

Official School Board Minutes Regular Meeting of the School Board December 18, 2018

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 270 was conducted on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, 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 Fartun Ahmed, Jen Bouchard, Dave Larson, and Chris LaTondresse
School Board member absent: None

Student Board reps present: Alyia Brown (grade 10), Joe Ramlet (grade 11), and Aisha Dem (grade 12)
Student Board reps absent: None

Staff members present: Superintendent Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed,
Director of Business Services/Board Clerk John Toop
Staff members absent: None

Student Recognition:

Board members congratulated Hopkins High School seniors Rachel Kelly and Maddie Suk, the Class AA Doubles Tournament champions.

Open Agenda:

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

Reports:

Chair Donovan, Board members, and Superintendent Mhiripiri-Reed, welcomed new Student Board Reps Alyia Brown and Aisha Dem. Donovan thank each for participating and noted the importance of "hearing student voices at the Board table."

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

Superintendent: Superintendent Mhiripiri-Reed highlighted student-centered learning and how the District is experimenting with space, student voice, and teacher innovation. She shared her observations from her classroom visits, noting that 70 classrooms have replaced the traditional student desks with a wide array of furniture to enhance student learning.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Consent Calendar:

Newcomer moved, Larson seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented:

- ✓ Approval of Minutes — Regular Meeting Conducted on November 20, 2018
- ✓ Human Resources — Personnel Updates
- ✓ Policies in Second Reading [403, 409, 427, 508, 509]
- ✓ Resolution Limiting Non-Resident Enrollment
- ✓ Ubah Contract — Amended (based upon number of students)
- ✓ Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places
- ✓ Employee Agreement — Community Education Coordinators, 2019-21
- ✓ Employee Agreement — Community Education Providers
- ✓ Employee Agreement — Community Education Preschool Teachers, 2018-19
- ✓ Calendar Adjustment, 2019-20
- ✓ Superintendent Goals, 2018-19

Carried. Exhibit "A"

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Adams highlighted the enrollment report for the month of December, noting that it is up 6 students from November; that in grades 5-8, there were 14 new students; and that overall, enrollment is 131 over what was projected. He noted that as of November 30, the District is 42% into the fiscal year, with 32% of the budget expended; this compares to 29% expended at this time last year so will see if this "levels out." He then reviewed the Treasurer's Report, highlighting expenses of interest. With that, Adams moved, Bouchard seconded, to approve disbursements in the amount of \$6,269,186.63 for the period of November 13, 2018, through December 7, 2018. Carried. Exhibit "B"

Legislative Action Coalition (LAC) State Platform, 2019:

Steve Adams, LAC Co-Chair, noted that the District's LAC Steering Committee, once again, developed their State platform/priorities to align with those of the Association of Metropolitan School Districts [AMSD], and the Minnesota School Boards Association [MSBA].

Adams and Michelle Pasko, LAC Co-Chairs were joined by LAC Liaison Catherine Callahan, and members Shannon Andresen and Jahay Jallow to present the 2019 platform. Members highlighted the District Legislative Profile, the Platform Development Process, and the four LAC priorities/ belief statements. Priorities are: 1) Stabilize Education Funding; 2) Support Strategies to Promote Equity and Access; 3) Build Positive and Restorative School Cultures; and 4) Enhance Local Control.

Board members shared comments and questions surrounding the "specific asks," alignment with AMSD and MSBA, Special Education cross subsidy, crossover between planks, and mandates to reduce budgets. Larson moved, Newcomer seconded, to accept the LAC's State legislative platform for 2019. Carried.

Certification of 2018 Pay 2019 Tax Levy:

On September 25, 2018, the Board approved the proposed 2018 Pay 2019 property tax levy. On November 20, 2018, a report was presented to the Board focused on the 2018 Pay 2019 property tax levy. John Toop, Director of Business Services, stated that the final proposed property tax levy for PAY19 is scheduled to increase by 1.53% (\$789,992.50) over last year's levy. The total initial proposed amount is \$52,582,467.96; last year's levy amount was \$51,792,475.46.

Toop explained that the General Fund comprises the majority of the increase (3.40%). Within that increase, the following items were noted:

- ✓ Market Value Referendum and Local Option levy is increasing by \$802,227 due to student count adjustments from previous years (FY17 and FY19), an inflation increase per student, and a lower projected student count for FY20.
- ✓ Capital Projects levy is increasing by \$446,705 due to an increase in Net Tax Capacity.
- ✓ Other General Fund levy components are decreasing by a net total of \$133,057, with the largest adjustment occurring in the lease levy due to the payoff of the Tanglen gym lease last April.

Additionally, he noted that:

- ✓ The Community Education portion of the levy is decreasing by 13.45%, most of which comes from an adjustment from FY17 for school-aged care.
- ✓ The Debt Service Fund levy is increasing by \$107,175 (-.62%).

Toop stated that this is a “nominal increase.” The Truth-in-Taxation hearing was conducted prior to tonight’s Regular Meeting of the Board, to allow for citizen input; no community members were in attendance.

Newcomer moved, Adams seconded, to approve the Resolution Establishing School District Tax Levies Authorized for General and Special Purposes. Carried. Exhibit "C"

Policies in First Reading

Policy 510: *Athletic and Activities*

Policy 521: *Nondiscrimination Policy for Persons with Disabilities*

Policy 530: *Immunizations*

Policy 531: *Pledge of Allegiance*

Policy 603: *Curriculum Development*

Policy 613: *Graduation Requirements*

Newcomer introduced the item, noting that the policies being presented are basic and statute-driven. Lightfoot reviewed each of the policies in First Reading — highlighting the revisions — and responded to questions.

Newcomer moved, Adams seconded, to approve these six policies 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.

Board Goals/Action Steps, 2018-19 — Midyear Evaluation:

In August, the Board approved their goals for the 2018-19 school year. Chair Donovan facilitated a discussion with Board members, providing a brief overview focused on the status of their goals — including the option of new goals — and next steps for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year. Donovan stated that a Board workshop will be scheduled in January to discuss options, including Vision 2031.

Resolution to Meet in Executive Session

Newcomer moved, Adams seconded, to adopt the following resolution:

It is hereby resolved that the School Board of Independent School District 270, Hopkins, Minnesota, meet in Executive Session to conduct the midyear Superintendent review of the 2018-19 school year; that the meeting be held in the Boardroom of Eisenhower Community Center, and commence immediately following adjournment of this 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.

Board Member Reports:

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

Incidental Reports:

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

- Financial Comparisons Among Neighboring Districts
- Title I and Homeless Student Update

Carried.

Newcomer moved, Larson seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Carried.

John Toop, Clerk