

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
MAY 22, 2017  
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**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** Chair Tomhave called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led everyone in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Mark Altenburg, Cassidy Bjorklund, Melissa Burgard, Cindy Fagerlie, Scott Steffes, Bill Tomhave, Matt Valan and Dr. Lynne A. Kovash.

Member Absent: None.

**PREVIEW OF AGENDA:** Superintendent Kovash recommended approval of the agenda to proceed with revisions to pages 1, 2 and 27.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Fagerlie moved, seconded by Steffes, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion carried 7-0.

**WE ARE PROUD:**

**We Are Proud** of fifth-grade students who received individual awards in the Grade 5 Regional Math Masters Tournament held in Moorhead on April 21. Thirty-five teams from the area participated in both individual and team rounds.

Individual awards went to Lily Heskin, fifth place; Macy Larson, ninth place; Tate Linn, 12th place; Cedric Scott-Dahlen, 17th place; and Jacob Rossland, 20th place. A Fact Drill award went to Daniel Stromsodt, 16th place. Their math teachers are Amber Arndt and Leigh Dornfeld. Leigh Dornfeld is the Math Masters coordinator.

Math Masters of Minnesota is a statewide competition that challenges students to use higher-order thinking skills and problem-solving abilities in mathematics and recognizes academic effort and achievement.

**We Are Proud** of the Robert Asp Elementary Orange Team for placing ninth out of 35 teams in the Grade 5 Regional Math Masters Tournament held April 21 in Moorhead. Team members are Cameron Benesh, Addy Donat, Laila Eisenzimmer, Brian Flowers and Stuart Oberg. Their math teacher is Julie Arnold.

**We Are Proud** of the Ellen Hopkins Elementary Team for placing seventh out of 35 teams in the Grade 5 Regional Math Masters Tournament held April 21 in Moorhead. Team members are Elijah Jones, Jackson Meissner, Cedric Scott-Dahlen, Gunnar Thomasson and Rylen Wohlfeil. Their math teacher is Leigh Dornfeld.

**We Are Proud** of the S.G. Reinertsen Elementary Orange Team for placing sixth out of 35 teams in the Grade 5 Regional Math Masters Tournament held April 21 in Moorhead. Team members

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are Lily Heskin, Tate Linn, Jacob Rossland, Paige Stephenson and Avery St. Louis. Their math teacher is Amber Arndt.

**We Are Proud** of the S.G. Reinertsen Elementary Black Team for placing fifth out of 35 teams in the Grade 5 Regional Math Masters Tournament held April 21 in Moorhead. Team members are Ben Voxland, Macy Larson, Emma Netland, Stefan Pederson and Daniel Stromsodt. Their math teacher is Amber Arndt.

**We Are Proud** of Moorhead High School student Mikayla Sailer for earning a second place award at the Hawley Art Show. Her art teachers are Grady Carlson and Marissa Van Vleet.

**We Are Proud** of the six Moorhead High School visual arts students who competed at the Minnesota State High School League Visual Arts 8AA section competition on April 28 in Alexandria. Alison Astrup and Shayla Dau each earned an Excellent rating. Morgan Hansen earned three Excellent ratings, and Mikayla Sailer earned a Caricature Sketch Award. Hali Selseth earned an Excellent rating and a Teacher's Choice Award. Abram Sand earned two Excellent ratings, a Teacher's Choice Award, a Caricature Sketch Award, one Superior rating, and one Best of Show rating. Grady Carlson and Marissa Van Vleet are their art teachers.

**We Are Proud** of Moorhead High School student Morgan Hansen for being awarded an honorable mention for her mixed media work of art at the 3rd Annual MSUM Regional Art Exhibit. Her art teachers are Grady Carlson and Marissa Van Vleet.

**We Are Proud** of Amy Bjerke, Moorhead High volleyball assistant coach, for being named Class AAA State Assistant Coach of the Year by the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Board of Control. Bjerke will be honored at the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Clinic in July and at the Minnesota State Coaches Association Banquet in the fall.

**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:** Bjorklund moved, seconded by Burgard, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

Minutes - Approve the May 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes as presented.

2017-2018 Preliminary Staffing Plan Amendment - Approve the amendments to the 2017-18 Preliminary Staffing Plan as presented. Amendment includes: +1.0 FTE - Licensed,

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Horizon Middle School West Campus (5-6); +0.14 FTE - Elementary Physical Education/Health Fitness; +0.70 FTE - Elementary Music; and +1.0 FTE - Non-Licensed (Health Technician), Horizon Middle School West Campus (5-6).

Donation - Accept donations for Moorhead High School's SkillsUSA team and direct administration to send a thank you. Tri-State Manufacturer's Association donated \$1,000 for students winning the video contest that Spectrum-Aeromed matched with another \$1,000 donation. Muffler Man, Inc. donated \$100 for repairing a donated vehicle.

Donation - Accept the donation of architectural equipment for the Transportation and Operations Center from Sundog Interactive Marketing Company and direct administration to send a thank you. The estimated value of the equipment is \$3,600.

Leave of Absence

Jennifer Hammer - Kindergarten Teacher, Probstfield Elementary, effective for the 2017-18 school year.

Ashley Nelson - EIS Lead Teacher, Probstfield Center for Education, effective for the 2017-18 school year.

Change in Contracts

Ashley Nelson - EIS Lead Teacher, EIS to Program Manager, Probstfield Center for Education, D63(3) \$73,385.00, effective July 1, 2017 (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Katelyn Engebretsen - Jumpstart Teacher, Probstfield Center for Education to EIS Teacher, .5 FTE, BA+20 (1) \$20,814.50 effective with the 2017-18 school year (replaces Jodi Gramlow).

Nicole Tremel Pausch - Interpreter, District-wide, 1.0 FTE to 14 hours per week effective with the 2017-18 school year.

Resignations

Anita Maye - Food and Nutrition Server, Robert Asp Elementary, effective April 19, 2017.

Hana Ali - Food and Nutrition Server, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, effective May 26, 2017.

Rachel Sternson - Building Administrative Assistant, Horizon Middle School, effective June 9, 2017

Natalie Hest - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, effective at the end of the 2016-17 school year.

Damara Boatright - Bus Driver, Transportation, effective at the end of the 2016-17 school year.

Retirement

Debra Buth - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, effective June 2, 2017.

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Family/Medical Leaves

Mia Percy - Bus Driver, District-wide, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA) beginning May 2, 2017 through May 22, 2017.

Carolyn Edwards - Food Service, Moorhead High School, Medical Leave (non-FMLA) beginning May 30, 2017 for the remainder of the school year.

New Employees

Olivia Stephenson - Early Riser Family Advocate, Horizon West, 1.0 FTE, C44 (6) \$32.19 per hour, 7.25 hours per day, 183 days per year, effective for the 2017-18 school year (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Andrea Canton - Early Riser Family Advocate, Robert Asp Elementary, 1.0 FTE, C44 (8) \$33.76 per hour, 7.25 hours per day, 183 days per year, effective for the 2017-18 school year (replaces Rachel Bartz).

Emily Christensen - Music Teacher, Horizon West, 1.0 FTE, MA (9) \$55,724.00, effective with the 2017-18 school year (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Dan Arntson - Night Lead Custodian, Dorothy Dodds Elementary, 1.0 FTE, B21 (0-2) \$16.73 per hour, 8 hours per day, effective June 5, 2017 (new position per staffing plan).

Mike Broadland - Night Lead Custodian, Horizon East, 1.0 FTE B2 (0-2) \$16.73 per hour, 8 hours per day, effective June 5, 2017 (replaces Evan Youngs).

Bahaa Kadhem - Night Custodian, Dorothy Dodds Elementary, 1.0 FTE, A12 (0-2) \$15.86 per hour, 8 hours per day, effective June 5, 2017 (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Amanda Kallas - Elementary Teacher, Robert Asp Elementary, 1.0 FTE, MA (5) \$50,112.00 effective with the 2017-18 school year (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Brittany Kuehl - DAPE Teacher, Horizon East and West, 1.0 FTE, BA+10 (5) \$45,060.00, effective with the 2017-18 school year (replaces Ron Drechsel).

Xandra Stowman - Art Teacher, Horizon West, 1.0 FTE, BA (3) \$41,069.00, effective with the 2017-18 school year (new position per 2017-2018 staffing plan).

Tiffany Nagle - Assistant Principal, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, 1.0 FTE, D71 (0-4) \$85,714.00, effective July 1, 2017 (replaces Josh St. Louis).

Jason Buckley - Assistant Principal, Horizon East, 1.0 FTE, D72 (0-4), \$89,401, effective July 1, 2017 (replaces Jennifer Stiles).

Benjamin Dimond - Assistant Principal, Horizon West, 1.0 FTE, D72 (0-4), \$89,401, effective July 1, 2017 (new position per 2017-18 staffing plan).

Motion carried 7-0.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT INSURANCE PACKAGE RENEWAL:** Tom Quam, Bremer Insurance, presented the district's insurance package renewals regarding the district's property and liability, cyber liability, volunteer accident liability and worker's compensation insurance coverage. Mr. Quam compared the expiring versus renewal premium costs and described the changes requested for the district's renewal policy.

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Administration recommended approval of the Property & Liability proposal from Hanover Insurance with an annual premium of \$154,312.16, Cyber Liability proposal from Travelers with an annual premium cost of \$9,194.00, Foreign Travel proposal from Chubb-Ace with an annual premium of \$2,500.00, Volunteer Accident Liability proposal from Berkley Accident & Health with a premium cost of \$1,943.87, and Worker's Compensation proposal from SFM with an annual premium cost of \$334,509.00. The total annual premium cost for the renewals is \$502,459.03.

Steffes moved, seconded by Fagerlie, to approve the insurance package renewals in the total amount of \$502,459.03 as presented by Mr. Tom Quam of Bremer Insurance. Motion carried 7-0.

**HORIZON MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-TEACHING PILOT UPDATE:** Missy Eidsness, assistant superintendent for learning and accountability; Dr. Jeremy Larson, Horizon Middle School principal; Brandon Yoney, learner support services program manager; Chuck Fisher, instructional support; and Duane Borgeson, executive director of learner support services, provided an overview of the Horizon Middle School co-teaching pilot and guidebook for Moorhead Area Public Schools and summarized the co-teaching pilot conducted at Horizon Middle School for the 2016-17 school year.

During the spring of 2016, administration reviewed research-based strategies to support students accessing curriculum through the least restrictive environment and co-teaching is a strategy that provides that. Federal law requires a least-restrictive environment for teaching children in special education. The co-teaching pilot program allowed Moorhead Area Public Schools to examine both the financial feasibility and instructional impact of co-teaching to meet student educational needs and to collectively create a co-teaching guidebook for the district. The pilot involved about 400 students and 24 teachers (four houses) at Horizon. Next year, six of seven houses at the school will have co-teaching.

Steffes moved, seconded by Fagerlie, to receive the Horizon Middle School co-teaching pilot update. Motion carried 7-0.

**HORIZON MIDDLE SCHOOL 1-TO-1 TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION UPDATE:** Missy Eidsness, assistant superintendent for learning and accountability, Dan Markert, executive director of information systems and instructional support, and Dr. Jeremy Larson, Horizon Middle School principal, provided an overview of the Horizon Middle School 1-to-1 Technology Integration for Moorhead Area Public Schools and summarized the strengths and refinement areas for the 1-to-1 technology integration.

During the spring of 2015, the Technology Integration Research Task Force developed a vision statement and nine guiding principles that anchored the pilot for the 2015-16 school year. The pilot program allowed Moorhead Area Public Schools to examine the financial feasibility and

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instructional impact of a school-owned 1-to-1 student computing environment. The pilot included 810 students, 17 teachers and four schools.

In May, 2016, the Technology Integration Research Task Force and Pilot Final Report recommendations were approved by the school board. The recommendation was to implement a 1-to-1 student computing environment for all students in grades 6-8 for the 2016-17 school year and expand to include grade 5 for the 2017-18 school year.

Altenburg moved, seconded by Valan, to receive the Horizon Middle School 1-to-1 technology integration update. Motion carried 7-0.

**2017 SCHOOL FINANCE AWARD:** Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent for finance and operations, reported Moorhead Area Public Schools earned the Minnesota Department of Education's 2017 School Finance Award for fiscal year 2016. The award recognizes select school districts for timely submission of Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards (UFARS) data and annual financial statement as required by Minnesota Statutes as well as for having positive fund balances, demonstrating sound fiscal policies and procedures, and personnel training in the area of school finance.

**PURCHASE AGREEMENT OF THE MUSCATELL SUPERCENTER BUILDING:** Lunak reported the School Board on April 11, 2017 approved authorizing the assistant superintendent of finance and operations to execute the agreements on behalf of the school district to complete the \$2.7 million acquisition of the Muscatell SuperCenter building and property. The building is approximately 30,000 square feet and is located on a 7.2 acre site. The site will be used for the transportation and operation departments for the district.

Steffes moved, seconded by Bjorklund, to approve the execution of the purchase agreement for \$2.7 million for the Ward Muscatell SuperCenter located at 1313 30th Ave. S., Moorhead. Motion carried 7-0.

**FIRST READING OF POLICIES:** Dr. Kovash and board members conducted a first reading of policies, School District System Accountability 650, Credit for Learning of Minnesota Graduation Standards 653, Student Parental, Family and Marital Status Nondiscrimination 503, Student Activities 540, Student Activity Eligibility 541, Student Activities Travel 543, High School Academic, Activity and Varsity Athletic Letters 545, Student Discipline 551, Field Trips 632 and Complimentary Athletic Season Passes/Single Event Passes 832.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Dr. Kovash reminded board members to contact Michelle regarding attendance at graduation on June 4. Kovash noted the excellent performance of the Moorhead High vocal jazz performance group at the retirement reception held prior to the board meeting. She said she traveled with many of the students to New York earlier this year. Kovash

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noted the hiring of three assistant principals for S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, Horizon East and Horizon West and welcomed their July 1 start.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Brief reports were heard related to the Instruction and Curriculum Advisory Council and Moorhead Legacy Foundation meetings, and Red River Area Learning Center Family Night, All-City Orchestra Concert and Academic Awards Ceremony events.

**OTHER PERTINENT ITEMS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:** Board member Altenburg reported the election bill passed; the bill restricts special elections to five dates and districts can consolidate polling places if done by December 31 for the following year — effective January 1, 2018. Altenburg said he was contacted by a constituent who runs a daycare and discussed board policy related to transportation guidelines for students who reside one mile or more from the attending school. Discussion was held related to past requests and the possibility of reviewing the policy in the future and include costs associated to changing the policy.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hearing no objections, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

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Matt Valan, Clerk