

Regular School Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

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. Regular School Board Meeting - December 20, 2016 2
 - B. Special School Board Meeting - January 3, 2017 15
 - C. Annual Organizational School Board Meeting - January 3, 2017 16
 - D. Special School Board Meeting January 10, 2017 24
6. **School and Community Recognition**
7. **Audience**
8. **Reading Communications, Petitions, Etc.- *None***
9. **Report of the Superintendent**
 - A. Reports from Student School Board Representatives
 - B. Schedule of Meetings and Events 26
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-*None***
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, December 20, 2016

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad
Harry Welty

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

Student Representatives:

Spencer Fredrickson
Johanna Uden

➤ Chair Harala called the regular school board meeting of December 20, 2016 to order at 6:31 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag was given.

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve the agenda as presented.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there was any discussion on the agenda.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of November 15, 2016.

M-Sandstad, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of November 28, 2016.

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2016 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Harala asked school board members if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of November 29, 2016.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Sandstad, to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2016 Special School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

School and Community Recognition
December 2016

Members of the Board, this month I'm pleased to present Conor Reindl and Jada Guthrie for recognition. They're taking part in our school district's Career and Technical Education Health Occupations program, providing hands-on experience, opportunities to earn college credit in high school and prepare for a career in healthcare. This fall, Jada and Conor, along with other students from Denfeld and Duluth East, attended a MN State Health Occupations Students of America, or "HOSA" conference. The mission of HOSA is to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science education students. Conor and Jada have been elected to serve as officers for the Minnesota HOSA organization. Conor will serve as Vice President for Minnesota HOSA. Jada will serve as Vice President for the North Region. Congratulations to Jada and Conor and best wishes as they assume these important leadership positions.

Truth In Taxation Presentation

The Truth in Taxation Presentation was given by Doug Hasler, CFO/Executive Director of Business Services.

Public Comments
December 2016

Member Loeffler-Kemp read the community vision statement.

Bernie Burnham, 4130 West Fourth Street, spoke to the School Board about the many great current happenings to celebrate in the school district.

Agatha Pachavinsky, no address given, spoke to the School Board about how great the Duluth East Drama Club is and how much it has taught her.

Pearl Elliott, no address given, spoke on how much she appreciated the Duluth East Drama Club and how much she has learned from the types of programs they have presented.

Copper Petermeier, address not provided, wanted to express how much the Duluth East Drama Club has helped him develop as a person and how grateful he is for it.

Al Chepelnik, no address given, recognized the Teacher of the Year committee members and invited everyone to attend the DFT Teachers of the Year reception on January 10, 2017 in the Media Center at Denfeld High School. The Teachers of the Year are Annette Petersmeyer and Sheila Shusterich.

Annette Petersmeyer, no address given, shared information about her work at Woodland Hills Academy and read statements from her students.

Henry Banks, no address given, thanked the School Board for the resources and support provided for the visit of Dr. Mahmoud El Kati in November, 2016, and to voice some concerns regarding Dr. Mahmoud El Kati's visit.

Carlyle Eckart, 105 South 54th Ave E, spoke to the School Board about an incident that occurred at Ordean East Middle School.

Lynn Goerdt, 427 Howard Gnesen, thanked the Board members that recently met with some of her social work students, and to discuss the availability of College in the School (CITS) courses at both East and Denfeld.

Tim Jezierski, 1949 Highway 2, spoke to the School Board about an incident that occurred at Ordean East Middle School.

Henry Helgen, 5422 Wyoming Street, spoke to the School Board about the changing regulations that may negatively affect the CITS programs and to inquire what the District was going to do to address these changes.

Tim Doyle, no address given, spoke to the School Board about his concerns regarding the education of the students at schools in the West section of the District.

Diane Fitzgerald, no address given, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Jennifer Wellnitz, no address given, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding the at-risk students at Denfeld and their access to Honors and CITS courses.

Geri Saari, no address given, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Jane Rudd, 2733 Northridge Drive, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Marina Udd, 1002 Timberline, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Marla Halvorson, 1126 West Skyline, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Juhl Halvorson, 1126 West Skyline, spoke to the School Board about his concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Tom Tusken, no address given, spoke to the School Board about his concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Anne Skwira-Brown, 2702 Northridge Drive, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Marcia Stromgren, no address given, spoke to the School Board about the renewal of the Superintendent's contract.

Sharon Witherspoon, no address given, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Audrey Tusken, 401 North 44th Avenue West, spoke to the School Board about her concerns regarding student equity and access to Honors and CITS courses.

Communications, Petitions, Etc.

December 2016

Superintendent Gronseth stated no communications had been received.

Superintendent's Report

December 2016

December is always a busy month in our schools. There have been many programs and events all across the district. There have been thousands of people who have come to watch students share their talents through music, dance, artwork, and many other ways. It has been wonderful to see so many people coming together to support our students. I recently heard a staff member say that sometimes our differences can pull us apart--but sharing our cultures can bring us back together. This is so true; we have all seen that over the last month, a rich sharing of cultures that bridges differences and creates a stronger foundation of understanding for the future. I know that it takes a lot of work to put on these events and I want to thank the many people that make it all possible. Your work is greatly appreciated. We have started texting! If parents would like to receive information from the district via text, they should login to Infinite Campus and select the options they prefer. Please be aware, however, that not all messages will come in the form of a text. This is something we are just starting-- and will plan to use more in the future as more people get signed up. December is also the month that we say farewell to our current student representatives to the school board. So Johanna and Spencer, thank you for your service to the school board. Your monthly reports and your input have really made a difference. In recognition of all you have done we would like to present you with a certificate and a small token of appreciation. Let's give them a hand everyone! I also want to take an opportunity to speak from the heart this evening. As educators we spend our days changing lives-- it can be awe inspiring and it can also be very difficult work. The issues are complex and there are rarely easy fixes. We have some unique challenges in our community. Some of them new, and others have been challenges for a long time such as the differences between the Eastern and Western corridors of Duluth. While there is a mix of students and families in both corridors, there are differences in the student populations. Schools with higher populations of students who receive free and reduced price lunch receive additional funding through Title I and Compensatory

Education. The district also receives additional funding through Achievement & Integration because we have a school that is racially identifiable. These funds provide added supports and lower classes for schools that qualify. The district has also made additional investments with the newly opened Design Center at Denfeld being a perfect example. The work we are doing around creating full-service community schools at Lincoln and Denfeld modeled after the success we have seen at Myers-Wilkins. The changes that have been made to have one course book and the work to increase the opportunities our students have. Our teachers and principals are looking at things differently too, they are using their professional learning communities to change what instruction looks like in our classrooms. We know that student engagement is of the utmost of importance if we are going to make a difference in the lives of every student every day. But still, none of these things are the perfect answer. None of these things will solve every challenge; in fact it is just a start. If we are serious as a community about really making changes to equalize opportunities for students and families, then we need to look at things more holistically. We need to talk about housing, about access to food, medical, dental and mental health services, we need to talk about transportation. There are many things coming together for our community right now. The city, county, DEDA, the school district, and other partners have all been working to build stronger partnerships because we know that we are stronger together than we are separately. There are differences between our schools. There are different needs that need to be addressed, different strategies that must be employed, all while keeping the needs of all students in mind. And when we all work together on the same goals, work on building each other up rather than tearing each other down, we can accomplish more. I can tell you this. Every day when we come to work, we are focused on our students and our families. We place them squarely at the center of all of our discussions and decision making. It is not possible to make everyone happy with every decision that is made by me or anyone else in the district. But please know that whether you agree, or not, that we strive to make the best decisions possible for the benefit of ALL students. Please know that I am dedicated to our students, our community, and our future. I am looking forward to working together to make a stronger future for all of our students.

Now let's hear from our student reps one last time:

Denfeld High School: Student Representative Johanna Unden shared that Denfeld has wrapped up fall sports and were getting ready for winter sports and hoping for good seasons! Two seniors were awarded HOSA Board positions. A Denfeld teacher was awarded the National ASC award for outstanding dedication to automotive teaching and his students. The Holiday Concert was a huge success. A Denfeld student will be representing Minnesota in the National Debate Tournament in Alabama in June 2017. Denfeld is having multiple fun holiday type activities at the school like pajama day. Student Representative Unden thanked her fellow students for the opportunity to represent and serve them and also thanked the School Board for the chance to give back to her school by serving on the Board. Denfeld is still in the process of selecting next year's student representative.

Duluth East High School: Student Representative Spencer Fredrickson shared their drama club presentation was a huge success! The boys' basketball team is playing rival Denfeld this week. The Cross Country team went to Yellowstone to ski! The Christmas Concert was at the DECC with 500 students in the music program. The Executive Board of the Student Council handed

out doughnuts and hot chocolate at the school for the first time ever and it was a great hit! The school was transformed into a Winter Wonderland with decorations! This is Student Representative Fredrickson's last time on the Board and he introduced his replacement. He also thanked the Board for the ability to participate and he commented on how dedicated everyone is to the success of our students.

Education Committee Report
December 2016

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

Member Loeffler-Kemp 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 this organization.

| Organization | Author / Contact | Project Title | Award Amount | Terms |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Duluth East High School Foundation | Cassie Letourneau | Circle of Friends | \$500 | Funds from this grant award will be used to support Circle of Friends. Circle of Friends strives to reduce bullying and create a more inclusive school culture at East High School that promotes disability awareness, acceptance and friendship. |

E-12-16-3411

December 20, 2016

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Welty, to approve Resolution E-12-16-3411 – Acceptance of Grant Awards to the Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Kirby, to approve the remainder of the Education Committee Report.

Chair Harala withheld Item 2.D.2)
Member Oswald withheld Item 2.D.2)

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.B.1)

Member Johnston withheld Item 1.B.1) Summary of Duluth Public Schools' Annual School Improvement Goals to mention that the improvement goals were not being met by all schools in the District.

Member Harala withheld Item 2.D.2) New Policy 521-Student Disability Nondiscrimination to discuss the use of “disabled student” versus “students with disabilities”.

M-Harala, S-Oswald, to amend the wording in new Policy 521-Student Disability Nondiscrimination to state “students with disabilities” instead of “disabled students”.

Member Oswald withheld Item 2.D.2) New Policy 521-Student Disability Nondiscrimination to point out the included “Student Disability Discrimination Grievance Report Form” and to inquire as to where this report form will be located within the District.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Education Committee Report, including the wording to New Policy 521-Student Disability Nondiscrimination”, was approved – unanimously.

Human Resources Committee Report

December 2016

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

Member Kirby motioned to approve the Superintendent's contract. Chair Harala requested, and fellow Board members agreed, that Member Kirby finish the Human Resources report with his motion being address when the Superintendent's contract was withheld for discussion.

M-Kirby, S-Sandstad, to approve the Human Resource Committee report.

Member Oswald withheld Items 1, 2.A., 2.C., and 2.E.

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.B.

Member Oswald withheld Item 1 – Staffing Report Action Items to comment on a couple of retirements of long term employees.

M-Kirby, S-Sandstad, to approve the Superintendent's contract.

Member Oswald withheld Item 2.A. Superintendent's contract to discuss the length of the contract.

M-Oswald, S-Welty, to amend the contract end date to be June 30, 2018 for a one year contract for the Superintendent.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed amendment.

Chair Harala called for a Point of Order to state that the discussion is not a public evaluation but a discussion about contract renewal. A public evaluation would violate data privacy.

Member Loeffler-Kemp to call the question.

Member Johnston called for a Point of Order to remind Board members when the question is called; a vote needs to be called and can only pass with a two-thirds vote.

Upon a vote to call to the question, the same passed 5-2 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Oswald, Welty

Nay: Johnston, Welty

Upon a vote on the proposed amendment to change the end date of the Superintendent's contract to June 30, 2018, the same failed 3-4 as follows:

Yea: Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Nay: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad

M-Johnston, S-Oswald, to amend the Superintendent's contract Article III, subparagraph F, Termination Without Cause, to delete "12 months" and replace with "1 month".

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Loeffler-Kemp to call the question.

Upon a vote to call the question, the same passed 5-2 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad, Welty

Nay: Johnston, Oswald

Upon a vote on the proposed amendment to delete "12 months" and replace with "1 month", the same failed 2-5 as follows:

Yea: Johnston, Oswald

Nay: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad, Welty

M-Johnston, S-Oswald, to amend the Superintendent's contract - Article VIII, Compensation, to delete the first sentence and replace with "The Superintendent shall be paid an annual salary of \$168,000 for the remainder of this contract".

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Loeffler-Kemp to call the question.

Upon a vote to call the question, the same passed 5-2 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad, Welty

Nay: Johnston, Oswald

Upon a vote on the proposed amendment to Article VIII, the same failed 3-4 as follows:

Yea: Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Nay: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad

M-Johnston, S-Oswald, to amend the Superintendent's contract to add Article IX, subparagraph E, to state "The Superintendent shall have a legal residence in ISD 709 school area within one year of the date of this contract."

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Sandstad to call the question.

Upon a vote to call to the question, the same passed unanimously.

Upon a vote to amend Article IV, subparagraph E, the same failed 2-5 as follows:

Yea: Johnston, Oswald

Nay: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad, Welty

Upon a vote to approve the Superintendent's contract, the same was approved 4-3 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad

Nay: Oswald, Johnston, Welty

Member Johnston withheld Item 2.B. New Policy 302-Superintendent; Member Johnston withdrew and will discuss next month.

Member Oswald withheld 2.C. the deletion of Policy 2015 Superintendent-Function; Member Oswald withdrew and will discuss next month.

Member Oswald withheld Item 2.E., the deletion of Policy 2050 Line of Responsibility, to voice concern about deleting this policy.

Upon a vote, the remainder of the Human Resource Committee was approved - unanimously.

Business Committee Report

December 2016

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

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION

Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools

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

WHEREAS, acceptance of the donations 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 donations 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 organizations.

| SCHOOL | DONOR | AMOUNT | RESTRICTION |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Denfeld | Betty Buntten Bullington | \$150.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| Denfeld | Key Club at Denfeld | \$528.34 | For Art Supplies |
| Denfeld | Claudia Anderson | \$100.00 | Drama Department |
| Denfeld | Various/Community Donation Box | \$216.00 | Robotics |
| Denfeld | Sandy Bergerson | In Kind | Clare Chopp, Orchestra Teacher |
| Denfeld | Russell E Strom | \$400.00 | Boys Hockey |
| Denfeld | Class of 64 C/) Elaine Mundle | \$149.54 | Claudia Anderson, Secretary for Greater Denfeld Foundation |
| East | Celine A. Campbell | \$200.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | The Electric Fetus | \$100.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Margaret Sutherland | \$100.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Kris Larson | \$125.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Patrick Heffernan | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Frederic Anderson | \$150.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Gary Black | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Mary Davis | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | George Telatis | \$100.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Pizza Luce | \$200.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Cole Peterson | \$100.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | John Graham | \$70.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Steven & Barbara Payette | \$180.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | John Morrison | \$200.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Emily Nothacker | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|------------|---------------------------------|
| East | Steven Butchart | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Kristy Gilreath | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Chongwan Park | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Keith Salfer | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Jeffrey Jarvela | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Fischer Legal Services | \$200.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Paul Johnston | \$200.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Northern Waters Smokehaus | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Geri McGivern | \$65.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Teresa Alpach | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Clearwater Composite | \$150.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | MPECU | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Duluth Library Foundation | \$120.00 | Sterling Strings Orchestra |
| East | Lakeside Gallery | \$100.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Gary Hovland | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Douglas Hoffman | \$50.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Lakewalk Brewery & Cafe | \$300.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| East | Lakewalk Surgery Center, Inc. | \$500.00 | Robotics |
| East | Northeast Area Labor Council C/O Beth McCuskey | \$200.00 | Choir |
| East | Gary Black and Celeste Curley-Black | \$100.00 | Drama Department |
| East | Grandma's Marathon | \$200.00 | Sterling Strings Orchestra |
| East | East Foundation | \$100.00 | Sterling Strings Orchestra |
| East | Andrew Marks | \$150.00 | Student Council Executive Board |
| HOCHS | Whole Foods Co-op | \$2,000.00 | Middle school farm field trips |
| HOCHS | Carolyn Zanho | In kind | None |
| Homecroft | Catherine Bianchet | \$20.00 | No |
| Homecroft | Richard & Mildred DeBolt | \$25.00 | No |
| Homecroft | Ann Fleming | \$100.00 | No |
| Homecroft | Jacob & Kathrynne Dryke | \$200.00 | No |
| Lester Park | Curtis Phillips & Beth Cash | \$50.00 | No |
| Lester Park | Gretchen Cash | \$175.00 | No |
| Lester Park | Joan Luther | \$50.00 | No |
| Lester Park | Emily & Ted Cash | \$50.00 | No |
| Lester Park | Art in the Alley | \$100.00 | No |
| Lincoln Park | Perkins Restaurant | \$150.00 | Pawsitive Perks Program |
| Lincoln Park | Glensheen | \$30.00 | Pawsitive Perks Program |
| Lincoln Park | Susan Cohen - State Farm Agency | \$250.00 | Pawsitive Perks Program |
| Lincoln Park | Target | \$25.00 | Pawsitive Perks Program |
| Lincoln Park | Edgewater Hotel and Waterpark | \$228.04 | Pawsitive Perks Program |
| Lincoln Park | Olive Garden Restaurant | \$514.24 | Family Night |
| Lincoln Park | Grandmas | \$50.00 | No |
| Lincoln Park | Duluth Children's Museum | \$162.00 | No |
| Lincoln Park | Vertical Endeavors | \$96.00 | No |

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Lincoln Park | DECC | \$48.00 | No |
| Lincoln Park | Toasty's Sandwich Shop | \$60.00 | PAWS Program |
| Ordean-East | Autism Association of Northern MN | \$2,800.00 | Purchase adapted equipment and curriculum for students with special needs in the DCd/SMI setting 3 program at Ordean-East |
| | Total | \$13,337.16 | |

B-12-16-3412

December 20, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-11-16-3412 – Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
2017 Legislative Platform

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the attached 2017 Duluth School District Legislative Platform be adopted.

Resolution B-12-16-3413

December 20, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Kirby, to approve Resolution B-12-16-3413 – 2017 Legislative Platform.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

RESOLUTION
Certified Tax Levy 2016 Payable 2017

BE IT RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, to hereby set the Tax Levy for 2016 Payable 2017 at \$31,816,091.64.

Resolution B-12-16-3414

December 20, 2016

M-Sandstad, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-12-16-3414 – Certified Tax Levy 2016 Payable 2017. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Sandstad, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve the remainder of the Business Committee report. Upon a vote, the same was approved – unanimously.

Other
December 2016

Member Johnston inquired to the status of a Student Representative from the Area Learning Center (ALC). Currently, ALC will not have a Student Representative for the 2017 School Board year.

Member Loeffler-Kemp thanked the 2016 Student Representatives for their hard work, participation and leadership. Member Loeffler-Kemp is also looking forward to participating with them in the January 2017 Minnesota School Board Association conference with student representatives from across the state.

➤ Chair Harala adjourned the Regular School Board Meeting of December 2016, 2016 at 10:15 p.m.

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, January 3, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Harry Welty

Members Absent:

Nora Sandstad

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

- Chair Harala called the special school board meeting of January 3, 2017 to order at 3:30 p.m.

Member Kirby presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Executive (Closed) Session

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3(c) allowing a closed meeting for discussion related to the purchase or sale of real property.

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 Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at approximately 3:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of updates related to the status of property disposals as listed on the attached document.

Resolution B-1-17-3423

January 3, 2017

M-Kiby, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3423 - Executive Closed Session. Upon a vote the same passed – 6-0.

- Chair Harala adjourned the Special School Board meeting of January 3, 2017 at 3:33 p.m.

Minutes of the School Board Annual Organizational 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, January 3, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad via Google Hangout
Harry Welty

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

- Temporary Chair Harala called the organizational meeting of the school board to order at 4:30 PM.

M-Welty, S-Oswald, to approve the agenda. Upon a vote to approve the agenda as presented, the same was approved – unanimously.

Election of Chairperson:

Temporary Chair Harala opened the nominations for the office of Chairperson.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for the office of Chairperson.
Member Loeffler-Kemp nominated Member Kirby for the office of Chairperson.
Temporary Chair Harala closed the nominations for the office of Chairperson.

Temporary Chair Harala announced that Member Kirby was elected as Chairperson 4-3 as follows:

Kirby: 4 – Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 – Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Vice Chairperson

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson.
Member Harala nominated Member Loeffler-Kemp as Vice Chairperson.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald as Vice Chairperson.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Loeffler-Kemp was elected as Vice Chairperson 4-3 as follows:

Loeffler-Kemp: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Clerk

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Clerk.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for office of Clerk.
Member Sandstad nominated Member Harala for office of Clerk.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Clerk.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Harala was elected as Clerk 4-3 as follows:

Harala: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Treasurer:

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Treasurer.
Chair Kirby nominated Member Sandstad for the office of Treasurer.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for the office of Treasurer.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Treasurer.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Sandstad was elected as Treasurer 4-3 as follows:

Sandstad: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Appointment of Deputy Clerk:

Chair Kirby appointed Doug Hasler as Deputy Clerk.

Appointment of Board Secretaries:

Chair Kirby appointed Jackie Dolentz and Melinda Thibault as School Board secretaries.

Member Welty presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION Selection of Meeting Dates/Times

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Regular meetings of the School Board shall be held the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Administration Building unless otherwise scheduled by the School Board.

B-1-17-3415

January 3, 2017

M-Welty, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3415, Selection of Meeting Dates/Times. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Designation of Depositories and Acceptance of Collateral

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that Duluth Teachers Credit Union, North Shore Bank of Commerce, BMO Harris Bank, U.S. Bank, KeyBank, Wells Fargo, Park State Bank and Western Bank shall be depositories of the funds of this School District for up to a one year period commencing January 1, 2017, and said banks shall be required to deposit with said district collateral securities, subject to approval by the School Board, and kept in trust;

RESOLVED, That the collateral securities pledged by Duluth Teachers Credit Union and placed in trust at Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; North Shore Bank of Commerce and placed in trust at U S Bank N. A.; Key Bank and placed in trust at Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; all as provided by law and evidence by trust agreements executed by the Treasurer of the School Board, an officer of the depository bank, and acknowledged by an officer of the bank holding the securities in trust, shall be approved.

DULUTH TEACHERS CREDIT UNION –

\$500,000.00 FNSM, Cusip xxxxxxVM2, due 3/14/2017

\$500,000.00 FHOR, Cusip xxxxxxKG7, due 4/10/2018

NORTH SHORE BANK OF COMMERCE –

\$100,000.00 FHLB, Cusip xxxxxxCV7, due 3/10/2017

\$200,000.00 FHLB, Cusip xxxxxxDG1, due 5/30/2019

BMO HARRIS BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

U S BANK –

\$1,000,000.00 FGPC, Cusip xxxxxxWP6, due 5/1/2033

KEYBANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

WELLS FARGO BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

PARK STATE BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

WESTERN BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

RESOLVED, That the Treasurer, Clerk, and/or CFO/Executive Director of Business Services shall be authorized to arrange for the exchange, release, or placing of additional collateral, provided that in all instances such exchange, releases, or placing of additional collateral shall be approved by the school board and all new collateral shall be placed in trust with the respective aforementioned institutions.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3416 - Designation of Depositories and Acceptance of Collateral. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Designation of Authority to Perform Electronic Fund Transfers

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services has the authority to designate a district employee/employees to initiate electronic fund transfers, as required by MS 471.38.

B-1-17-3417

January 3, 2017

M-Sandstad, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3417 - Designation of Authority to Perform Electronic Fund Transfers. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Oswald presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Authorization for Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services to Sign Contracts and Grants

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that to increase operational efficiency, it is requested that authorization to sign revenue contracts and expenditure contracts for the lease, purchase, and contract for goods or services within budgetary and policy limits up to \$25,000 be granted to the Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services. This delegation of authorization is allowable under Minnesota Statute 123B.52 subd. 2. The superintendent's designee will review each contract before execution.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Superintendent of Schools, or in his/her absence the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services, be designated the legal authorized representative to sign applications and execute grant documents for and in behalf of the school district in connection with federal and state laws and funding authorities and local, public, and private funding agencies that offer categorical financial support to this school district.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of ISD 709, St. Louis Country, Minnesota that a list of all the above contracts and grants hereby approved by the Superintendent or the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services will be provided as an informational item at the first possible regular School Board Meeting following the approval action.

B-1-17-3418

January 3, 2017

M-Oswald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3418 - Authorization for the Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services to Sign Contracts and Grants. Upon a vote taken on the resolution – the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Harala presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
Selection of District's Legal Counsel

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the following firms have been selected as legal counsel for the District.

Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.
302 West Superior Street, Suite 700
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 722-0861

Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney
730 Second Avenue South, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 339-0600

Dryer, Storaasli, Knutson & Pommerville
202 West Superior Street, Suite 200
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 249-0608

Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.
330 South Seventh Street, Suite 2800
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612. 436.4300 (office)
612.436.4340 (fax)

RESOLVED, that the authorized contact persons for the District are as follows:

Chair of the School Board
Superintendent of Schools
Executive Assistant to Superintendent of Schools
Assistant Superintendent
CFO/Executive Director of Business Services
Executive Assistant to the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services
Director of Special Education
Manager of Facilities
Finance Manager
Senior Human Resources Manager
Human Resources Manager for Non-Certified Staff
Human Resources Benefits Coordinator

B-1-17-3419

January 3, 2017

M-Harala, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3419 – Selection of District's Legal Counsel.

M-Johnston, S-Welty, to amend resolution by deleting the later two firms; deleting Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney and deleting Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Sandstad, to amend Member Johnston's motion to delete only the firm of Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Sandstad, to amend his motion to terminate the contract with Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A. with the exception of ongoing cases that they are representing us in until the conclusion of those particular cases.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Oswald, to table this item.

Discussion took place regarding tabling this item.

Member Sandstad to call the question.

Upon a vote, the call to the question passed - unanimously.

Upon a vote to table Resolution B-1-17-3419 Selection of District's Legal Counsel, the same passes 6-1 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Oswald, Sandstad, Welty

Nay: Johnston

Member Johnston presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Selection of District's Official Newspaper

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the District's official newspaper will continue to be the Duluth News Tribune.

B-1-17-3420

January 3, 2017

M-Johnston, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3420 – Selection of District's Newspaper. Upon a vote taken on the resolution, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
Accepting the Eleven Tools of Civility

WHEREAS, The residents of Duluth Public Schools ISD 709 place a high value on respect and civility in their lives and they understand that these characteristics are essential to any healthy community; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussion in the community and within the School District; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 addresses sometimes controversial issues about which people often feel passionately and which at times leads to uncivil behavior; and

WHEREAS, An atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have a damaging effect on the proceedings, on the quality of debate, and on the practice of democracy itself.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 recognizes eleven tools of civility as encouraged by Speak Your Peace: The Civility Project that will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face our community. These tools include:

1. Pay attention
2. Listen
3. Be inclusive
4. Don't gossip
5. Show respect
6. Be agreeable
7. Apologize
8. Give constructive criticism
9. Take responsibility
10. Be honest and care for others
11. Show your evidence; share your reasoning

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 shall promote the use and adherence of these tools in conducting the business of the School Board.

B-1-17-3421

January 3, 2017

M-Kirby, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3421 – Accepting the Eleven Tools of Civility.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Sandstad to call the question.

Upon a vote, the call to the question failed 4-3 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad

Nay: Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Upon a vote, the resolution was approved – unanimously.

Member Welty presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Approving the Continued Participation of Student School Board Representatives

WHEREAS, The School Board of Duluth Public Schools ISD 709 has included Student School Board Representatives since January 2005; and

WHEREAS, Student school board representatives provide the school board with a student voice and youth perspective; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota School Boards Association encourages school boards to develop a process to include student representatives; and

WHEREAS, The Superintendent and high school principals have reviewed and revised where necessary the selection process for appointing student school board representatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District 709 approves the continued participation of one Student School Board Representative from Denfeld, East and the Area Learning Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the term for the 2017 Student School Board Representatives will be January 3, 2017 to January 2, 2018.

B-1-17-3422

January 03, 2017

M-Welty, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3422 – Approving the Continued Participation of Student School Board Representatives.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote on the resolution, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Welty, S-Harala, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same passed – unanimously.

- Chair Kirby adjourned the Annual Organizational School Board meeting of January 3, 2017 at 5:24 p.m.

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, January 10, 2017

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad
Harry Welty

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

- Chair Kirby called the special school board meeting of January 10, 2017 to order at 3:18 p.m.

Member Welty presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION
Executive (Closed) Session

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.05 subd. 2.(a)(3) a public body must close a meeting for discussion of private educational data.

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 January 10, 2017 at approximately 3:15 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of Historic Old Central High School for the purpose of discussion of private educational data.

Resolution E-1-17-3425

January 10, 2017

M-Welty, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution E-1-17-3425 - Executive Closed Session. Upon a vote the same passed – unanimously.

Recessed at 3:20 p.m.

Reconvened at 4:25 p.m.

Member Welty presented the resolution:

RESOLUTION EXPELLING A STUDENT

WHEREAS, written notice of intent to expel a student attending Denfeld High School was served upon the student and the student's parent;

WHEREAS, the notice of intent to expel the student complied with the provisions of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. § 121A.47, subd. 2;

WHEREAS, the student and the student's parent appeared at the hearing on January 6, 2017;

WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer issued a Report and Recommendation of Independent Hearing Examiner on January 7, 2017 recommending expulsion of the student; and

WHEREAS, under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, the name of the student proposed for expulsion is private data.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The School Board hereby expels the student from the schools of Independent School District No. 709, Duluth, for one full year (12 months) from the effective date of expulsion, January 10, 2017 through January 9, 2018.
2. The Superintendent, or his designee, is directed to mail to the student and the student's parent a copy of this Resolution along with a letter stating that the student has been expelled and that the student has the right to re-enroll in the District on January 9, 2018.
3. The Superintendent, or his designee, is directed to identify the alternative educational services that are available to the student during the period of expulsion, if the student wishes to take advantage of them.
4. The Superintendent, or his designee, is directed to make an electronic report of this expulsion to the Commissioner of the Department of Education within thirty (30) calendar days, as required by Minn. Stat. § 121A.53.

Resolution E-1-17-3426

January 10, 2017

M-Welty, S-Oswald, to approve Resolution E-1-17-3426 – Resolution Expelling a Student. Upon a vote, the same passed – 6-1.

Yea: Harala, Johnston, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Oswald, Welty

Nay: Sandstad

M-Welty, S-Sandstad, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same passed - unanimously.

- Chair Kirby adjourned the Special School Board meeting of January 10, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

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.

January 16-20, 2017

Tuesday January 17, 2017 5:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole
RE: Site Budget Review
Room 318 - 3rd Floor

Tuesday January 17, 2017 6:30 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting
Board Room - 2nd Floor

January 23-27, 2017

Thursday January 26, 2017 5:30 p.m. Education Equity Advisory Committee
Board Room - 2nd Floor

January 30-February 3, 2017

No meetings scheduled at this time.

February 6-10, 2017

Tuesday February 7, 2017 5:00 p.m. DPS American Indian Education Parent
Advisory Committee
Board Conference Room (210)

February 13-17, 2017

Tuesday February 14, 2017 4:15 p.m. Education Committee
Board Room - 2nd Floor

Wednesday February 15, 2017

4:15 p.m. Human Resources Comm.-**NOTE DATE CHANGE**
Board Room - 2nd Floor

Wednesday February 15, 2017

4:30 p.m. Business Committee-**NOTE DATE CHANGE**
Board Room - 2nd Floor
(or to follow the Human Resources Comm. Mtg.

February 20-24, 2017

No meetings scheduled at this time.

February 27- March 3, 2017

Tuesday February 28, 2017 6:30 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting
Board Room - 2nd Floor

March 6-10, 2017

Tuesday March 7, 2017 5:00 p.m. DPS American Indian Education Parent
Advisory Committee
Board Conference Room (210)

*Office of the Superintendent
January 12, 2017*