

**Regular School Board Meeting**

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, May 21, 2013

UnitedHealth Group Building

4316 Rice Lake Road

Suite 108

Duluth, MN 55811

6:30 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Approval of the Agenda**
5. **Reading and Approving Minutes**
  - A. Regular School Board Meeting - April 23, 2013 2
6. **School and Community Recognition**
7. **Audience**
8. **Reading Communications, Petitions, Etc.** 8
9. **Report of the Superintendent**
  - A. Schedule of Meetings and Events 9
10. **Report of Standing Committees**
  - A. Education Committee (*see separate report*)
  - B. Human Resources Committee (*see separate report*)
  - C. Business Committee (*see separate report*)
11. **Special Resolutions**
  - A. Resolution B-5-13-3100 - Closing Nettleton Elementary School 11
  - B. Resolution B-5-13-3101 - Closing Woodland Middle School 16
12. **Questions / Other**
13. **Adjournment**

## Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at the Historic Old Central High School, 215 North First Avenue East, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, on

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

### Members Present:

Mary Cameron  
Tom Kasper  
Mike Miernicki  
Judy Seliga Punyko  
Ann Wasson  
Bill Westholm

### Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent  
Bill Hanson, Deputy Clerk  
Melinda Thibault, Secretary

### Student Representatives:

Erik Thibault  
Katlyn Persch

### Members Absent:

Art Johnston

➤ Chair Kasper called the regular school board meeting of April 23, 2013 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

**M-Cameron, S-Wasson, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a vote on the agenda as presented, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of March 19, 2013.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of March 19, 2013.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved 6-0.**

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of April 2, 2013.

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Chair Kasper asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of April 15, 2013.

**M-Westholm, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**School and Community Recognition**  
**April 2013**

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The school board acknowledged/congratulated:

- Clairia Poirier, Kelly Popham and Christine Karas have been named 2013 National Merit Scholarship Finalists. The National Merit Scholarship program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High School students enter the program by taking the Preliminary STA/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. This test screens roughly 1.5 million entrants each year. Students must have an outstanding academic record and be endorsed and recommended by a high school official.
- Christine Karas is a member of the Daredevils Robotics team, she's on her way to St. Louis for the World Championships this evening or she would be here.

**Public Comments**  
**April 2013**

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Lynn Amerman Goerdts and Bob Grytdahl, of the Clayton, Jackson, McGhie Memorial Group, spoke to the school board regarding education equity issues and shared the policy goals that their group has created. They reminded board members of the need to invest time and energy and to partner with local groups to achieve education equity.

Michael Chelseth, 4511 Jay Street, spoke to the school board regarding his concern that the zero hour be maintained in order for students take additional classes.

Loren Martell, 623 East 7th, spoke to the school board regarding his concern with articles published in the newspaper misleading the public about the District's budget issues.

**Communications, Petitions, Etc.**  
**April 2013**

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Superintendent Gronseth stated that no communications had been received.

**Superintendent's Report**  
**April 2013**

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Superintendent Gronseth thanked everyone for their understanding and cooperation with the snow days in recent weeks.

He also stated that he is thankful for the quality teachers in the District and the way we treat each other in the classroom and the workplace.

**Education Committee Report**  
**April 2013**

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Member Cameron presented the Education Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Cameron presented the resolution:

**R E S O L U T I O N**  
**VALUES, BELIEFS, VISION AND MISSION**  
**COMMUNITY VISION FOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709**

WHEREAS, Through the Think Kids initiative, people across Duluth, MN were invited to participate in a community-wide conversation about education;

WHEREAS, Nearly 2,000 citizens from all walks of life took part – community and business leaders, neighbors, groups and organizations, parents, teachers, students and more – through over 60 meetings, online surveys and other communication venues, sharing their thoughts about what’s going well, what could be improved, what needs to be done now, and what should be done in the future;

WHEREAS, Common themes have been identified throughout the Think Kids conversations that represent our values, beliefs and priorities for the future;

WHEREAS, Overall, our community values schools where educational excellence and a supportive environment provide each student with the skills and experiences they need in order to learn, grow and be successful, and Duluthians recognize that strong schools are key to the success of our community;

WHEREAS, The final vision document, along with priorities identified through Think Kids, will be used to create a District-wide continuous-improvement plan, which will be used to guide the development of individual school improvement plans;

WHEREAS, The Purpose of Independent School District 709 is to provide a quality education that prepares all students for successful lives as global citizens in the home, community and workplace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the shared values, beliefs, vision, and priorities identified by the community and captured in the draft vision document, with the above Purpose of ISD 709, be adopted as the Values, Beliefs, Vision and Mission for ISD 709.

Resolution E-04-13-3086

April 23, 2013

**M-Cameron, S-Wasson, to approve the Resolution E-4-13-3086 – Purpose of ISD 709 and Draft Community Vision Document for Think Kids: Values, Beliefs, Vision and Mission for ISD 709. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

Member Cameron presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

**Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a school district to accept grants by resolution expressed in the terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the grant in accordance with the donor’s terms is in the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools does accept the below-described grants from said organizations in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Duluth Public Schools wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to these various organizations.

	Organization	Author/Contact	Project Title	Award Amount	Terms
1	Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation	Bill Gronseth	Youth Success Teams/AmeriCorps Support Project	\$10,000	Funds from this grant award will be used to help support having AmeriCorps in the Duluth Public Schools.

E-4-13-3085

April 23, 2013

**M-Cameron, S-Wasson, to approve the Resolution E-4-13-3085 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**M-Cameron, S-Westholm, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report as presented.**

Board members discussed the closed campus item and clarified that it was for information only at this point.

**Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**Human Resources Committee Report**

**April 2013**

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Member Westholm presented the Human Resources Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

**M-Westholm, S-Seliga Punyko, to approve the Human Resources Committee Report as presented. Upon a vote on the Human Resources Report as presented, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**Business Committee Report**  
**April 2013**

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Member Seliga Punyko presented the Business Committee report, a copy of same being in the hands of each school board member.

Member Seliga Punyko presented the resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
**Approval of the Master Plan for Duluth's Memorial Park near Laura MacArthur School**

WHEREAS, the Duluth School Board approved by Resolution B-11-10-2832 a Resolution approving the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Duluth and Independent School District #709 relating to Laura MacArthur School and Memorial Park, and subsequently executed such Joint Powers Agreement; and

WHEREAS, The Joint Powers Agreement requires the written approval of the Memorial Park and Laura MacArthur School Master Joint Use Plan, and such Plan shall be reviewed by the City and School District every five years; and

WHEREAS, The City has completed a Mini-Master Planning Process for the Memorial Park lands and has requested the Memorial Park Master Plan created by that process be approved as the Memorial Park and Laura MacArthur School Master Joint Use Plan specifically relating to the City owned Memorial Park lands only; and

WHEREAS, the portion of the Memorial Park and Laura MacArthur School Master Joint Use Plan relating to the School District owned property will be reviewed and updated at a later date;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The School Board of Independent School District #709 hereby approves the December 2012 Memorial Park Master Plan as the Memorial Park and Laura MacArthur School Master Joint Use Plan relating to the City owned Memorial Park.

B-4-13-3088

April 23, 2013

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Wasson, to approve Resolution B-4-13-3088 – Approval of the Master Plan for Duluth's Memorial Park Near Laura MacArthur School. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.**

**M-Seliga Punyko, S-Westholm, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee Report as presented.**

Member Miernicki asked about the savings in energy report that had been provided to board members. Kerry Leider, Facilities Management Supervisor, stated that the District expects to the projected energy savings.

Erik Thibault asked if there would be follow-up to the vending machine issue. Bill Hanson, Director of Business Services, stated that there would be a request for bid sent out for water machines and that administration expects more information to come to the board in May.

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Member Westholm asked about the Key Zone contracts and if the program had been run before. It was clarified that the programs existed prior and that this is the first year that the programs have been combined with the YMCA.

**Upon a vote on the remainder of the business committee report as presented, the same was approved 6-0.**

**Other**  
**April 2013**  
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Chair Kasper asked for an update regarding the planning commission's decision not to rezone the Rockridge property. Discussion took place regarding the property, rezoning, and options the District has.

Student Advisor Thibault noted his concern that some sophomore students have been told they can't take zero hour classes next year. Superintendent Gronseth stated that administration would work to get the confusion on the issue straightened out.

➤ Chair Kasper adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of April 23, 2013 at 7:31 p.m.

7. Communications, Petitions, etc.

*No communications received.*

**DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ISD 709**  
**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

*All meetings are scheduled at Historic Old Central High School, 215 N 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, unless otherwise noted.*

**May 20 – May 24, 2013**

Tuesday	May 21	5:30 p.m.	Special School Board Meeting Adjourn to Executive (Closed) Session Re: Discussion of Contract Parameters for Pending Labor Negotiations with All Impacted Bargaining Units
Tuesday	May 21	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting Board Room
Wednesday	May 22	4:15 p.m.	Retirement Reception Lincoln Park Middle School ~ Second Floor Cafe 3215 West Third Street
Thursday	May 23	4:15 p.m.	Parent Advisory Council on Special Education (PACSE)\ Steering Committee Business Meeting Room 203C
Thursday	May 23	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room

**May 27 – May 31, 2013**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**June 3 – June 7, 2013**

Tuesday	June 4	7:00 p.m.	ALC/Unity Graduation Ceremony DECC Symphony Hall
Wednesday	June 5	2:15 p.m.	Woodland Hills Academy Graduation Ceremony Woodland Hills Academy
Wednesday	June 5	7:30 p.m.	East Graduation Ceremony DECC Auditorium
Thursday	June 6	7:00 p.m.	Denfeld Graduation Ceremony Denfeld Auditorium

**June 10 – June 14, 2013**

Monday June 10 4:15 p.m. Human Resources Committee Board Room

Monday June 10 4:30 p.m. Business Committee Board Room  
*(or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg)*

Tuesday June 11 4:15 p.m. Education Committee Board Room

**June 17 – June 21, 2013**

Tuesday June 18 6:30 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting Board Room

**June 24 – June 28, 2013**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**July 1 – July 5, 2013**

*No meetings scheduled at this time.*

**July 8 – July 12, 2013**

Monday July 8 4:15 p.m. Human Resources Committee Board Room

Monday July 8 4:30 p.m. Business Committee Board Room  
*(or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg)*

Tuesday July 9 4:15 p.m. Education Committee Board Room

*Office of the Superintendent  
May 16, 2013*

**RESOLUTION  
CLOSING NETTLETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Whereas, a public hearing was held on May 6, 2013 on the proposed closing of Nettleton Elementary School;

Whereas, during this hearing, people wishing to give testimony for and against the proposed closing were heard, and such testimony was considered by the School Board;

Whereas, published notice of this hearing was given in compliance with Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.51, subdivision 5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 as follows:

1. The attached Findings and Conclusions regarding the closing of Nettleton Elementary School are hereby adopted.
2. The closing of Nettleton Elementary School is necessary and practicable.
3. Nettleton Elementary School is closed effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year.
4. At this time, the School Board does not take any action with respect to the possible sale of Nettleton Elementary School building or property.

B-5-13-3100

May 21, 2013

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709  
Duluth Public Schools**

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**In the Matter of the Proposed Closing  
Of Nettleton Elementary School**

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS,**

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A hearing on the proposed closing of Nettleton Elementary School (“Nettleton Elementary School”) by Independent School District No. 709, Duluth Public Schools (“School District”) was held on May 6, 2013, at 6:00 P.M. at Nettleton Elementary School.

The hearing was conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.51. The hearing was recorded by a court reporter. A transcript of the hearing has been provided to the members of the School Board. Exhibits were offered, received, and kept as part of the record of the hearing. All individuals wishing to speak and offer evidence in favor of, or in opposition to, the proposed closing were given the opportunity to testify during the hearing.

**FINDINGS**

1. Nettleton Elementary School, located at 108 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Duluth, sits on an approximate 3.34 acre site. Nettleton Elementary School is a three story, 90,024 square foot building. The building was constructed in 1905-24,953 square feet, 1945-12,539 square feet, 1987-52,532 square feet.
2. Nettleton Elementary School is currently configured as a K-5 program.
3. Nettleton Elementary School has an enrollment capacity of 713 students. This number is based on a classroom size of 23 students.
4. The School District currently operates two high schools, two middle schools and nine elementary schools.
5. In accordance with its long range facilities plan, the School District completed construction of a new/renovated elementary school building (at the existing Myers-Wilkins Elementary) within Nettleton Elementary School’s enrollment area. This new facility will open in September of 2013.
6. The Myers-Wilkins Elementary School will have an enrollment capacity of 598 students.
7. In 2006, the School District commissioned a report from Dr. Hazel Reinhart. Her demographics report predicted a 10 year decline in the School District’s enrollment of approximately 25%. The demographics report attributed this decline to shifting age demographics in the area served by the School District.

8. Since 2006, the School District's enrollment has been, on average, less than what the demographics report predicted.
9. Considering the enrollment capacity at the Myers-Wilkins Elementary School, the current enrollment of Nettleton Elementary School, the enrollment figures predicted in the demographics report, and the enrollment trend, it is not necessary to keep Nettleton Elementary School open to provide enrollment capacity for students. Closing Nettleton Elementary School would eliminate the excess use of a separate building.
10. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the total building operations cost (including utilities, supplies, and custodial labor) for Nettleton Elementary School was \$248,131.
11. The projected building operations cost for Myers-Wilkins Elementary School for the 2013-2014 fiscal year is \$225,000, a decrease in total cost of \$23,131.
12. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the total cost of employing administrators and school support personnel (such as nurses, nutritionists, media specialists, etc.) at Nettleton Elementary School was \$363,986
13. The projected cost of employing administrators and school support personnel for Myers-Wilkins Elementary School for the 2013-2014 fiscal year is projected to be roughly the same as 2012-2013.
14. Consolidating the two buildings into one allows the School District to streamline student transportation.
15. During the 2012-2013 school year, operating fewer school buildings has already saved the School District's general fund approximately \$5.2 million. These savings have primarily been used to offset potential deficits.
16. In order to consolidate Nettleton Elementary School into the new Myers-Wilkins Elementary School and realize the benefits associated with student transportation, the School District must first close Nettleton Elementary School.
17. Nettleton Elementary School building and surrounding land has been valued at approximately \$480,000.
18. If the School District closes Nettleton Elementary School, it will be able to sell Nettleton Elementary School building and surrounding land to reduce the School District's bonded debt by the sale value.
19. If the School District does not sell Nettleton Elementary School building and/or surrounding land, it will not be able to use the proceeds from such sale to pay down the School District's bonded debt. Instead, the anticipated value of that sale will be drawn from either or both of: (1) an additional tax levy; or (2) a reduction from the School District's general fund.

20. If the School District closes, but does not sell, Nettleton Elementary School, it will annually incur an anticipated \$40,000 plus inflation and ongoing maintenance and repair costs in order to keep Nettleton Elementary School in a serviceable and minimally preserved condition.
21. Closing Nettleton Elementary School permits the School Board to later choose whether to incur the annual cost of approximately \$40,000 in case of future need for the existing facility, or sell Nettleton Elementary School building and surrounding property to eliminate this cost and pay down the School District's bonded debt. The School District loses these options if it does not close Nettleton Elementary School.
22. Closing Nettleton Elementary School will not necessitate the non-renewal, termination, or layoff of any classroom teacher. Teachers currently assigned to Nettleton Elementary School will be reassigned to other teaching positions, based on enrollment, and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable collective bargaining agreement and/or School District policies.
23. Programs currently available at Nettleton Elementary School will be available at Myers-Wilkins Elementary School.
24. If Nettleton Elementary School is closed, all students currently attending Nettleton Elementary School will attend the new and renovated Myers-Wilkins Elementary School starting in the 2013-2014 school year.
25. The School District has published notice of the school closing hearing in the official newspaper for two weeks before the hearing.
26. At the hearing, the School District administration presented documentary evidence regarding the proposed closure of Nettleton Elementary School. Specifically, the following documents were entered as exhibits:
  - a. An Educational Adequacy Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - b. A Facility Assessment Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - c. A Property Value Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - d. A Solutions Options Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;

- e. The Review and Comment Documents that the School District submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education in connection with its Long Range Facilities Plan; and
- f. The Demographic Report from former State Demographer, Dr. Hazel Reinhart.

The School Board has fully considered this evidence prior to reaching any conclusion or adopting any resolution regarding the closure of Nettleton Elementary School.

- 27. At the hearing, members of the public were allowed to present testimony for and against the proposed closure of Nettleton Elementary School. The School Board has considered all comments by members of the public prior to reaching any conclusion or adopting any resolution regarding the closure of Nettleton Elementary School.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

- 1. The closure of Nettleton Elementary School is necessary and practicable.
- 2. The School District has complied with the procedural requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.51, subdivision 3, for the purpose of closing Nettleton Elementary School.

**RESOLUTION  
CLOSING WOODLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Whereas, a public hearing was held on May 6, 2013<sup>012</sup> on the proposed closing of Woodland Middle School;

Whereas, during this hearing, people wishing to give testimony for and against the proposed closing were heard, and such testimony was considered by the School Board;

Whereas, published notice of this hearing was given in compliance with Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.51, subdivision 5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 as follows:

1. The attached Findings and Conclusions regarding the closing of Woodland Middle School are hereby adopted.
2. The closing of Woodland Middle School is necessary and practicable.
3. Woodland Middle School is closed effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year.
4. At this time, the School Board does not take any additional action with respect to the sale of Woodland Middle School building or property.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709  
Duluth Public Schools**

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**In the Matter of the Proposed Closing  
Of Woodland Middle School**

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS,**

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A hearing on the proposed closing of Woodland Middle School (“Woodland Middle School”) by Independent School District No. 709, Duluth Public Schools (“School District”) was held on May 6, 2013, at 7:30 P.M. at Woodland Middle School.

The hearing was conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.51. The hearing was recorded by a court reporter. A transcript of the hearing has been provided to the members of the School Board. Exhibits were offered, received, and kept as part of the record of the hearing. All individuals wishing to speak and offer evidence in favor of, or in opposition to, the proposed closing were given the opportunity to testify during the hearing.

**FINDINGS**

1. Woodland Middle School, located at 201 Clover Street in Duluth, sits on an approximate 5.7 acre site. Woodland Middle School is a two story, 119,800 square foot building. The building was constructed in 1958-93,578 square feet, 1994-25,829 square feet, 2005-393 square feet.
2. Woodland Middle School is currently configured as a K-5 program.
3. Woodland Middle School has an enrollment capacity of 899 students. This number is based on a classroom size of 27 students.
4. The School District currently operates two high schools, two middle schools and nine elementary schools.
5. In accordance with its long range facilities plan, the School District completed construction of a new/renovated middle school building (at the current Ordean East Middle School) within Woodland Middle School’s enrollment area. This new facility was opened in September of 2012.
6. The Ordean East Middle School has an enrollment capacity of 1,200 students.
7. In 2006, the School District commissioned a report from Dr. Hazel Reinhart. Her demographics report predicted a 10 year decline in the School District’s enrollment of approximately 25%. The demographics report attributed this decline to shifting age demographics in the area served by the School District.

8. Since 2006, the School District's enrollment has been, on average, less than what the demographics report predicted.
9. Considering the enrollment capacity at the new Woodland Middle School, the current enrollment of Ordean East Middle School, the enrollment figures predicted in the demographics report, and the enrollment trend, it is not necessary to keep Woodland Middle School open to provide enrollment capacity for students. Closing Woodland Middle School would eliminate the excess use of a separate building.
10. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the total building operations cost (including utilities, supplies, and custodial labor) for Woodland Middle School was \$482,565.
11. The projected building operations cost for Ordean East Middle School for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is \$521,299, a slight increase in total cost of \$38,734, but a 28% decrease in cost per sq ft (Woodland 128,820 compared to Ordean East 192,750).
12. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the total cost of employing administrators and school support personnel (such as nurses, nutritionists, media specialists, etc.) at Woodland Middle School was \$593,082.
13. The projected cost of employing administrators and school support personnel for Ordean East Middle School for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is projected to be roughly the same as 2011-2012.
14. Consolidating the four buildings with middle school enrollment into two buildings allows the School District to streamline student transportation.
15. During the 2011-2012 school year, operating fewer school buildings has already saved the School District's general fund approximately \$5.2 million. These savings have primarily been used to offset potential deficits.
16. In order to consolidate Woodland Middle School into the new Ordean East Middle School and realize the benefits associated with student transportation, the School District must first close Woodland Middle School.
17. The School Board has authorized the sale of the Woodland School pending the school closing and citizens were provided the chance to speak for or against the sale at that time.
18. If the School District does not sell the Woodland Middle School building it will not be able to use the proceeds from such sale to pay down the School District's bonded debt. Instead, the anticipated value of that sale will be drawn from either or both of: (1) an additional tax levy; or (2) a reduction from the School District's general fund.

19. Closing Woodland Middle School will not necessitate the non-renewal, termination, or layoff of any classroom teacher. Teachers currently assigned to Woodland Middle School will be reassigned to other teaching positions, based on enrollment, and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable collective bargaining agreement and/or School District policies.
20. Programs offered at Woodland Middle School are available at Ordean East Middle School.
21. The School District has published notice of the school closing hearing in the official newspaper for two weeks before the hearing.
22. At the hearing, the School District administration presented documentary evidence regarding the proposed closure of Woodland Middle School. Specifically, the following documents were entered as exhibits:
  - a. An Educational Adequacy Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - b. A Facility Assessment Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - c. A Property Value Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - d. A Solutions Options Report completed in connection with the School District's Long Range Facilities Plan;
  - e. The Review and Comment Documents that the School District submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education in connection with its Long Range Facilities Plan; and
  - f. The Demographic Report from former State Demographer, Dr. Hazel Reinhart.

The School Board has fully considered this evidence prior to reaching any conclusion or adopting any resolution regarding the closure of Woodland Middle School.

23. At the hearing, members of the public were allowed to present testimony for and against the proposed closure of Woodland Middle School. The School Board has considered all comments by members of the public prior to reaching any conclusion or adopting any resolution regarding the closure of Woodland Middle School.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. The closure of Woodland Middle School is necessary and practicable.
2. The School District has complied with the procedural requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.51, subdivision 3, for the purpose of closing Woodland Middle School.