

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, July 24, 2017 5:45 PM

Delano Public Schools

Independent School District #879, Delano Minnesota

1. Call to order

A. Record of members present or absent

Members present: A. Johnson, C. Black, A. Briesemeister, R. Depa, M. Larson, C. Milano and L. Seguin

Members absent: None

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Before approval of the agenda, R. Depa requested that the superintendent's contract and MOA be moved from the Personnel Matters consent agenda to items 7A and 7B for discussion.

Upon motion by C. Milano, seconded by A. Briesemeister, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Work Session

Youth Development Director Chris Runke explained the need for Community Ed. Facility Usage Fees that will help maintain facilities and accommodate future needs. The fees could also be used in the future to fund a site supervisor position on an as-needed basis to help with facilities access and scheduling during peak use times. C. Runke said the fees have not been adjusted for four years, and a gradual increase would be better than one large increase in the future. He fielded a number of questions from board members about comparisons to other districts, feedback from user groups, TAC staffing, and a partnership arrangement with the city. L. Seguin said she appreciated the tiered structure of the fees to give users options based on what they are able to pay. A. Briesemeister requested feedback from user groups at a future meeting.

Gary Olsen of Ehlers & Associates, Inc. presented information on bond refinancing that will lead to substantial savings for the district through lower interest rates on existing bonds. With interest rates projected to rise, Olsen suggested the district refinance now rather than wait until the fall. The original bond rates were 4 to 4.62 percent, and the new rates are expected to be around 3 percent. The total projected savings for the district over 10 years is about \$431,000. It will reduce the debt service by about \$43,000 per year. G. Olsen explained that the action will not extend the life of the bonds. The results of the bidding process will be known at the Aug. 28 school board meeting.

Board members discussed a new superintendent contract for 2018-21, along with a memorandum of agreement that provides Superintendent M. Schoen a stipend for construction project management. A. Johnson explained that there were two primary goals considered in negotiating a new contract with the superintendent. The first was to retain M. Schoen through the remainder of the building project. The second was to look at contracts district-wide and ensure they are at the right market value to attract the desired talent and leadership needed to continue the district's academic success. Eight districts with similar enrollment were studied for comparison. R. Depa said the proposed increase was unprecedented for Delano. C. Milano agreed, saying that while M. Schoen is an outstanding leader who deserves a raise, the new contract was too much of an increase. C. Black said that if M. Schoen were to take a new position there would be complications for the building project, and district would end up paying the

same as the proposed amount for a new superintendent. L. Seguin said the district needs to offer a competitive market rate.

M. Schoen shared that a new one-year transportation agreement has been negotiated with Stahlke Bus Service. The contract is an increase of about 2.5 percent, or about \$38,000 for the year.

L. Seguin provided a Project Oversight Committee update. She said good progress is being made, the budget is being maintained and there is still a healthy contingency fund. M. Schoen said the extended parking lot at the intermediate school will be ready for school and that the new high school entrance will open in October.

M. Schoen shared briefly about Policy 533-Wellness, explaining that it is reflective of new federal laws regarding food in the schools. It also more closely matches the MSBA model policy.

Upon motion by R. Depa, seconded by L. Seguin, the Board of Education called the meeting to recess at 6:54 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Board Chair A. Johnson called the meeting out of recess and to order at 7:05 p.m.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by M. Larson, seconded by A. Briesemeiester, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. June 26, 2017

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments
2. Investment Transactions
3. Construction Bond Investment Transactions
4. Wire Transfers
5. Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund
6. Cash Report
7. Revenue Report by Fund
8. Expense Report by Fund
9. Expense Report by Program
10. Expense Report by Object
11. List of Bills Presented for Payment

6. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts

Upon motion by L. Seguin, seconded by R. Depa, the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Personnel Matters:

Upon motion by R. Depa, seconded by A. Briesemeiester, the Board of Education approved the consent

portion of the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 7-0.

A. Upon motion by L. Seguin, seconded by M. Larson, the Board of Education approved the superintendent's contract for 2018-2021. Motion passed 5-2. Voted for: A. Johnson, M. Larson, A. Briesemeister, C. Black, L. Seguin. Voted against: R. Depa, C. Milano.

B. Upon motion by M. Larson, seconded by A. Briesemeister, the Board of Education approved the memorandum of agreement for the superintendent's contract, effective July of 2017. Motion passed 5-2. Voted for: A. Johnson, M. Larson, A. Briesemeister, C. Black, L. Seguin. Voted against: R. Depa, C. Milano.

8. Public Comment: School patrons are given the opportunity to address the school board regarding items that are not on the agenda. All patrons will be asked to state their name and address for the record. None.

9. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent

M. Schoen reported that construction is in full swing and that the work is progressing on schedule so far. Projects are on a tight schedule to finish in the final week of August. The new building is progressing on schedule as well. School board members will be touring the site on Aug. 10.

B. Business Manager

M. Reeder reported that the bond refunding will produce an estimated savings of over \$400,000 in the remaining life of the bonds. The final payment will take place in 2028. M. Reeder said the current interest rate on the bond is 4 to 4.6 percent, and the new estimated interest rate will be about 3 percent, which will save over \$40,000 per year. M. Reeder explained that the Board of Education would be calling for the sale later in the meeting, and would approve the sale at the August board meeting.

C. Community Education Director

D. Johnson reported that two concerts in the park have already occurred, and shared information about upcoming concerts. She said that Wee Tiger Preschool summer classes are underway and going well. A number of scholarship students are participating in that program. Registration for Wee Tiger Preschool is open for this fall for ages 3-5. D. Johnson said the district will find out on Aug. 1 if its two applications for additional funding are approved. She said that Aug. 4 is the last day to register for Tiger Kids Club for the school year and start on the first day of school. She added that there is room in the Tiger Kids Club preschool program as well, but demand is high for the school-age program. In terms of sports, the first gymnastics session is wrapping up with 77 kids involved. A second summer session begins Aug. 2. The summer time in the parks program done in cooperation with the city is in its third week. There have been more than 20 kids each week so far, and that is higher enrollment than previously. Tennis camps and clinics have been in Rockford for the summer. August tennis will be held in Delano. There is also a summer football program for grades 2-6, flag football training camp, and a voyager environmental camp. A fourth swimming session began the same day of the meeting, and a fifth session will also be held because the pool will not be available next summer.

10. Board Reports

A. Wright Technical Center

A. Briesemeister reported that the WTC is actively looking to hire a new executive director, which has taken up much of the summer. A. Briesemeister said the board hopes to offer a contract by Aug. 8.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

A. 2017-18 Community Ed. Facility Usage Fees

Upon motion by L. Seguin, seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the 2017-18 Community Ed. Facility Usage Fees. Motion passed 5-2. Voted for: A. Johnson, M. Larson, A. Briesemeister, C. Black, L. Seguin. Voted against: R. Depa, C. Milano.

B. Approve Resolution for Calling a Bond Sale and Presale Report

Upon motion by R. Depa, seconded by C. Milano, the Board of Education approved a resolution calling for a bond sale and pre-sale report. Motion passed 7-0.

C. First read of Policy 533-Wellness due to substantive and/or legal reference changes.

Upon motion by L. Seguin, seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the first read of Policy 533-Wellness. Motion passed 7-0.

13. Adjournment

Upon motion by L. Seguin, seconded by M. Larson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.