

**REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #152
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION
MARCH 24, 2014
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MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Erickson, Cindy Fagerlie, Laurie Johnson, Carol Ladwig, Scott Steffes, Bill Tomhave, Matt Valan, and Dr. Lynne A. Kovash.

MEMBER ABSENT: None.

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: Superintendent Kovash recommended approval of the agenda to proceed with revisions to pages 24-30.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Tomhave moved, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

WE ARE PROUD RECOGNITIONS: (The Moorhead School District recognizes outstanding achievements of students, staff and community members in the We Are Proud section of the School Board agenda. These achievements are acknowledged to the audience and retained in the district permanent records.)

We Are Proud of the Moorhead High School wrestling team for placing fifth in the Minnesota Class 3A state team tournament for the second year in a row. The Spuds won the championship match of the Section 8 dual wrestling tournament to advance to the state tournament.

Team members are Grant Brendemuhl, Trent Erickson, Ethan Tallakson, Riley Schock, Matt Sollid, Taylor Laidlaw, Kenny Mark, Jack Lien, Wyatt Hanson, RJ Olson, Skyler Current, Joseph Grove, Grant Trowbridge, Samuel Grove, Ben Lien, Ryan Schock, Jonny Mark, Brody Jerome and Brendan Edner.

Moorhead High also qualified the following individuals: Grant Brendemuhl at 106 pounds, Kenny Mark at 132, Joseph Grove at 160 and Samuel Grove at 170.

Wrestling coaches are Skip Toops, Matt Nelson, John Wychor and Dain Kalkbrenner.

We Are Proud of Skip Toops, Moorhead High wrestling coach, for being named Section 8AAA wrestling head coach of the year.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY CITIZENS/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Steffes moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the following items on

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the Consent Agenda:

Agreement and Acceptance of Donation - Approve the agreement and accept the donation and direct administration to send a thank you. Clay-Wilkin Community Health Board (CWCHB) donated 40 bicycles and a trailer/storage system valued at approximately \$40,000. CWCHB was awarded a Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grant and Community Transformation grant to convene, coordinate and implement evidence-based strategies targeted at reducing the percentage of Minnesotans who are obese or overweight and reducing the use of tobacco. The memo of agreement will allow the district to use the requested funds for pre-approved activities and equipment.

Military Leave

Chad Olson - Teacher, Moorhead High School, effective March 27, 2014 through April 18, 2014.

Family/Medical Leave

Rebecca Sheldon - Teacher, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective approximately August 14, 2014 for approximately six weeks.

Resignations

Kirsten Shockley - Lunchroom/Crossing Guard, Robert Asp Elementary effective March 7, 2014.
Vicki Steen - Food and Nutrition Server, Horizon Middle School, effective March 18, 2014.

New Employees

Mike Kieselbach - Junior Varsity Softball, Moorhead High School, .070 (11) \$3,609.00, effective March 10, 2014 (replaces Amy Mumm).
Jon Ammerman - Assistant Coach, Boys Golf, Moorhead High School, .080 (2) \$3,204.00, effective March 4, 2014 (replaces Jim MacFarlane).
Matt Western - Assistant Coach, Girls Golf, Moorhead High School, .080 (3) \$3,307.00, effective March 4, 2014 (replaces Jim MacFarlane).
Andrew Nylander - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective March 4, 2014 (replaces Erik Hest).
Bradley Hawkins - Bus Driver, Transportation, 4 hours per day, \$14.26 per hour, effective March 3, 2014 (replaces Glenn From).
Barbara Brecke - Bus Assistant, Transportation, 2.5 hours per day, \$13.36 per hour, effective March 17, 2014 (replaces Gwen Umlauf).

Agreement with Solutions School Linked Mental Health Services - Approve the Agreement with Solutions Behavioral Healthcare Professionals (Solutions) to provide mental health services as described in the agreement through the state-funded School Linked Mental Health grant.

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Motion carried 7-0.

ANALYSIS OF IMPACT OF BOUNDARY CHANGE WITH DILWORTH GLYNDON

FELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT: Greg Crowe, Ehlers, Inc., presented the analysis of the impact of a boundary change with Dilworth Glyndon Felton School District. Moorhead and Dilworth Glyndon Felton school districts have been in communication regarding the detachment of portions of each school district. Moorhead Area Public Schools contracted with Ehlers to conduct an analysis of the financial impact of the proposed detachment on the district. Ehlers advised the district that the detachment would have two primary financial effects: 1) changes in district revenue, and 2) changes in property taxes paid by property owners in the realigned district.

If the proposed realignment had occurred prior to the time that taxes payable in 2014 were determined, it would have increased the revenue of the Moorhead School District by approximately \$3,722, due to an increase in transportation sparsity revenue, and a decrease in the community education and early childhood family education revenues. The district would annually lose \$11,763 in revenue for community education and \$10,502 for early childhood family education. It would gain \$25,987 in transportation aid. It would also have increased school property taxes slightly (approximately 2.0%) for property owners in the new Moorhead School District and reduced school property taxes in the Dilworth Glyndon Felton School District (by approximately 3.5% to 6.0%, depending on valuation). However, it would have caused more significant changes to the property taxes of the owners of the parcels in the realignment area, with increases for parcels moving into the Moorhead School District and decreases for parcels moving out of the Moorhead School District.

The differences in the change in property taxes between the two options for assigning debt service levy are relatively insignificant, compared to the changes in total. For that reason, if the realignment were to go forward, considerations of simplicity in the debt service tax rate across the realigned district, which would allow all parcels to have the same rate (assumes that debt levies are paid based on where a parcel is after realignment), might be more important than an option that assumes that debt levies are paid based on where a parcel was prior to realignment. The differences in the change in property taxes and revenue between the two land area realignment options being considered are relatively insignificant. The Moorhead School District would lose 252.6 student units and nearly \$50 million (about 2 percent) of referendum market value.

In giving up the section that includes the east Dilworth housing area, Moorhead School District residents would see a tax hike of about 2 percent, with the owner of a \$100,000 house paying

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\$8.76 more in property taxes after the swap. The owner of a \$200,000 home would pay \$18.06 more.

Chair Fagerlie said she did not see the benefit to Moorhead. Board members also said changes in taxes would be unequal and concern was expressed regarding the loss in community education and early childhood funding.

**SALE REPORT FOR LEASE PURCHASES AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION
APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT:**

Greg Crowe, Ehlers, Inc., explained the Request for Proposals for lease-purchasing financing for part of the cost of the additions at Probstfield and Robert Asp Elementary Schools. Ehlers recommended the board adopt the resolution approving the proposal from Capital One Public Funding with a fixed interest rate of 3.52%.

Steffes moved, seconded by Erickson, to approve the Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement and Related Documents and Certificates as presented. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried 7-0.

2014-15 PRELIMINARY STAFFING PLAN: Kovash explained the preliminary staffing plan for licensed and non-licensed staff along with the projection of average class sizes. The recommended adjustments are:

1. Elementary (K-5) - The addition of 3.0 FTE has been designated for elementary schools to balance class sizes. The additional sections will allow the district to continue its focus on maintaining elementary class sizes within district guidelines, a priority during the operating levy campaign in 2010.
2. Alternative Education - The addition of 1.0 alternative education teacher for the school-within-a-school at Horizon Middle School was approved at the March 10 School Board meeting.
3. Special Education - 1) The addition of 2.0 FTE for increased special education numbers is to serve students at Hopkins and Probstfield Center for Education (PCE). 2) The addition of 1.0 FTE special education support for support programs for special education is divided into 0.5 FTE of adapted physical education (DAPE) at the elementary buildings as a result of increased numbers and offering physical education for all-day kindergarten and 0.5 FTE child study facilitator at PCE as a result of the significant increase in early childhood special education and kindergarten students.

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4. English Learners (EL) - 1) The addition of 0.3 FTE will enable the district to serve Level 1 (newcomers) with more intensive services at the elementary level. The current 8.7 FTE provides services for 353 EL students in the district. 2) A shift of 3.0 FTE paraprofessional positions will allow 0.75 FTE for sheltered instruction for students at the high school.
5. Instructional Support Staff - Funded by federal programs, grants or other sources. 1) The addition of 0.25 FTE reading coach at PCE will provide comparable services at all elementary schools. The 0.25 FTE reading coach will have comparable duties to the reading coaches at the elementary schools. 2) The addition of 1.0 mathematics support coach will provide support to classroom teachers and students. The position will be funded with 0.5 federal funds (pending federal allocations) and 0.5 general funds. 3) The reduction of 1.6 FTE for kindergarten specialists will be replaced with an increase in elementary music. 4) The reduction of 0.35 FTE represents the above staffing.
6. Elementary Music - The addition of 1.6 FTE will provide music instruction to all kindergarten students.
7. Music (6-12) - The reduction of 0.17 FTE in music reflects lower enrollment numbers in band.
8. Differentiation Strategists/Gifted and Talented - 1) The addition of 0.50 FTE strategist at PCE will provide the same services as the counterparts at each elementary school. 2) The addition of 1.0 FTE provides for program support for the top tier of gifted students at the elementary level as well as support for students at the secondary level.
9. Counselors - 1) The addition of 1.0 FTE middle school student assistance counselor was approved at the March 10, 2014 School Board meeting. 2) The addition of 0.40 FTE counselor at PCE will provide the same services as the counterparts at each elementary school.
10. School Nurses - The addition of 1.0 FTE increase is needed for increased enrollment, increased medical needs of students and wellness programming in the district.
11. Paraprofessionals/Security - A reduction of 3.0 FTE is described in the EL section.
12. Non-Aligned/TCI - The addition of 1.0 FTE audio, video and data systems service technician position was approved at the March 10 School Board meeting.

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1. Clerical/Confidential Administrative Assistant - The 0.5 FTE administrative assistant is an increase in support for the Department of School Improvement and Accountability.

Tomhave moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the 2014-15 Preliminary Staffing Plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR DISCONTINUING AND REDUCING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND LICENSED POSITIONS: Dehmer explained the resolution for discontinuing and reducing educational programs and licensed positions. Positions to be reduced are: 1.60 FTE Kindergarten Specialist - Grade Kindergarten; .17 FTE Music, Grades 6-8; .583 FTE Science, Grades 9-12; and 1.00 FTE Social Science, Grades 6-12.

Tomhave moved, seconded by Steffes, to approve the resolution directing administration to effect termination or reduction and non-renewal of licensed teacher programs and positions as listed. Motion carried 7-0.

FIRST READING OF POLICIES: The board conducted a first reading on the following policies: Comparable Worth/Pay Equity Review Process 403, Chemical Use and Abuse 420, Family and Medical Leave 422, Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions, and Creations 440, Administrator and Supervisor Performance Evaluation 471, Principal Performance Evaluation 472, Student Teachers and Interns 921, Policies Incorporated by Reference for Employees/Personnel 499, Corporal Punishment 552, and Policies Incorporated by Reference for Students 599.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Kovash attended the MDE Achievement Gap Summit which provided information regarding the State Report Card, NCLB Waiver, the new Western Lakes Regional Centers of Excellence (located in Fergus Falls), School Readiness and preK-12 alignment, LEP support, educator evaluation, dropout prevention, post secondary transition plan and future summits. Kovash also attend the Region IV Superintendents' meeting and noted an article in the "Communicator" regarding "Food Hub Start-Up Explored for Region" for which Donna Tvedt, district food service director, was involved. Kovash shared information from MREA about the location equity revenue legislation that was signed into law and will learn about the impact to the district as the state department works through the numbers. Kovash reported information about AdvancED would be presented at the April 14 board meeting. AdvancED is a school improvement and accreditation process with tools to assist schools and districts to develop plans and follow data.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Brief reports were heard related to the Instruction and Curriculum Advisory Committee, Community Education Advisory Council, RRALC Family Night, S.G.

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Reinertsen PTAC, Foundation Committee, Policy Review Committee, Executive Finance Committee, Citizen Finance Committee, and Health Insurance Committee meetings.

OTHER PERTINENT ITEMS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: Fagerlie reported information related to former board member Jeanne Aske, who is working on a program to locate missing Cho-Kio yearbooks. Kovash reminded board members of the April 14 board group photo session scheduled for 6 p.m. in the board room.

CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING: Tomhave moved, seconded by Steffes, to close the public meeting at 8:57 p.m., pursuant to M.S. 13D.05, Subdivision 3, for the purpose of conducting the Superintendent's annual evaluation. Motion carried 7-0.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING: Erickson moved, seconded by Tomhave, to open the public meeting at 10:06 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Laurie Johnson, Clerk