

Official School Board Minutes Regular Meeting of the School Board March 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 270 was conducted on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, in the Boardroom of the Eisenhower Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

School Board members present: Chair Wendy Donovan, Vice Chair Kris Newcomer, Treasurer Steve Adams, Directors Jen Bouchard and Dave Larson

School Board members absent: Directors Fartun Ahmed and Chris LaTondresse

Student Board reps present: Joe Ramlet (grade 11) and Aisha Dem (grade 12)

Student Board reps absent: Alyia Brown (grade 10)

Staff members present: Superintendent Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed,
Director of Business Services/Board Clerk John Toop

Staff members absent: None

Recognition:

Superintendent Mhiripiri-Reed and School Board members recognized secondary students, each of whom recently received a Caring Youth Award for outstanding service. Also recognized were the recipients of Honorable Mention, Silver Key, and Gold Key Awards, as well as a National Gold Medal recipient, for their entries submitted to the Minnesota Scholastic Art Competition.

Open Agenda:

There were no requests to address the Board during the Open Agenda portion of the meeting.

Reports:

Student Board Representatives: Ramlet and Dem updated Board members on events/activities taking place at Hopkins High School.

Superintendent: Superintendent Mhiripiri-Reed shared some highlights of recent work-related activities, including the HEF Bash, bus driver recognition, a staff trip to Cedar Rapids for the "Iowa BIG Spring 2019 Visit Day"; student celebration at HHS; and a video featuring Chinese college interns at XinXing Academy.

Approval of Agenda:

Adams moved, Bouchard seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

Consent Calendar:

Newcomer moved, Larson seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented: a) Approval of Minutes — Regular Meeting Conducted on February 19, 2019; b) Human Resources—Personnel Updates; c) Policies in Second Reading [516, 520, 526, 602, 605, 802]; d) Bids—Ventilation Improvements and Renovations at Harley Hopkins; e) Bids—Boiler Replacement at Hopkins West Junior High; f) Bids—Ball

Field at Hopkins West Junior High; g) Lindbergh Center Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Minnetonka; and h) American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Resolution/Compliance. Carried. Exhibit "A"

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Adams provided an enrollment update, noting that the District is down 17 students from October 1, with the majority coming from the high school — “typical attrition.” He then reviewed the Treasurer's Report, explaining that the District is 67% into the fiscal year with 58% of the budget expended (compared to 55% at this time a year ago), and highlighted expenses of interest. With that, Adams moved, Bouchard seconded, to approve disbursements in the amount of \$5,183,418.58 for the period of February 9, 2019 through March 8, 2019. Carried. Exhibit "B"

Preliminary Budget, 2019-20:

John Toop, Director of Business Services, explained that approval of the preliminary budget helps facilitate the staffing process for the upcoming school year. He noted that the budget is an “expenditure authorizing document,” meaning that when it is approved by the Board, it authorizes the District to proceed with planning for 2019-20. He highlighted parameters, specifically:

- ✓ Per-student funding to increase 2.0%;
- ✓ 3% annual increase in salaries and fringe benefits;
- ✓ All other costs to increase at 2% with the exception of utilities, which is at a 3% increase;
- ✓ OPEB Credit of \$1,042,509 from the District's OPEB Trust Fund (due to the delay in operating referendum revenue) if 2018-19 enrollment meets projections. If enrollment projections are not met for 2018-19, the District will receive most of this revenue in the following levy cycle (2020-21).

In closing, he noted:

- ✓ With the proposed reductions, the general fund unassigned balance will go down approximately \$2,952.
- ✓ The District continues to bill for medical assistance services the District provides, receiving dollars through the Department of Health Services. This fund balance would go down \$238,125.
- ✓ These two combined, results in “basically a balanced budget” for 2019-20.
- ✓ The District's fund balance would be at 9.5%, which meets the recommendation of the Citizens Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC).
- ✓ Some concerns surrounding future OPEB/severance trust funds; more specifically, if enrollment projections are not met.

Board members shared comments and questions surrounding medical assistance reimbursement, fund balance, numbers “feel solid,” costs where they need to be (“with students”), thanking John and Cabinet members for their work on this budget.

Newcomer moved, Adams seconded, to approve the preliminary 2019-20 budget as presented. Carried.

(The Board is scheduled to officially adopt the 2019-20 budget on May 21, 2019, dependent upon what is decided by the Minnesota State Legislature.)

Resolution Modifying Education Programs and Positions:

On February 19, 2019, the Board approved the Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Staffing Recommendations. Nik Lightfoot, Assistant Superintendent, noted that this is the second in a series of staffing resolutions the Board will be asked to approve that correlate with the budget approved this evening. Modifications may be necessary for the 2019-20 school year, due to such factors as financial limitations, program revisions, and changing student enrollments. Approval of this resolution provides

District administration with the timeline necessary to begin planning/preparing for the upcoming school year, and thereby notifying those individuals impacted, as stipulated in employee contracts.

Newcomer moved, Bouchard seconded, to adopt the Resolution Modifying Educational Programs and Positions. Carried.

Policies in First Reading

Policy 606: *Instructional Resources Selection/Retention*

Policy 608: *Instructional Services — Special Education*

Policy 610: *Field Trips*

Lightfoot reviewed each of the policies in First Reading, noting minor revisions.

Newcomer moved, Adams seconded to approve the three policies (as noted above) in First Reading; further, the Board directs the Administration to prepare the policies for approval in Second Reading at the next meeting (as part of the Consent Calendar). Carried.

Resolution Calling Executive Session — Negotiations:

It is proposed that an Executive Session be called — pursuant to Minnesota Open Meeting Law, Minn. Stat. § 13D.03 — to discuss negotiations strategy related to the HEA (Hopkins Education Association) contract for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.

Bouchard moved, Adams seconded, to approve the following resolution:

It is hereby resolved that the School Board of Independent School District 270, Hopkins, Minnesota, meet in Executive Session to discuss negotiations strategy related to the HEA contract for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years; that the meeting be held in the Boardroom at Eisenhower Community Center, and commence immediately following adjournment of the Regular Meeting; further, that it be noted that all Board Members, Superintendent, and Clerk were duly notified of intention to call this Executive Session. Carried.

Incidental Reports:

Newcomer moved, Larson seconded, to accept the Incidental Reports:

—Curriculum Review: English Learner — Phase III

—Curriculum Review: World Language — Phase III

—Curriculum Review: Literacy-Secondary — Phases IIIB & IV

Carried.

Board Member Reports:

Board members reported on recent educational activities/events in which they have participated.

Larson moved, Adams seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Carried.

John Toop, Clerk