

SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
St. Francis, Minnesota
December 9, 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 Chairperson Amy Kelly at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Directors David Anderson, Suzanne Erkel, Janet Glover, Harry Grams, David Roberts, Marsha Van Denburgh, and Superintendent Ed Saxton.

Others present were Associate Director of Business Services Scott Nelson, Director of Human Resources Dave Lindberg, Director of Special Services Tim Finn, Interim Director of Curriculum Paul Neubauer, Assistant Director of Community Services Troy Ferguson, student representatives Cassy Stierns and Hanah Molskness, staff and community members.

Board Calendar Dates: Regular meetings held at 7:00 p.m. at Central Services Center, January 13, 2014, January 27, February 10, and February 24. Dialogue with the School Board will be at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meetings.

Happenings Around the District – St. Francis Elementary School Recorder Group

St. Francis Elementary School music teacher Ms. Humphrey led the grade 5 student recorder choir in performing for the School Board. The songs performed were *Holly and Ivy*, *Deck the Halls*, *Huron Carol Fantasy*, and *What Child Is This* on their recorders. Ms. Humphrey uses the SMART Board to teach music. The students played the song *Jingle Bells* with bells reading the music score on the projector screen. This after school enrichment program is offered through ISD 15 Community Education.

A recess of five minutes was taken at 7:11 p.m.

Truth in Taxation – Mr. Nelson

Ms. Kelly opened the 2013 Pay 2014 Property Tax Hearing. Assoc. Director of Business Services Mr. Nelson presented the 2013-2014 School District Budget and the Proposed 2013 Payable 2014 Property Tax Levy explaining the changes in the levy from the previous year's levy. Ms. Kelly opened the floor to public comment or questions. With no public comment or questions the regular meeting continued. The Truth in Taxation presentation can be found at www.isd15.org/taxhearing.

Site Report – East Bethel Community School (EBCS) – Ms. Scardigli

Principal Ms. Scardigli introduced Mr. Studnicka, physical education teacher, who started a program this year called JAM which is a one minute warm up activity to start the day. JAM gets the students ready to learn, gives them more energy, promotes activity, and helps to focus throughout the day. Students led the audience in a JAM session. The “Bucket Filler Tip of the Day” is based on a book about treating each other with respect. Ms. Schmall, teacher and tri chair of student council, introduced students who shared ideas promoted through student council. Ms. Scardigli acknowledged School Board Directors Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grams for their years of service to the District. A video showing EBCS students was presented with *All Kinds of Kinds* as the background music.

Consideration of Visitors

Deb Parson, Education Minnesota St. Francis Union President, shared her experience participating on the American Federation of Teachers National Panel held in Washington D.C. The topic was “Feedback for Continued Professional Improvement in Teachers.”

Ms. Kelly noted that a closed session for negotiation parameters intended for this agenda was not included. A closed session is scheduled to be held on December 16, at 8:00 p.m., location to be determined.

Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Grams.
 Motion carried for the revised agenda 7-0.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the revised Consent Agenda by Ms. Glover and second by Ms. Erkel. Ms. Van Denburgh requested item D be considered separately.

- A. THAT the minutes of November 25 be approved as presented.
- B. THAT the Personnel Items be approved as presented.

NEW EMPLOYMENT									
Name	Position	Replacement for	Site	Position Status	Days/Year	Hrs/Day	Salary Level	Wage	Effective
Gomes, Kara	EA – Special Education	NEW POSITION	SFHS	CONT	172	6.0	B22/2	\$12.61	12/04/13
Ogden, Bobbi Jo	FDS-Cafeteria Monitor	Melius, Linda	EBCS	CONT	173 Prorated	2.5	A11/1	\$11.27	12/09/13
Ramacher, John	Seasonal Snow Plower	Williams, Kevin	Main	CONT				\$25/hour	12/03/13
Sharp, Cindi	FDS Helper server/Helper clerk	Erickson, Andrea	SFHS	CONT	173 Prorated	2.5	A11/1	\$11.27	12/09/13
LEAVES OF ABSENCE									
			Expected Duration		Most recent assignment				
Name	Position	Location	From	To	Days/Year	Hrs/Day			
Englund, Diane	School Social Worker	EBCS	10/18/13	12/02/13 Returned					
Franz, Mary Beth	EA – Health Services	CCCS	11/22/13	12/09/13					
Norby, Sandra	EA	CCCS	12/02/13	12/05/13 Returned					
Schwieters, Tina	EA – Special Education	CCCS	01/13/14	01/21/14					
Stanley, Tamara	EA – Special Education	CCCS	01/24/14	01/30/14					
Ward, Jan	EA	CCCS	12/02/13	12/09/13					
RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS/DISCONTINUANCE OF POSITION									
Name	Position	Site	Reason	Effective	Last Work Day				
Anway, Diane	FDS Helper Server/Helper Clerk	EBCS	Retirement	12/20/13	12/20/13				
Mathison, Keith	Night Lead Custodian	SFES	Resignation	11/29/13	11/29/13				
McMullen, Sarah	EA – Special Education	CSVS	Termination	11/22/13	11/22/13				
Ramacher, John	Seasonal Snow Plower	Main	Termination	12/06/13	12/06/13				

- C. THAT Disbursements are 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	\$ 344,923.51
02	Food Service	\$ 28,485.10

04	Community Services	\$	11,924.86
06	Construction	\$	-
07	Debt Redemption	\$	8,813.75
09	Trust and Agency	\$	2,269.75
20	Internal Service	\$	-
47	OPEB Debt Service	\$	-
	TOTAL DISTRICT	\$	396,416.97

E. 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 donor form(s) received:

\$47.55, Laurie Karst -Razoo Give Mn. org, to SFE to be used as needed

\$216.86, SFE-APT, to SFE for Math & Reading Night teacher salary 14 hours

\$82.86, SFE-APT, to SFE for Activity Nights, nurse for 6 hours

\$8,224.00, St. Francis Grid Club, football coaching salaries

\$310.94, Wells Fargo Educational Matching Gift Program, to SFHS at principal's discretion

\$124.39, Wells Fargo Educational Matching Gift Program, to EBCS at principal's discretion

\$66.00 (in kind), Troy & Kathryn Ferguson, (3) Discovery Kids Robo Pup models for Kids Connection

\$105.00 (in kind), Troy & Kathryn Ferguson, gift basket for The Courier open house

\$231.56, Wells Fargo Educational Matching Gift Program, to SFE to be used as needed

\$1,250.61, CCCS PTO, to CCCS to purchase books for library

\$1,007.25, Life Touch National School Studios, to SFHS at principal's discretion

Motion carried, 7-0.

D. THAT the Utility Tractor Lease be approved as presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Grams. Ms. Van Denburgh inquired if the District currently owned a tractor. Mr. Nelson responded that the District owns a tractor that will be traded.

BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 approve the lease/purchase agreement with John Deere for a Utility Tractor and Loader over five (5) years with a \$1 buyout at lease end. Total cost of lease purchase \$44,638.05.

Motion carried 7-0.

Reports

Student Report

Cassy Stierns and Hanah Molskness provided the student report. Student Council is hosting a winter clothing drive, the holiday band concert is this evening, and the choir concert is December 14 at 4:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Superintendent Report and Communications

- Mr. Saxton met with Matt Hysten to begin planning for next year regarding the chemical awareness concept.
- David Anderson and Harry Grams were recognized for their years of service, dedication and support to the District.

Dialogue Session

Mr. Grams reported that a community member asked for clarification of a statement at the last meeting in regards to morale in the District.

School Board Member Reports

Ms. Glover attended negotiations, and reported Family Reading Night is December 10 at Cedar Creek Community School.

Mr. Anderson attended negotiations, the St. Francis Community Drug Awareness program at Our Saviors Lutheran Church and acknowledged Mr. Roberts for his support of the program. Mr. Anderson thanked the community for allowing him to serve the District, staff and teachers for what they do for students, and his family for supporting him.

Mr. Grams attended negotiations. He announced that a benefit for Kessler Soucie will be held January 25. Tracy Hewitt is organizing Secret Santa for families in the District. Anyone interested in participating can email Mr. Grams. Mr. Grams thanked past board members, staff in the District, and acknowledged the two bright points in his career as a Board member, previous Board member Jim Jones and fellow Board member Dave Anderson.

Ms. Van Denburgh thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grams for their work in the District. She communicated that she would like to see coding being added as a curriculum and reported about the "Hour of Code" program. She distributed and read a letter received from Gary Lee, Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA), regarding the proposed policy 519 Compensation Alternative to District Health Insurance.

Mr. Roberts attended St. Francis Community Drug Awareness, and the MSBA delegate assembly. He was contacted about vandalism at St. Francis Elementary School. He received an email from a CCCS PTO contact regarding a request to add a report from the School Board to their agenda. He thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grams for their service to the District. Mr. Roberts inquired as to the status of the student information system search. Mr. Saxton responded that a request for proposal will be placed.

Ms. Erkel thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grams.

Ms. Kelly attended the MSBA delegate assembly. Oak Land meeting was cancelled. Review the committee assignments and contact Ms. Kelly with input. She thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grams for their dedication over the years and the respect shown for others in the District.

Administrative Reports

The Financial Planning Action Committee meeting will be cancelled for December 11 and re-scheduled in January. A room for the Special School Board meeting on December 16 will be scheduled.

Mr. Saxton will attend the Affordable Care meeting in Fergus Falls December 10.

Mr. Lindberg will contact employee groups scheduled for negotiations to reschedule.

Other Matters

Payable 2014 Final Levy Certification

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 15 that the final 2013 payable 2014 Property Tax Levy be certified.

Motion carried 5-2, nays being Ms. Erkel and Ms. Van Denburgh.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

School Board Clerk