

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 77
Mankato, Minnesota

December 20, 2021

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, December 20, in the Mankato Room at the Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sapp called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Members present at roll call: Christopher Kind, Liz Ratcliff, Kenneth A. Reid, Jodi Sapp, Kristi Schuck and Darren Wacker. Absent: Erin Roberts.

Mr. Wacker made a motion, and Ms. Schuck seconded, approval of the agenda together with a Personnel Addendum. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Open Forum: John Wicklund, Elizabeth Hanke, Carma Carpenter, Brook Devenport, Brianna Weller wished to speak about COVID-19, masks, testing, and equity.

Information Reports: Fall Staff & Student Recognition presented by Todd Waterbury and Joe Johnson; Eagle Lake Elementary School Report presented by Jason Grovom; Roosevelt Elementary School Report presented by Ann Haggerty; COVID-19 Update; Board Member Workshop/Committee Reports.

The consent agenda items outlined below were approved on a motion by Ms. Schuck, seconded by Mr. Wacker, and carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

Approval of Minutes of the December 7, 2021, regular Board meeting.

Approval of December Bills totaling \$7,629,590.05.

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Colin Varley - Long-term Substitute Special Education Teacher for Kiersten Fennern at Dakota Meadows Middle School beginning January 12, and ending March 24, 2022. He will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teacher Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Maryan Ali - Non-Classroom (Lunchroom) Paraprofessional at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 2 hours per day/3 days per week beginning December 16, 2021. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and Minnesota School Employee Association, with an hourly rate of \$13.73.

Ann Amaye - Non-Classroom (Lunchroom) Paraprofessional at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 16, 2021. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and Minnesota School Employee Association, with an hourly rate of \$13.73.

Vanessa Dahlgren - ACES Child Care Assistant at Franklin Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 13, 2021, and ending June 3, 2022. She will be compensated at the rate of \$11.00 per hour.

Adelynn Mason - Special Education Intervention Paraprofessional at Monroe Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/3 days per week (M/T/F) and 7 hours per day/2 days per week (W/TH) beginning December 15, 2021. She will be placed at classification B21.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and Minnesota School Employee Association, with an hourly rate of \$14.14.

Lily Pokornowski - ACES Child Care Assistant at Bridges Community School for 4-5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 13, 2021, and ending June 3, 2022. She will be compensated at the rate of \$11.00 per hour.

Brent Spies - Systems Operations Intern for the District, beginning November 29, 2021, and ending January 12, 2022, for a total of 112 hours (8 hours per day/5 days per week November 29 - December 9, 2021, 8 hours per day January 4, 5, 11, 12, 2022). He will be compensated at the rate of \$27.32 per hour.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Alecia Hynes - Adjust end date to February 11, 2022, as Long-term Substitute Special Education Teacher for Brianne Wiese at West High School.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Sarah Barta - Adjust placement on the Educational Secretaries Association salary schedule, to step 3, classification B21 beginning December 15, 2021.

Annie Cuddie - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute to ACES Interim Site Supervisor at Bridges Community School for 5-6 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 15, 2021, and ending June 3, 2022. She will be compensated at the rate of \$14.00 per hour.

Hailey Eastburn - Change in assignment from ACES Interim Site Supervisor to ACES Child Care Assistant at Bridges Community School for varied hours beginning December 16, 2021, and ending June 3, 2022. She will be compensated at the rate of \$11.00 per hour.

Everett Johnson - Increase in assignment as Student Success Coach at Dakota Meadows Middle School from 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 7.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2021.

Sadie Kelly - Increase in assignment as Special Education Level 3 Paraprofessional at Roosevelt Elementary School from 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.75 hours

per day/4 days per week (M-TH) and 6.25 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning December 13, 2021.

Oris Ostgarden - Increase in assignment as Special Education Job Coach at East/West High Schools from 5.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 8, 2021.

Austin Sellner - Correction in increase of assignment as Special Education Student Success Coach at Franklin Elementary School from 7.75 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) to 7.75 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) and 6.25 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning October 12, 2021.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Renee Unger - DAPE Teacher for the District, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning November 29, 2021, for the period of 12 work weeks, and continuing with unpaid leave through the 2021-22 school year.

Brianne Wiese - Adjust return date to February 14, 2022, for Board approved leave.

RESIGNATION (NON-AFFILIATED)

Elizabeth Jennings - Central Registration Specialist for the District, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 31, 2021.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ariet Didumo - Bus Supervisor with the School District, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 21, 2021.

Megan Mettler - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 17, 2021.

Anesih Wallenius - Early Learning Paraprofessional at the Family Learning Center, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 17, 2021.

Personnel - Addendum

APPOINTMENTS (NON-AFFILIATED)

Brandon Bergemann - ACES Site Supervisor at Washington Elementary School beginning December 20, 2021. This is a non-affiliated position with an annual salary of \$33,408.00 (\$16.00 per hour) prorated to \$17,792.00 for 139 days for 2021-22. He will be eligible for category I benefits.

Brent Spies - Systems Operations Administrator with the Department of Technology beginning January 17, 2022. This is a full-time, 12-month Non-Affiliated position with an annual salary of \$61,844.03, prorated to \$28,197.09 for 119 days for 2021-22. He will be eligible for category II benefits.

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Jon Krueger - Long-term Substitute 5th Grade Teacher for Miranda Bode at Kennedy Elementary School beginning December 13, 2021, and ending February 11, 2022. He will be placed at step 10 of the M lane on the Teacher Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Molly Barber - Health & Wellness Paraprofessional at Futures/SUN program for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning January 5, 2022. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and Minnesota School Employee Association, with an hourly rate of \$16.95.

Payton Decker - Health & Wellness Paraprofessional for the District for 7.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning January 3, 2022. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and Minnesota School Employee Association, with an hourly rate of \$16.95.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Sharon Dinsmore - Increase in assignment as Health & Wellness Paraprofessional at East High School from 4 hours per day/5 days per week to 5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning November 1, 2021.

Maryam Mahamud - Adjust salary to \$25.72 per hour as ABE Outreach and Home School Liaison beginning July 1, 2021.

Rebecca Shouts - Voluntary decrease in assignment as EL Paraprofessional at Kennedy Elementary School from 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 13, 2021.

Bela Toscani - Change in assignment from ACES Assistant Site Supervisor at Bridges Community School for 4 hours per day/3 days per week to ACES Child Care Assistant at Kennedy Elementary School on an on-call basis beginning December 6, 2021, and ending January 7, 2022. She will be compensated at the rate of \$11.25 per hour.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Allison Beck - Mathematics Teacher at West High School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning May 2, 2022, and returning to work on October 17, 2022.

Makenzie Evans - Kindergarten Teacher at Monroe Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning April 14 and returning to work on June 6, 2022.

David Hendley - Special Education Teacher at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning December 7, 2021, and returning to work on January 4, 2022.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Julia Hall - Nutrition Services Secretary, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 31, 2021.

Tristan Lewis - Special Education Student Success Coach at Rosa Parks Elementary School, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment will be December 22, 2021.

Lexi Reid - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute at Hoover Elementary School, has submitted her resignation. Her last date of employment for this assignment will be December 15, 2021. She will continue in her Early Learning Specialist Education Paraprofessional assignment at the Family Learning Center.

TERMINATION (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Skyler Skjervold - Full-time, 8-Hour Evening Custodian at West High School. Last date of employment on November 29, 2021.

The following gifts have been received by the School District:

Jerine & Daniel Plaisance donated \$1,000 to East High Girls Swim & Dive Program in Memory of Hannah Plaisance

Charles C. Keller donated \$100 to East High Girls Hockey Program

Vetter Stone Company donated \$1,000 to East High Boys Basketball Program

LPL Financial donated \$1,500 to East High Hall of Fame

Rasmussen University donated \$500 to 2022 Career Expo Sponsorship

Micro-Trak Systems Inc donated \$100 to West High Choir Program

Sheila R. Busch donated \$150 to West High Boys Cross Country

Urbanworks Architecture LLC donated \$1,300 to Central Freedom School

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council donated two Small Arts Grant to Central High in the amount of \$1,000 and \$2,000

Post 518 Legion Auxiliary donated \$1,055 to Mankato Area Public Schools

Scheels donated Coats, Shoes, Boots, etc. (\$10,000 value) to Mankato Area Public Secondary Schools

Mr. Kind made a motion to accept the gifts. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff and carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

John Lustig provided information on the proposed contracts with non-affiliated personnel. Ms. Schuck made a motion to approve salaries or hourly rates and fringe

benefit categories for non-affiliated personnel for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reid and carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

The City of North Mankato is pursuing “Safe Routes to School” funding for improvements on Lor Ray Drive. If approved, grant dollars will cover pedestrian and bicycle routes connecting the Reserve housing development and adjacent neighborhoods to Dakota Meadows Middle School. Mr. Wacker made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff to approve the Resolution supporting the City of North Mankato Application for Minnesota Safe Routes to School 2021 Grant funding for the Lor Ray Drive Improvements/Dakota Meadows Middle School Project. The motion carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF NORTH MANKATO APPLICATION FOR MINNESOTA
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL 2021 GRANT FUNDING FOR THE LOR RAY DRIVE
IMPROVEMENTS/DAKOTA MEADOWS MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

WHEREAS: \$8 million in Safe Routes to School Funding is available, with a minimum of \$50,000 and a cap of \$500,000 for each project, and

WHEREAS: The City of North Mankato is the applicant and sponsoring agency for the Minnesota State Safe Routes to School funding application for the Lor Ray Drive Improvements/Dakota Meadows Middle School Project, and

WHEREAS: Independent School District 77 has been an active participant in working with the City of North Mankato to identify SRTS needs and was a participant in a 2015 study that focused on a Safe Routes to School Plan for community schools, and

WHEREAS: The proposed Lor Ray Drive Improvements/Dakota Meadows Middle School Project will work toward increasing safety for students to walk or bicycle to school.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 77 that the Independent School District 77 Governing Board supports the improvements included in the proposed Lor Ray Drive Improvements/Dakota Meadows Middle School Project and supports the submission of a funding application for said project under the 2021 Minnesota Safe Routes to School Infrastructure funding solicitation.

A motion was made by Mr. Reid and seconded by Ms. Schuck to certify the tax levy for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$29,388,031.72. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

The School Board adopted a Resolution proposing to immediately discharge a continuing contract teacher at its December 7 meeting, pursuant to Minnesota Statute

122A.40, Subd. 13. Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statute Chapter 13, the circumstances of the proposed discharge and the identity of the teacher are considered as private data. Mr. Wacker made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff to approve the Resolution immediately discharge a continuing contract teacher identified as teacher "A". The motion carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION TO
IMMEDIATELY DISCHARGE A CONTINUING CONTRACT
TEACHER IDENTIFIED AS TEACHER "A"

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2021, Employee A was properly served a Notice of Proposed Immediate Discharge pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, §122A.40, subd. 7 and subd. 13; and

WHEREAS, Employee A has not requested a hearing within the statutory deadline and thus has acquiesced to termination of employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 77 that Employee A is hereby immediately discharged from employment as a continuing contract teacher pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, §122A.40, subd. 13 as set forth in the Notice of Proposed Immediate Discharge served on Employee A.

There being no further business to consider, Mrs. Ratcliff moved and Mr. Kind seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:25 p.m., on a 6-0 voice vote.

Attest: Clerk _____

Chairperson _____

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1. Wacker/Schuck approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 6-0
2. Open Forum - John Wicklund, Elizabeth Hanke, Carma Carpenter, Brook Devenport, Brianna Weller wished to speak.
3. Information: Staff/Student Recognition, Eagle Lake & Roosevelt School Reports, COVID-19 Update, Board Member Reports.
4. Schuck/Wacker approval of Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes of the December 7, 2021, regular meeting; Approval of December Bills; Personnel. 6-0
5. Kind/Ratcliff acceptance of gifts and grants. 6-0
6. Schuck/Reid approval of Non-Affiliated Contracts 2021-2023. 6-0
7. Wacker/Ratcliff approval of resolution supporting Minnesota Safe Routes. 6-0
8. Reid/Schuck certify tax levy for 2022-2023. 6-0
9. Wacker/Ratcliff approval of resolution to discharge teacher. 6-0
10. Ratcliff/Kind adjournment at 7:25 p.m. 6-0

Independent School District No. 77
Mankato, Minnesota
By: Erin Roberts

The complete minutes and all documents relating to this meeting are on file and available for review in the Superintendent's Office, 10 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 2 and on-line at www.isd77.org.