

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
January 28, 2013
Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Central Services Center – Community Room
4115 Ambassador Blvd.
M I N U T E S

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Kelly at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Directors Anderson, Erkel, Glover, Grams, Van Denburgh and Superintendent Saxton.

Others present were Associate Director of Business Services Scott Nelson, Director of Human Services Dave Lindberg, Interim Director of Special Services Tim Finn, student representatives Cassy Stierns and Natasha Taylor, and community members.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Services Center, February 11, February 25, March 11, and March 25. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meetings.

Happening Around the District

East Bethel Community School (EBCS) teachers Ms. DeRung, Ms. Schmoll, and Mr. Studnicka shared how the school focuses on academic skills and building positive character traits. The Positive Behavioral Intervention program has grown into a way of life for staff and students. This year focus has been on incorporating one character trait per month. Every trimester the program is celebrated with assemblies. One student in each classroom is chosen to receive a t-shirt as a reward for showing respect in everything they do. EBCS's Eagle Pride is a universal way for staff to reinforce respect in the building. Teachers were trained on GoogleDrive. Two classes worked on creating a movie based on the original 13 colonies. Student volunteers shared their message of respect to music. The school-wide talent show will be March 21 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

St. Francis Middle School teacher Ms. Davis introduced students that represented 35 eighth graders who participated in the student toy drive. Student Council President Camille Zupfer reported how the fund raiser for the toy drive was organized with the guidance of Ms. Davis and support of other teachers. Jillian Cherney reported that the focus was toys for middle school children. Sara Lauer reported that 180 toys were collected for students in the 8th grade. Elise Strecker read a letter that students received from State Representative Peggy Scott acknowledging the students for their initiative and willingness to do good for others within the North Anoka area.

Consideration of Visitors

Ms. McDaniel addressed the School Board regarding the charge of plagiarism against Chairwoman Kelly. Ms. Kelly has served the students and teachers of this district with dedication for 9 years. Ms. McDaniel hopes that Ms. Kelly is cleared of these accusations and that the Board members get back to what they were elected to do, focus on the education of our youth.

Mr. Starr spoke at the last Board meeting, submitted a letter on school safety, and requested a phone call. He has not received a call and is requesting that someone contact him regarding what the plans are for security and safety in the schools.

Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Grams.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the revised Consent Agenda by Ms. Glover and second by Ms. Van Denburgh. Ms. Glover requested that the A. Minutes 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:

NEW EMPLOYMENT									
Name	Position	Replacement for	Site	Position Status	Days/Year	Hrs/Day	Salary Level	Wage	Effective
Bennett, Susan	EA-Job Coach Extension	Lucinda Stone (LOA)	T15	TEMP	159.0 Adjusted	6.0	B23/1	\$12.36	9/21/12
LEAVES OF ABSENCE									
				Expected Duration		Most recent assignment			
Name	Position	Location	From	To	Days/Year	Hrs/Day			
Ackerson, Gwen	Teacher	CCCS	01/07/13	03/07/13	186.0	8.0			
Ferguson, Cyrus	EA-Special Education	SFE	10/10/12	04/21/13	172.0	6.50			
Herting, Laurie	Custodian	EBCS	12/14/12	01/21/13 Returned	260.0	8.0			
Kivisto, Sally	EA-Health	SFMS	01/22/13	03/10/13	175.0	7.50			
Lofgren, Curtis	Custodian	CCCS	08/20/12	02/11/13	260.0	8.0			
Norlien, Duane	Custodian	CCCS	01/07/13	01/21/13 Returned	260.0	8.0			
Norstrom, Jennifer	School Social Worker	SFMS	11/26/12	01/01/13 Returned	186.0	8.0			
Sears, Rebecca	Helper-Server	SFHS	05/04/12	04/08/13	173.0	2.25			
Stenberg, Deb	Teacher	EBCS	9/17/12	11/13/13 Returned	186.0	8.0			
RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION									
Name	Position	Site	Reason	Effective	Last Work Day				
Stein, Jacqueline	Director of Special Services	CSC	Retirement	01/11/13	01/11/13				

C. THAT Disbursements be approved as presented.
BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that these disbursements as presented, and excluding net payroll, be allowed and charged to funds as follows:

FundNo.	Description	Amount
01	General	\$ 1,355,768.93
02	Food Service	\$ 35,361.98
04	Community Services	\$ 47,193.65
06	Construction	\$ -
07	Debt Redemption	\$ -
09	Trust and Agency	\$ 5,313.85
20	Internal Service	\$ 776.08
47	OPEB Debt Service	\$ -
	TOTAL DISTRICT	\$ 1,444,414.49

- D. 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):
\$39.19, Rachel Muonio, Amy Keller & Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program, to SFES to be used as needed
\$50.00, Alerus Mortgage & Joe and Brenda Draxten, to SFHS to be used at principal's discretion
\$50.00, Alerus Financial, to SFMS to purchase supplies
\$282.66, Wells Fargo Foundation, to SFHS to be used at principal's discretion
\$683.00, EBCS PTO, to EBCS money to pay for tickets to the Children's Theater for 2nd grade
\$800.00 (in kind), City of Oak Grove, audio/visual equipment to the District

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion was made by Mr. Anderson and second by Ms. Glover.

- A. THAT Minutes of January 14 be approved as presented.

Ms. Glover reported that page 9 under School Board member reports her report should read "and *she would like to* view a Tandberg presentation".

Motion carried, 6-0.

Reports

Student Report

Cassy Stierns and Natasha Taylor provided the student report. February 1 is Snow Days dance with many donations received. Many students are participating in Snow Week activities.

Superintendent Report and Communications

- DLT toured the new Public Works building. Police Sergeant Rehling reviewed current procedures and processes in place that are practiced for school safety and security in the District. Sergeant Rehling will present this information to the School Board at a future meeting.
- The District is piloting cameras on busses from three companies which will be reviewed by year end to determine which camera will be selected.
- The keynote speaker at the Minnesota School Boards Association conference talked a great deal about developing trust.
- Schools for Equity in Education Executive (SEE) Director Brad Lundell visited classrooms and witnessed how the teachers integrate technology in the classroom. Mr. Lundell will invite Minnesota Education's Commissioner Cassellius to view technology in an ISD15 classroom.
- Met with principals regarding staffing.
- Met with a Vietnam veteran about a book written about the war. He requested that Mr. Saxton read the book to determine if it can be placed in the media center at the high school. Mr. Neubauer will also review the book.
- SEE provided a handout regarding annual taxpayer cost for \$1,633 school levy per \$100,000 home value. Local legislators can see how funding is based on zip code and is not equitable. Mr. Saxton will refer to "maintenance of programming" as opposed to referencing as maintenance of spending in the special education funding.

Dialogue

Mr. Anderson reported a community member shared disappointment regarding plagiarism of Ms. Kelly, and also shared disappointment/anger with certain Board members. Another community member shared support of Ms. Kelly and acknowledged Ms. Kelly's efforts toward education. Mr. Anderson was given a flyer to distribute for the Cedar Creek Community School (CCCS) PTO spring carnival and the request that Board members volunteer. Ms. Erkel reported on the Box Tops for Education fund raiser held at CCCS which earned over \$4,600.

School Board Member Reports

Ms. Glover inquired and recommended continued training with Ms. Gundlach from MSBA. Mr. Saxton will contact Ms. Gundlach to discuss scheduling.

Mr. Anderson welcomed Mr. Finn, Interim Director of Special Education, to the table. He acknowledged the great support shown for the family of Ms. Stein. He attended the MSBA conference, which was a great opportunity for networking. Attended the ECSU meeting. Had opportunity to attend the fund raiser for students going to a speech

competition at Harvard University. Cody Brant and Alissa Johnson advanced to the quarter finals of debate in state competition. He acknowledged three teams from SFMS in the knowledge bowl competition.

Mr. Grams recognized Mr. Finn for his support in special services. He acknowledged the support given to Ms. Stein's family. Attended technology meeting and reported that the District will see continued improvement in this area. Attended the Joint Standing committee.

Ms. Van Denburgh attended the fund raiser for the speech team. Ms. Van Denburgh reported that she did try to contact Mr. Starr regarding security and safety information.

Ms. Erkel recognized the students' talented art work on display at East Bethel Community School. She also witnessed fifth graders mentoring kindergarten children. Attended Ms. Stein's memorial and acknowledged the impressive number of people honoring her.

Ms. Kelly welcomed Mr. Finn. She attended Ms. Stein's funeral and noted the great testament to the District and staff, what a tribute to Ms. Stein. Attended SEE, the results of a telephone poll and the governor's recommendation on education finance proposal is available on the SEE website.

Other Matters

Discussion Regarding Replacement of School Board Member.

Discussion: good to see several applicants, would like to meet and talk with all the interested applicants, hold a special meeting, submit questions, interview candidates, ask the same questions to all applicants, hold interviews sooner than later. Board members should submit questions to Ms. Kowitz by February 4. The School Board replacement forum will be held at 7 p.m. February 20 as a public meeting.

Discussion Regarding Plagiarism.

Ms. Kelly turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Glover.

Discussion: Ms. Erkel reported community comments which included: Ms. Kelly was a proponent that Mr. Rustad resign, why is it okay for Ms. Kelly, different rules regarding plagiarism for School Board members, and that there are hypocrisies between the two charges of plagiarism.

Mr. Grams does not agree with similarities between the two cases and stated Ms. Kelly did not submit the story as her own.

Ms. Van Denburgh used the same procedure for checking the document for plagiarism of Ms. Kelly as was used for Mr. Rustad. She believes that the law to remove an elected official by the School Board is bad, and that a precedent was established with removing Mr. Rustad.

Mr. Anderson referred to the Starfish Story as a story that has been told over and over and is used by educators and motivators, he never considered Ms. Kelly was trying to claim it as her story.

Ms. Glover asked Ms. Erkel which direction she would like to proceed.

Ms. Erkel made a motion to reinstate Mr. Rustad, second by Ms. Van Denburgh.

Motion failed 2-4, nays being Mr. Anderson, Ms. Glover, Mr. Grams and Ms. Kelly.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

David L. Anderson, School Board Clerk