council runs a school store and used funds to develop a memorial garden, and also sponsored “Pennies for Patients”. The School Patrol students supervise crosswalks, raise and lower the flags. The Bus Patrol, 4th and 5th grade students, support bus drivers and safety on the bus routes. Book Walks promote exercise and reading. Family Reading night is held monthly.
- Changes on the Horizon – Reductions to the building include six sections which may lead to elevated class sizes. There will be the loss of Art programming and Enrichment. There is a potential loss of classroom education assistant support. The Media Center will be used as a media center rather than classrooms for 2009-10.

Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the revised Consent Agenda by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Grams. Mr. Vogel requested that item D be considered separately.

- A. THAT the minutes of February 23, 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:

NON-CLASSIFIED

DADY, KELLY, Educational Assistant, Temporary, SFE, \$12.06/hr., 6.5 hrs./day, prorated from 173.0 days effective 3.2.09.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

NON-CLASSIFIED

CALLISON, CLARENCE, Bus Driver, Transportation, Return from Medical LOA effective 3.4.09.

REETZ, FRED, Bus Driver, Transportation, Medical LOA beginning 2.9.09.

SOLOTS, TINA, Bus Driver, Transportation, Medical LOA beginning 2.26.09.

STRAWSER, RACHEL, Educational Assistant, SFHS, Maternity LOA beginning 4.3.09.

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION:

NON-CLASSIFIED

PUSKA, JOHN, Bus Driver, Transportation, Retirement effective 3.16.09 (Correction from 2.23.09 minutes -“resignation”)

C. THAT Custodial Layoffs be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.15 that the following custodians be placed on layoff status effective June 30, 2009 due to a reduction in force.
Robert Dehn, Carson Amling, Francis Ringwelski, Raphael Holden, Greg Peterson, and Duane Norlien

E. THAT the Extended Trip Request-Wrestling be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the High School Wrestling program attend the Minnesota State High School State League State Tournament for an extended trip, March 4 – March 7, 2009 be approved as requested.

F. THAT the Altered Day Request be approved as presented.

BE IT RSOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the calendar change at St. Francis High School to administer tests be approved as presented.

G. 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):

\$10.00, Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign, to SFHS to be used at Principal’s discretion

\$1,000.00, Family of Fred Dawson, student scholarship to graduate who was a student in Mary Dawson’s second grade class at East Bethel Community School

\$1,500.00, St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, 3 \$500 scholarships, - student GPA requirement 3.0, involved in the community, and going to college for business

\$1,000.00, Village Bank, 2 \$500 scholarships, students with 3.0 GPA or higher, with community involvement, and plans to attend college for business

\$35.00, Wells Fargo/Jennifer Olson, to CCCS for general supplies

\$26.00, Wells Fargo, to CCCS for general supplies

Motion carried.

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

D. THAT the Directors Contract be approved as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District 15 that the terms and conditions of employment with the Directors’ Association be approved as presented for the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Vogel inquired why an Assistant Director position was figured into the salary schedule. The position was added for the possibility any future reorganization. There are no people in that position, nor is the District looking at adding, however this gives the District more flexibility.

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

Reports

Superintendent Communication and Report

Mr. Saxton will be requesting input from Principals how what has happened this year will affect the building next year.

An observation was completed of a 5th grade instructor, delivering the math curriculum.

Mr. Saxton attended the State Wrestling Tournament to watch the five wrestlers representing St. Francis. Mr. Saxton and Ms. Hawkins are still in the process of reviewing the Federal Stimulus package. Work has begun in the technology area with Mr. Tramm and Mr. Neubauer. Mr. Saxton requested clarification from the Board in entering the Board Packet on the website prior to a Board meeting. Minutes included are in the packet are unapproved, and all resolutions have not been discussed by the Board. Comments included: the agenda should be posted on the website, any resolutions not approved should be posted on the website after approval, City of St. Francis minutes are not posted until after approval, the Public Book is available at the Board meeting, the concern is understood however the District should continue to provide information and post the packet with minutes marked as unapproved, only the agenda posted and after a Board meeting post the approved resolutions, continue to post the packet and remove the minutes, things in print are often perceived as truth, items not approved do not require posting, and if there is a question based on the agenda the packet can be reviewed in the public book prior to the meeting. Ms. Kelly summarized that the consensus of the Board, with the exception of Mr. Vogel, is to post the agenda on the website prior to Board meetings, however minutes and resolutions will be posted after the Board votes. Mr. Saxton referred to Field Trip Policy 310 as it pertained to the Wrestling Extended Trip approved on the agenda. Mr. Saxton continues to work with Schools for Equity in Education on equalization. Chief Harapat and Mr. Saxton have met regarding a possible change in dismissal time at the middle school. This will be discussed at the District Leadership Team meeting on March 17. Qwest has a new program when signing up for electronic payments, dollars will be sent to the District for use in Technology.

School Board Report

Mr. Anderson reported that the Insurance committee continues to work on structuring the co-pay versus the insurance groups. The District will remain with Health Partners one more year. The rate guarantee of no more than 19% was adjusted to 14.9%. Mr. Anderson has participated in Oak Land discussions for the continued search and parameters for the new Director. The job description and posting will be done by the end of this week. Mr. Anderson attended the State Wrestling Tournament and acknowledged the students representing St. Francis. Mr. Vogel recognized the postcards received from Educational Assistants. Mr. Vogel will meet with Ms. Stein on March 11, to discuss Transition 15. Mr. Vogel reported that he has received calls regarding not being able to hear those speaking during Board meetings. Ms. Grams reported that there were no community members present at Dialogue with the Board. Mr. Haag met with the Cedar Creek SMC group. Congratulations to the girls' basketball team who won the conference championship. The Foundation 15 scholarship dinner will be held April 17, at The Refuge. Ms. Kelly attended the High School SMC meeting. The Diversity committee meetings are going well. The committee has a name, Diversity Outreach Team. Students at the high school assisted in developing the webpage. There will be a link from the District webpage. On February 27, the District Youth Teaching Youth began the program and are working with Anoka Extension. Our District is the first public school system to use the extension service for this reason. Other school districts and communities are looking at the Diversity Outreach Team as a model for diversity and racial issues that have come up within individual communities. Open Minds, Ms. Heley's group, will be going to the Mall of America to spend the day in wheel chairs. Observations will be done regarding how people in wheel chairs are treated and how accessible the Mall is to the handicapped visitor.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Grams, second by Mr. Haag. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Joseph D. Haag, Clerk