

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Monday, October 22, 2012 7:02 PM

Delano Public Schools

Independent School District #879, Delano Minnesota

1. Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance

A. Record of members present or absent

Members Present: A Johnson, P Brasket, C Milano, L Seguin, S Baker, R Durick, and C Black

Members Absent: None

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion: Baker Second: Seguin Vote: 7-0

3. Program Review - Schools for Equity in Education Deb Griffiths

A. Deb Griffiths of Schools for Equity in Education presented on the SEE organization and how they are trying to help schools get equitable funding from the state so that all students have equal educational opportunities and taxpayers have equal costs. Education funding a state constitutional mandate, but the state funding has not kept pace with inflation and increasing costs, which means that school districts must rely on operating levies to maintain basid educational opportunities; this means higher local property taxes. More than 90% of school districts have operating levy authorizations. Unfortunately, local school levies are not equal; taxpayers pay more or less depending on where they live; low-property wealth district taxpayers can pay up to two or three times what a high-property wealth district taxpayer would pay. SEE and the districts that they represent are asking that the state equalize tax levies so that the cost of the levies are same for all districts, which would allow all districts the same opportunity to raise levy revenue and offer the same educational opportunities for all students.

4. Consent Agenda

Motion: Brasket Second: Seguin Vote: 7-0

A. School Board Minutes

1. September 24, 2012

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments

2. Investment Transactions, Wire Transfers

3. Minnesota Liquid Assets Fund

4. Cash Report

5. Revenue Report by Fund

6. Expense Report by Fund

7. Expense Report by Program

8. Expense Report by Object
9. List of Bills Presented for Payment
10. Donations: None

5. Personnel Matters:

Mr. Schoen explained that under Contract Changes/Approvals, Brad Neutz will be continuing in his current 30 hour part-time position until his replacement is hired. Brad was hired for the 40 hour position effective 10/9/12.

Motion: Milano Second: Seguin Vote: 7-0

A. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Jacob Dorsey, 7th Grade Softball Coach, resignation effective 10-01-12 for the 2012-13 school year.
2. Corey Lahr, 9th Grade Baseball Coach, resignation effective for the 2012-13 school year.
3. Sarah Farniok, Tiger Activity Center Recreation Programs Coordinator, termination effective 09-28-12.

B. Recommendations for Employment

1. Lisa Krueger, DMS Special Education Paraprofessional, effective 10-15-12. New position.
2. Tammy Wermager, DMS Special Education Paraprofessional, effective 10-15-12. New position.
3. Jacob Dorsey, DHS Head Girls Golf, effective 03-13-13. Replaces Jerry Litfin who resigned.
4. Amanda Roff, DMS Math Coach, effective 10-01-12. Replaces Kylee Ohme who resigned.
5. Kerry McIntire, DES Long-term Substitute Paraprofessional, effective 9-11-12 through 12-03-12 for Annika Tulkki who is on family leave.
6. Jean Eberhardt, DMS/DHS Long-term Substitute Paraprofessional, beginning approximately 11-30-12 through 01-11-13 for Emily Wurm who will be on family leave of absence.
7. Dawn Vander Broek, DMS Long-term Substitute Paraprofessional, beginning approximately 12-11-12 through 02-15-13 for Jamie Harms who will be on family leave of absence.
8. Kobi Belgarde, Tiger Activities Gymnastics Teacher, effective 9-11-12.
9. Lydia Farniok, Tiger Activities Center Gymnastics Aide, effective 9-11-12.

C. Contract Changes/Approvals

1. Brad Neutz, DHS Custodian 30 hour part-time position changed to DMS/DHS Custodian 40 hour full-time position, effective 10-09-12. Replaces James Kittock who retired.
2. 2012 - 2014 Agreement between Ind Sch District 879 and SEIU Local 284 covering the Administrative Assistants Group.

3. 2012 - 2014 Agreement between Ind Sch District 879 and SEIU Local 284 covering the Custodian and Maintenance Group.

D. Leaves of Absence

1. Jamie Harms, DMS Paraprofessional requesting family leave beginning approximately 12-13-12 through 02-15-13.
2. Rebecca Olmscheid, DES Grade 2 Job-Share Teacher, requesting family leave beginning 11-19-12 through 01-01-13.
3. Amanda Weinandt, Junior Varsity Softball Coach, requesting one year leave of absence (2012-13 school year) from coaching due to family leave of absence.

6. 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.

7. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent

Mr. Schoen reported that he had spent part of the day at Resource Training and Solutions with 12 other superintendents, Brenda Cassellius, Commissioner of the MN Department of Education, and Tom Melcher, School Finance Director, regarding school reform and funding in Minnesota. In May 2011, a taskforce had recommendations to present to the legislature regarding the inequity and complexity of state funding and how to fix some of the problems. Those recommendations were not able to be acted on since it was so close to the end of the legislative session. The task force, with some new participants, was reconvoked and continues to work on Special Education funding reform, facility funding reform, improve school equity and further simplification of school funding. The task force plans to present their recommendations to the legislature in January and February after the session has started.

B. Principals:

1. Ms. Klinkner

Ms. Klinkner presented the Middle School Improvement Plan. Ms. Klinkner stated that this year's plan is similar to last year's plan, but taking things to a new level. The Middle School will continue to work with the MMR data and have ongoing training and discussions with staff to meet the behavior and academic goals of all students. The Middle School will continue to administer a student survey; this year, they will be following the Elementary's practice of posting a Question of the Month on the website for parents in the hopes of greater parent involvement in answering survey questions. The Middle School will also continue to work on their communication with parents; they currently have 24 likes on their Facebook page.

2. Mr. Heil

Mr. Heil presented the High School Improvement Plan. The High School plans to improve math and reading proficiency, as well as having a stretch goal of 100% passage rate for writing. The High School also plans to improve Science scores; Delano High School is currently one of the highest performing schools in the state in Science, which is due to staff, leadership, and courses like Project Lead the Way. The High School also plans to increase the ACT score from 24.0 to 25.2 over the next three years; Mr. Heil said it is a three year goal because moving a whole point in one year is very difficult. The final goal is that the staff will enter into the Professional Learning Community philosophy, which means that the staff will become more collaborative and work across disciplines.

3. Mr. Schuler

Mr. Schuler presented the Elementary School Improvement Plan. Mr. Schuler stated that there is some continuation of previous goals and some new goals. The Elementary plans to increase Reading proficiency, as well as develop protocol for the Targeted Services staff for appropriate class sizes due to the high number of students that were serviced last year. Principals have taken over the mentoring program, so Mr. Schuler and Mr. Lahr are meeting monthly with the first year teachers. The Elementary School will be implementing the SST (Student Success Team) model, which is an offshoot of RtI (Response to Intervention); the goal is to keep kids from qualifying for special ed, thus staying in the classroom. The Formative Assessment process is ongoing. The Elementary will also be implementing Tiger Snack Pack; on Fridays, kids will receive backpacks filled with health snacks (30 families will be involved), and the packs come back on Monday to be refilled for the next Friday. Mr. Schuler thanked Coborn's because they are donating the majority of the food for the healthy snacks.

C. Business Manager

Ms. Reeder reported that the first-class election notices were mailed on Thursday, October 18th, and that the first published notice of election was in today's Delano Herald Journal; the second notice will be in next week's Delano Herald Journal. Ms. Reeder also reported that the audit will be presented at the November 26th School Board meeting.

D. Community Education Director Report

Ms. Johnson presented the Community Education Continuous Improvement Plan goals for 2012-2013. The Community Education Advisory Council repeatedly emphasizes the need to continue to work on communication, so Community Education will continue to focus on marketing and outreach. Diane will be leading a study on "The Advantage - Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business" by Patrick Lencioni with her leadership team, which will help them develop a common understanding and vision for moving Community Education forward in the future. Technology needs will continue to be assessed. Community Education is continuing to look at alignment of staff and programs for maximum efficiency and support of growth. New curriculum was purchased for the Preschool and Tiger Kids Club programs. The Creative Curriculum will be implemented in the preschool classrooms in preparation of applying for Parent Aware/Race to the Top grants. Tiger Kids Club will be working to incorporate more STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) in their programming. Carly Boll will be developing a system for hiring, staff development and evaluation of youth recreation coaches. The Gymnastics program is being evaluated; currently there are more students wait-listed than enrolled; looking at ways to best accommodate families. In 2004-2005, a Recreation Task Force was created; Diane and Phil Kern, Delano City Administrator, have committed to re-establishing that task force to help improve working relationships and meet the needs of all organizations using City and District facilities. The current Tiger Activity Center member management system software is outdated and no longer being supported, thus new and affordable software needs to be identified, purchased and implemented.

E. Activities Administrator Report

Mr. Lindquist reported on the current year fall activities participation compared to last year. High School participation decreased by 15% this year, while Middle School participation increased by almost 12%. Statewide this year, Football numbers are down about 25%, in large part due to concussion education. In 2009, 115 students participated in Football; this year, 71 students participated. Mr. Lindquist will be giving this same type of update after each season. Online registration was implemented this year; it worked well for the first season, but his department will continue to look at ways to improve the process. Mr. Lindquist's goal is to be paperless by next summer.

F. Annual Report Presentation by Joe Vieau

Joe Vieau presented the annual report. One area of the report is dedicated to reviewing and summarizing last year's testing results. Mr. Vieau reported that in reading, students are proficient almost across the board, while math scores were up in most categories. The increase in math was due to the fact that for the first time, students were able to retake the test if they were not proficient. Scores in reading and math increased across the state. Science scores went down slightly, but were still significantly higher than the state average. Writing improved from 4.0 to 4.1 with a 99% passage rate. In the report, Mr. Vieau has tried to explain the MMR in layman's terms, as well as gave each schools ratings. The Elementary School received a 95.57%, which classifies it as a Reward School - #44 out of 823 schools. The Elementary School is the only school in the district that receives Title I dollars, so it is the only school that can receive a label. The Middle School is #90 out of 222; the High School is #94 out of 425. Mr. Vieau noted that there is alot more volatility in the numbers with this new system than with the AYP system. The ACT scores went up to 24.0.

8. Board Reports

A. MAWSECO

A Johnson reported that there was a meeting on September 24th. Ms. Johnson stated that Delano is proud to be part of a coop, which allows districts to pool resources and save money. Wendy Seefeldt, MAWSECO Business Manager, presented information from a working group that is working on revamping special education funding; MN Department of Education is starting to hold regional meetings and more information will be known in November. MAWSECO also discussed policy changes that need to be made. One area discussed was school discipline; MAWSECO's policy needs to be different from the MSBA version due to the need for individualized measures based on programs and/or students. All policies will be aligned with state statute.

B. Wright Technical Center

S Baker reported that there was a meeting on October 2nd. The audit was reviewed; it was a good report with a couple of minor deficiencies, mostly due to the small accounting staff. There was one legal compliance finding that needed to be mitigated; a state form for contractors needed to be on file, which proved that the vendor had paid their workers. Overall, Wright Tech is in good financial shape. The total expenses decreased by 5%, which is the first time since 2008 that revenues exceeded expenditures. There was a brief update on the teen pregnancy program, which was started 23 years ago when Wright County had the 2nd highest birth rate in the country. Since the program was implemented, the teenage pregnancy birth rate has decreased dramatically. This program is coordinated by Wright County Health Services. There was also an update on property and liability insurance; Wright Tech will be going with their current provider. Wright Tech has a tentative agreement with their administrative assistants but continues to work on agreements with principals and the director.

C. Community Education Advisory Council

L Seguin reported that there was a meeting on October 4th. Lisa provided an update to the group on

the referendum. There were also representatives from Four Community Theater at the meeting to discuss Delano's continued involvement with the group. Ms. Seguin noted that new Council Members are always needed; there are six meetings a year, so the time commitment is small.

D. Delano Area Sports Arena (DASA)

P Brasket reported that DASA did not meet.

E. Safe Schools

S Baker reported that there was a meeting on October 16th, and that there were good conversations with Wright and Hennepin County people who work either directly or indirectly with our students. Brian Stoll is continuing to give Cyberbullying presentations to Middle School students and parents. Ms. Baker also reported that there is a new Social Host Ordinance - it is illegal in Wright County to host a party of three or more people where minors might drink alcohol.

F. Staff Development

C Milano reported that the group met and that the workshop plans for November 5th were confirmed. The group will continue to look at online learning opportunities which would allow CEU's to be earned. The group will be establishing and determining guidelines with staff input.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

A. Approval of the Q-Comp program and goals for the 2012-13 school year.

Q-Comp program representatives, Maria Menz, Neva Stoebner and Meghan Gibas, presented the 2012-2013 program and goals. The group informed the School Board that when the original plan was written, it required that a vote be taken every year to determine whether or not to continue the Q-Comp program. Each year, goals are written and any changes need to be submitted to the MN Department of Education. This year's goal for the High School will be in math and the Middle and Elementary School goals will be in reading. Dr. David Peterson presented information to teachers on observations. Lead Peer Coaches expectations had to be changed per the MN Department of Education; stipends for the Lead Peer Coaches changed due to the new expectations. The new performance pay percentages are more in line with the observation focus. Also, due to teacher and MN Department of Education feedback, the observation process was deemed good but felt that more training would be beneficial. All three buildings have voted on and approved the plan, and now the group has asked that the Board vote on it. The School Board and Q-Comp representatives had discussion regarding the observation portion of the plan.

Motion: Milano Second: Baker Vote: 7-0

B. Set date and time to canvass votes (Nov 9 through Nov 16)

Date: Monday, November 12, 2012 Time: 5:30 PM Where: High School Conference Room

Motion: Brasket Second: Durick Vote: 7-0

C. Accept quotes and approve vendor for 2012-2014 snow plowing (2 year contract)

Vendor approved: 4.0 Services

Three vendors provided quotes for the 2012-2014 snow plowing seasons: 4.0 Services, Alpine Landscape Inc and Consolidated Landcare Inc. Of the three vendors, 4.0 Services quote was the lowest. Mr. Schoen recommended that the Board accept the 4.0 Services quote.

Andy Bright of 4.0 Services stated that he had worked with Dr. Sweet on the past contract, and that instead of charging the school district a flat fee every time his company removed snow, the company actually charged only for the time spent removing snow, which cost the district less.

Motion: Durick Second: Seguin Vote: 7-0

11. 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.

- A. Amy Johnson presented the opportunity for school patrons again at this time to make public comment since the school patrons wishing to speak were out of the room during the original time for public comment.

Brian Doran, who is running for state senate, asked if any of the Board members would be attending the Candidate Forum being held on October 29, 2012.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Motion: Brasket Second: Durick Vote: 7-0