

**REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #152
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
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MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Altenburg, Lisa Erickson, Cindy Fagerlie, Laurie Johnson, Bill Tomhave, Matt Valan and Brandon Lunak.

MEMBER ABSENT: Scott Steffes.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Fagerlie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led everyone in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREVIEW OF AGENDA: Assistant Superintendent Lunak recommended approval of the agenda to proceed with revisions to pages 3 and 56.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Johnson moved, seconded by Tomhave, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion carried 6-0.

WE ARE PROUD:

We Are Proud of Moorhead High speech team members for placing at the 2015 National Speech and Debate Association's national speech tournament June 14-19 in Dallas. Jessica Anderson placed ninth in the nation in oratory. Six other speakers placed in the top 60 in the nation. They are Maddy Timm and Adam Bakken in dramatic duo, Rachel Rossen in humor, Laurel Mikkelson in drama, and Skyler Klostreich and Abby Dahlberg in dramatic duo.

Moorhead High School received its seventh consecutive School of Excellence award in speech, given to the top 20 speech schools in the nation, based on the team's performance. Rebecca Meyer-Larson is the speech coach.

We Are Proud of Moorhead High School language arts teacher and speech coach Rebecca Meyer-Larson for earning a fourth diamond in her National Forensic League pin. Meyer-Larson has attained more than 10,000 points over a minimum of 20 years of coaching. She was recognized at the National Speech and Debate Association tournament in June.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY CITIZENS/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS: (Citizens who wish to address a non-agenda item have the opportunity to speak by raising their hand and being recognized by the School Board chair. Speakers must state their name and will be limited to three minutes. Speakers must complete the sign-up form, which outlines the public input process, and submit it to the School Board secretary.) None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Tomhave moved, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

Minutes - Approve the September 14, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

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Investment Advisory Agreement for ISD 52 OPEB Trust - Approved the proposed OPEB Trust Agreement between Moorhead Area Public Schools ISD 152 and PFM Asset Management LLC to advise and consult with the District and execute the investment plan established.

Bicycle Helmet Donation - Accept the donation from Brent Wical of Tectra America, Fargo of bicycle helmets valued at \$300 and direct administration to send a thank you. The helmets will be used by the elementary physical education classes.

Family/Medical Leaves

Jeanna Krabbenhoft - Paraprofessional, Red River Area Learning Center, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA), effective August 31, 2015 through approximately October 12, 2015.

Teo Vucic - Hall Monitor, Horizon Middle School, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA), effective September 14, 2015 for the remainder of the school year.

Linda Rundquist - Administrative Assistant, Probstfield Center for Education, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA), effective September 14, 2015 through October 7, 2015.

Alicia Rader - LSS Teacher, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA), effective September 16, 2015 for an undetermined amount of time.

Anita Prien - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA), effective September 18, 2015 for an undetermined amount of time.

Joelle Hofer - Jumpstart Teacher, Probstfield Elementary, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA), effective October 5, 2015 through approximately October 30, 2015.

Nidar Salman - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA), effective October 9, 2015 through approximately October 19, 2015.

Ashley Torkildson - COTA, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA), effective November 20, 2015 through February 1, 2016.

Kasey Schutz - Teacher, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA), effective March 7, 2016 through June 3, 2016.

Resignations

Alex Benzegala - Lunchroom Supervisor/Crossing Guard, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective May 30, 2015.

Christie Steen - Lunchroom Supervisor, Robert Asp Elementary, effective May 29, 2015.

Patricia Pemble - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, effective July 7, 2015.

Matt Western - LSS Teacher, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective July 9, 2015.

Alyssa Bakken - COTA, Probstfield Elementary, effective July 24, 2015.

Amy Softing - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective September 9, 2015.

Elisa Ramirez - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective September 15, 2015.

Robin Hagen - Lunchroom Supervisor, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective September 21, 2015.

Leave of Absence

Colleen Hoffman - Paraprofessional, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective September 28, 2015

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for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year.

Retirement

Cindi Andel - Administrative Assistant, Learner Support Services, Probstfield Center for Education, effective December 31, 2015.

Change in Contracts

Elizabeth Palm - Food and Nutrition Server, Moorhead High School, A11 (2) to Food and Nutrition Manager, Probstfield Elementary, B21 (1) \$15.91 per hour (replaces Denise Balzum).

New Employees

Krista Steele - Learner Support Services Teacher, Moorhead High School, 1.0 FTE, MA (0) \$42,194.00, effective for the 2015-2016 school year (replaces Blake Plankers).

Cassandra Thomasson - Spanish Immersion Long Term Substitute, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, 1.0 FTE, MA (10), \$28,735.08 effective August 31, 2015 for 93 days (replaces Jackie Klefsaas).

Richard Varanai - Food and Nutrition Server, Horizon Middle School, \$10.25 per hour, 2.75 hours per day, effective September 8, 2015 (replaces Dawn Hall).

Ethan Teske - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$15.74 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 21, 2015 (replaces Raul Badillo).

Linda Dent - Lunchroom Supervisor, Probstfield Elementary, \$10.25 per hour, 2.5 hours per day, effective September 21, 2015 (new position due to increased enrollment).

Noah Fugelstad - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, B21 (0-2) \$15.74 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 21, 2015 (replaces Martin Lindstrom).

Jarrold Pahl - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (3) \$16.30 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 23, 2015 (replaces Louie Thrash).

Assurance of Compliance with State and Federal Law Prohibiting Discrimination - Approve the Statement of Assurance of Compliance with State and Federal Law Prohibiting Discrimination as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

REFERENDUM BUILDING PROJECTS: Brian Berg, Zerr-Berg Architects, noted at the Review and Comment document and the projects for the proposed bond were discussed the July 13 board work session. After feedback from the board and various committees, some modifications were made to the renderings for the proposed building and remodeling projects.

Berg reported equity among elementary schools, additional space for increased student enrollment, and the inclusion of spaces for active learning are goals of the proposed construction projects that are part of Moorhead Area Public Schools' Nov. 3 bond referendum.

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The \$78.2 million in proposed construction projects are designed to add needed space to address the district's growing elementary and middle school student population, improve security and safety at school entrances, move kindergarten back into the elementary school sites with additional kindergarten classrooms to accommodate all-day kindergarten, and restore spaces for active learning that have been lost the past few years.

Updated plans for the new K-4 elementary school for 750 students now incorporate the proposed site, which is southeast of Horizon Middle School. The design includes four learning communities and a kindergarten area. Each learning community has six classrooms with learning support areas in each community and centralized learning support space. Each learning community has a shared common space and access to an exterior area.

Berg explained that the furniture used in the schools provides teachers with flexibility for how spaces can be reconfigured. He said a pilot for testing furniture is being discussed. He added that maker labs or shared lab space that functions in many ways will be incorporated so project-based learning is infused into the concept.

To maintain equity among elementary schools, the renovations at Robert Asp Elementary, Ellen Hopkins Elementary and S.G. Reinertsen Elementary will include restoring spaces for active learning and creating similar maker labs, adding the additional kindergarten classrooms, and adding secure entrances at the sites. Security enhancements will be added to entrances at Probstfield and Moorhead High School.

The grades 5-6 school being connected to Horizon Middle School is designed for spaces to stand alone, except for food services, which will only have a serving kitchen. Food will be prepared in the existing Horizon kitchen and brought over for serving. The school addition is designed for 1,200 students with eight houses or learning communities. The auditorium will be shared for all grades, but likely used more by grades 7 and 8 students. A lobby area by the auditorium will connect to the existing cafetorium.

ISD 152 and ISD 2146 BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT: Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent of finance and operations, said the Moorhead and Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton school districts have been in communication regarding the detachment of portions of each school district.

After the July 13, 2015 work session, the two school districts met to discuss solutions that would minimize the tax impact to Moorhead Area Public Schools. At the July 13 work session, Ehlers advised the board that the boundary realignment created by the transfer of parcels would result in two primary financial effects: 1) changes in district revenue and 2) changes in property tax paid by the property owners in the realigned district.

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In the revised proposal Moorhead Area Public Schools would receive four parcels while the Dilworth Public Schools would receive two parcels. Parcel number two would remain in the Moorhead Area Public Schools boundary.

As the Net Tax Capacity (NTC) and Referendum Market Value (RMV) grows in any of the four parcels that Moorhead Area Public Schools would acquire through a boundary adjustment the same value would be released in parcel two to the Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton School District. The key to reducing the tax impact to the Moorhead Area Public Schools taxpayer is the gradual release of parcel two to Dilworth-Glydon-Felton.

Discussion was held and board members recommended further review of the boundary adjustment.

Lunak added representatives from Moorhead Area Public Schools and Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Public Schools will meet September 30 to further discuss the boundary realignment between the two districts. The districts are continuing to work together on a solution that is favorable to both districts for the long-term future.

CERTIFICATION OF 2015 PAYABLE 2016 PROPOSED TAX LEVY: Lunak reported the board is required to certify to the county auditor the school district's preliminary 2015 Payable 2016 Property Tax Levy by October 1, 2015. The district will certify the maximum levy; certifying the preliminary levy in this manner allows for changes prior to the final levy certification in December. Changes are made for a variety of reasons such as changes to Health and Safety projects or changes to the district's projected enrollment figures.

Preliminary figures indicate that the school district portion of the property tax levy has increased by 9.83% from a year ago to \$14,569,008.22. Last year's levy amount was \$13,265,092.73. Over 80% of the increase is due to the new Long Term Facility Maintenance Program and the increase in our lease levy due to the S.G. Reinertsen construction project. The last three years, the tax levy amount had decreased 7.38%.

School districts are no longer required to hold a separate Truth in Taxation hearing, but instead are required to discuss the payable 2016 levy and the current year budget (fiscal year 2016) at a regularly scheduled board meeting and allow the public to speak; this will occur at the December 14, 2015 board meeting at 7 p.m. The final levy certification will be approved at this same meeting.

Erickson moved, seconded by Tomhave, to approve the maximum for the 2015 Payable 2016 Proposed Property Tax Levy. Motion carried 6-0.

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ELLEN HOPKINS AND ROBERT ASP SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS: Missy Eidsness, assistant superintendent of learning and accountability, reported Ellen Hopkins and Robert Asp Elementary Schools are both federally funded by Title I to provide schoolwide supplementary support for their students.

Identified schools are required to work with their districts, Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the statewide system of support to develop an improvement plan that must be approved by the board. The plans are required to be in place at the beginning of the 2015-16 school year so that implementation can begin immediately.

Ellen Hopkins Elementary School was designated as a Continuous Improvement School by MDE in 2014. Twenty-five percent of all Title schools are identified as Continuous Improvement Schools.

Ellen Hopkins principal Ryan LaDage provided information regarding the 2015-16 school improvement goals. Goal 1 - staff will reduce the achievement gap between students in grades 3-5 in overall reading achievement so that their proficiency will increase from 52% to 73% on the math MCA-III assessments by May 2016, and to achieve a proficiency of 66% for free and reduced lunch subgroup students. Goal 2 - staff will reduce the achievement gap between students in grades 3-5 in overall mathematics achievement so that their proficiency will increase from 49% to 69% on the MCA-III assessments by May 2016, and to achieve a proficiency of 62% for free and reduced lunch subgroup students. Hopkins also will continue implementing the Positive Behavior and Intervention Strategies (PBIS) program this school year.

Robert Asp principal Chris Triggs and assistant principal Lynnelle Dirksen provided information regarding the 2015-16 school improvement goals. Goal 1 - students in grades 3-5 will increase their math proficiency from 62% to 68% on the 2016 MCA-III math assessment. Goal 2 - students in grades 3-5 will increase their reading proficiency from 60% to 66% on the 2016 MCA-III reading assessment. Students eligible for free/reduced lunch will increase their proficiency from 45.1% to 50%. Goal 3 - students will demonstrate an increase in behavior that communicates care, consideration, and respect of self that will be reflected in a 10% reduction of total major and minor incidents and reduce the daily incident rate from an average 3.49 per day to 2.5 per day in 2015-16.

Tomhave moved, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Ellen Hopkins and Robert Asp School Improvement Plans as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION: Chair Fagerlie reported the superintendent's evaluation was conducted on September 14 with all board members present. She said Dr. Kovash reviewed her 2014-15 goals and accomplishments. Fagerlie noted that Dr. Kovash meets or exceeds board expectations.

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SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES UPDATE: Lunak provided a construction project update related to the S.G. Reinertsen gymnasium addition.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Brief reports were heard related to the S.G. Reinertsen PTAC, Community Education Advisory Council, Ellen Hopkins PTAC, Activities Advisory Council, Horizon PTAC and Robert Asp PTAC meetings. Additional reports were heard regarding the September 23 MSBA Statewide Advocacy Tour and MREA Area meeting in Fergus Falls and the viewing of the film “Most Likely to Succeed.”

OTHER PERTINENT ITEMS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: Lunak reminded board members of the October 2 Homecoming Parade and the October 3 MHS Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony. Board members were asked to contact Michelle if attending.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:49 p.m.

Laurie Johnson, Clerk