

Regular School Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, December 17, 2013

District Services Center

709 Portia Johnson Dr.

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. Special School Board Meeting - November 19, 2013 2
 - B. Regular School Board Meeting - November 19, 2013 3
6. **School and Community Recognition**
7. **Audience**
8. **Reading Communications, Petitions, Etc.** 9
9. **Report of the Superintendent**
 - A. Schedule of Meetings and Events 10
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 S-12-13-3150 - School Board Member Attendance at MSBA Leadership Conference & Phase I/II Programs for New Board Members 12
12. **Questions / Other**
13. **Adjournment**

Minutes of the Special 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, November 19, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Art Johnston
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Ann Wasson
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

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

Members Absent:

Judy Seliga Punyko

- Chair Kasper called the special school board meeting of November 19, 2013 to order at 4:46p.m.

Member Wasson presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Executive (Closed) Session

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.03 subdivision 1(b) allowing a closed session for discussing contract parameters for pending labor negotiations with all impacted bargaining units.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the School Board shall meet in Executive (Closed) Session on Monday, November 19, 2013 at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of discussion related to contract parameters for pending labor negotiations with all impacted bargaining units.

Resolution HR-11-13-3145

November 19, 2013

M-Wasson, S-Cameron, to approve Resolution HR-11-13-3145 - Executive Closed Session.
Upon a vote the same passed – 6-0.

- Chair Kasper adjourned the Special School Board meeting of November 19, 2013 at 4:47 p.m.

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, November 19, 2013

Members Present:

Mary Cameron
Art Johnston
Tom Kasper
Mike Miernicki
Ann Wasson
Bill Westholm

Others Present:

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

Student Representatives:

Erik Thibault

Members Absent:

Judy Seliga Punyko

➤ Chair Kasper called the regular school board meeting of November 19, 2013 to order at 6:30 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Westholm, 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 Regular School Board Meeting of October 15, 2013.

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – 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 November 13, 2013.

M-Wasson, S-Westholm, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved as presented – 6-0.

School and Community Recognition November 2013

Stand Up For Kids, a volunteer group led by chairperson Tom Albright, for recognition on their work to inform the public about the levy. Many people came together to share information with the public about the importance of renewing and increasing this levy. Tom Albright and members of Stand Up For Kids worked tirelessly, dedicating a tremendous amount of their time and talents to this endeavor. Passage of the education levy questions on November 5 will help support the community vision and priorities identified through Think Kids and the 4-Year Continuous Improvement Plan. The Plan includes reducing class size, increasing student achievement and reducing the achievement gap, and updating curriculum. Congratulations to Stand Up For Kids and all that they accomplished for students in Duluth.

Public Comments

November 2013

No public comment

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

November 2013

Chair Kasper acknowledged communications received.

Superintendent's Report

November 2013

Superintendent Gronseth started out by thanking Duluth for supporting both levels of the levy. It really confirms that Duluthians care deeply about education and are focused on the future. There are so many people that dedicated a lot of time and effort to the levy campaign. Tom Albright and so many others from Stand Up for Kids, the Mayor, the Chamber, and especially Students for the Future. I'm looking forward to continuing our work together as we make progress on our goals and targets that were developed with the voices of people inside and outside the school district. Again, thank you for your efforts.

Tonight, we celebrated our newly tenured teachers and I'd like to congratulate them again. I'd also like to thank the East HS Sterling Strings for performing during that celebration. There will be many programs and opportunities to experience the many talents of our students as they perform over the holiday season. People can visit our website to find calendars that include these events, or they can call the schools directly.

Education Committee Report

November 2013

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:

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	MSHSL	Tom Pearson	MSHSL Foundation Grant	TBD by Denfeld’s total unduplicated number of free or reduced lunch students participating in Denfelds activity programs during the 2012-13 school year.	Funds will be used to assist, recognize, promote, and fund extra-curricular participation by Denfeld High School students in athletic and fine arts programs.
2	MSHSL	Shawn Roed	MSHSL Foundation Grant	TBD by East’s total unduplicated number of free or reduced lunch students participating in Denfelds activity programs during the 2012-13 school year.	Funds will be used to assist, recognize, promote, and fund extra-curricular participation by East High School students in athletic and fine arts programs.

E-11-13-3139

November 19, 2013

M-Cameron, S-Wasson, to approve the Resolution E-11-13-3139 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

M-Cameron, S-Wasson, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report.

Members Johnston and Miernicki withheld Item 1.A.2)

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.A.2)) Duluth Public School Immunization and Head Lice Procedures to thank administration for their work on updating the procedures. Superintendent Gronseth noted that board members had received some updates/notes in their folders.

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

Human Resources Committee Report
November 2013

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

M-Westholm, S-Wasson, to approve the Human Resource Committee report. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

M-Westholm, S-Cameron , to approve a resignation/release agreement for a district employee. Upon a vote, the same was approved 6-0.

Business Committee Report

November 2013

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

Member Wasson presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Authorized Student Activity Bank Account Signer

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that it hereby authorizes the following:

<u>District Building</u>	<u>Banking Institution</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Addition of Authorized Signer</u>	<u>Removal of Authorized Signer</u>
East High	Northshore Northshore DTCU	XXXXXX2 XXXXXX9 XXXX6	Krista Hill	
Public School Stadium	DTCU	XXXX6	Mark Krysiak	

B-10-13-3138

November 19, 2013

M-Wasson, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-11-13-3143 –Authorized Student Activity Bank Account Signer. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

Member Wasson presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

To approve Application and Petition to rededicate a portion of Ensign Street from the west line of Chambersburg Avenue to the east line of Church Street to the City of Duluth

WHEREAS, the School Board by Resolution B-6-07-2452 adopted a Long-range Facilities Plan for the District, and therein also directed the District’s administrative staff to commence with the identification and negotiation of land to be acquired as identified in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Administration working with Johnson Controls and the District’s Legal Counsel worked with the adjoining property owner, Christ Lutheran Church, to petition for the vacation of a portion of Ensign Street near Piedmont School to allow convenient and safe access for students across this property to a parcel of land the District intended to acquire from Christ Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, the petition from the District and Christ Lutheran Church requesting the

vacation of a portion of Ensign Street was accepted and approved by the Duluth City Council, that portion legally described as that part of Ensign Street in Huseby's Division, First Addition, except the westerly 198 feet thereof and except the easterly 128.5 feet lying west of the westerly line of Chambersburg Avenue; and that part of Ensign Street in the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 30, Twp 50N, Rng 14W, including that part platted as Auditors Plat No. 32, except the westerly 198 feet thereof and except the easterly 128.5 feet lying west of the westerly line of Chambersburg Avenue; and

WHEREAS, after consideration of the terms for the purchase of the parcel of land from Christ Lutheran Church, the School Board has determined it will not acquire the land and therefore the vacation of the portion of Ensign Street is not necessary and not in the best interest of the School and District; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the School Board hereby authorizes the application and petition to the City of Duluth requesting the rededication of a portion of Ensign Street from the west line of Chambersburg Avenue to the east line of Church Street as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the School Board hereby authorizes the School Board Chair to sign the application or petition to dedicate, and the Administration to seek the required agreement and signatures from Christ Lutheran Church, and to submit the application and petition to the City of Duluth for the street rededication and any other documents required to complete this process.

B-11-13-3142

M-Wasson, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-11-13-3142 – To approve Application and Petition to rededicate a portion of Ensign Street from the west line of Chambersburg Avenue to the east line of Church Street to the City of Duluth. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

Member Wasson presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709

The School District Board of Education adopted the following resolution at the November board meeting:

WHEREAS, the Independent School District No. 709 (the "District") currently maintains a cafeteria plan pursuant to the requirements of Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code called the Independent School District No. 709 Flexible Benefits Plan (the Plan), which provides for premium conversion benefits, health care reimbursement benefits and dependent care benefits; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to amend the Plan to conform to the definition of "spouse" in Article II, paragraph 2.43 to be applied consistent with the applicable regulatory guidance, including IRS Revenue Ruling 2013-17.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District's Board of Education hereby approves this Resolution and amends the District's Flexible Benefits Plan and its component parts, such change is effective as of September 16, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appropriate designees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver all documents necessary for the proper implementation of the Plan to ensure that the amended restated Plan, hereby approved is in effect.

B-11-13-3144

November 19, 2013

M-Wasson, S-Westholm, to approve Resolution B-11-13-3144 – Section 125 Flexible Benefits Plan Modifications. Upon a vote, the same was approved – 6-0.

M-Wasson, S-Cameron, to approve the Business Committee Report withholding the resolutions:

Member Johnston withheld 1.F. and 4.B. for discussion.

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.F. – WADM Projections to note his concern with the drop in enrollment projections.

Member Johnston withheld Item 4.B. Change Orders to note his concern with them.

Upon a vote on the remainder of the Business Committee, the same was approved – 5-1 as follows:

Yea: Cameron, Kasper, Miernicki, Wasson, Westholm

Nay: Johnston

Other
November 2013

- Chair Kasper adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of November 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

8. 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 1st Avenue East, unless otherwise noted.

December 16 – December 20, 2013

Tuesday	December 17	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting (<i>Agenda Attached</i>) • Includes Truth in Taxation Hearing Board Room
Thursday	December 19	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room

December 23 – December 27, 2013

No meetings scheduled at this time.

December 30, 2013 – January 3, 2014

No meetings scheduled at this time.

January 6 – January 10, 2014

Monday	January 6	6:30 p.m.	Annual Organizational Meeting Board Room
Wednesday	January 8	11:00 a.m.	PTSA City-Wide Council Room 318
Thursday	January 9	5:00 p.m.	Education Equity Budget Subcommittee Room 302

January 13 – January 17, 2014

Monday	January 13	4:15 p.m.	Human Resources Committee Board Room
Monday	January 13	4:30 p.m. (<i>or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg</i>)	Business Services Committee Board Room
Tuesday	January 14	4:15 – 6:00 p.m. only (<i>No Mtgs 6:00-8:00 pm SLC Special Elections</i>)	Education Committee Board Room

January 20 – January 24, 2014

Tuesday	January 21	6:30 p.m.	Regular School Board Meeting Board Room
Thursday	January 23	5:30 p.m.	Education Equity Advisory Committee Board Room

January 27 – January 31, 2014*No meetings scheduled at this time.***February 3 – February 7, 2014**

Tuesday	February 4	6:00 p.m.	City-Wide PTSA Council Room 318
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*Office of the Superintendent
December 12, 2013*

RESOLUTION**Board Member Attendance at MSBA Leadership Conference
And Phase I/II Programs for New Board Members**

RESOLVED, That Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, pay costs incurred, as per District policy, for school board members to attend the Minnesota School Boards Association 93rd Leadership Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on January 16-17, 2014 and the Phase I and II Programs for New Board Members.

Resolution S-12-13-3150

December 17, 2013