

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2009

REGULAR MEETING
7:05 P.M.

Edina Community Center
5701 Normandale Road
Room 349

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Idith Almog
Ms. Cathy Cella
Mr. Brian Hedberg
Mr. Jeff Johnson
Ms. Bert Ledder
Mr. Randy Meyer
Mr. Peyton Robb

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Randy Meyer

7:05 – 9:25 P.M.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Ric Dressen, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jay Willemssen, Director of Business Services
Dr. Jenni Norlin-Weaver, Director of Teaching and Learning
Dr. Gwen Jackson, Director of Administrative Planning and Services
Mr. Doug Johnson, Director of Community Education Services and Community Relations
Ms. Penny Kodrich, Director of Special Services

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Mr. Randy Meyer, Chair

Ms. Bert Ledder, Clerk

(Official Publication)
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 273 EDINA, MINNESOTA
April 13, 2009

7:05 P.M. Chair Meyer called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education. Members present: Almog, Cella, Hedberg, Johnson, Ledder, Meyer, Robb. Staff present: Dressen, Willemssen, Norlin-Weaver, Jackson, Johnson, Kodrich. The minutes of the special meeting of March 16, 2009; the minutes of the regular meeting of March 16, 2009; and the minutes of the special meeting of March 25, 2009, were approved by consent.

RECOGNITIONS

- State Champions – Edina High School Boys' Swimming and Diving Team
- Minnesota Public Relations Association Star Awards – Communications Department: Doug Johnson, Director of Community Education Services and Community Relations; and Jolene Goldade, Communications Manager

REPORTS

- 2009-2010 Proposed Community Education Services Budget – Amy Haben, Community Education Services Board Chair; and Doug Johnson, Director of Community Education Services and Community Relations
- 2009-2010 District Planning – Dr. Ric Dressen, Superintendent

CONSENT

1. Personnel Recommendations
2. Community Education Services Personnel Recommendations
3. Termination/Nonrenewal Recommendations
4. Expenditures Payable on March 23, 2009
5. Expenditures Payable on April 13, 2009
6. Alternative Facilities Bond Expenditures Payable on March 24, 2009
7. Commendation of Edina High School 2008-2009 Boys' Swimming and Diving Team
8. Commendation of Edina Public Schools Communications Department
9. Gift from Creek Valley Elementary School PTA
10. Gifts from Target
11. DECA National Competition in Anaheim, California

ACTION ITEMS APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

1. 2008-2009 General Fund (01) Budget Adjustments
2. 2008-2009 Transportation Fund (03) Budget Adjustments
3. 2008-2009 Internal Service Fund – Dental (20) Budget
4. 2009-2010 Community Education Services Fund (04) Budget
5. Alternative Learning Program at Edina High School

6. 2009-2010 Elementary and Special Education Class Size Guidelines and Secondary Class Size Staffing Factors
7. Settlement Agreement – Independent School District 273, Health Service Associate Organization and Wendy Olness
8. Student Teaching Agreement with Luther College
9. Lease of Online Instructional Support Technology
10. Countryside Elementary School Flooring Asbestos Removal Bid
11. Countryside Elementary School Flooring Bid

DISCUSSION

1. 2009-2010 Budget Reductions
2. 2009-2010 School Board Meeting Dates
3. Primary Election
4. Revised Policy 413 – Personnel, Harassment and Violence
5. New 400 Series Policies – Personnel, Phase V

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

1. Family Preference of Teachers
2. Board Committee Minutes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Cella shared that on April 2-4, the Edina robotics team competed in a regional semifinals competition and won two awards. One award is for the team's website. The other award was given to Mark Lawrence, one of the mentors, who will now be eligible to win a national mentoring award. Superintendent Dressen noted that Edina's robotics team has been working with Annandale robotics team during its first year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M. The minutes and resolutions are on file at the district office, 5701 Normandale Road, and are open to public inspection.

Mr. Randy Meyer, Chair

Ms. Bert Ledder, Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF APRIL 13, 2009

7:05 P.M. Chair Meyer called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education. Members present: Almog, Cella, Hedberg, Johnson, Ledder, Meyer, Robb. Staff present: Dressen, Willemssen, Norlin-Weaver, Jackson, Johnson, Kodrich. The minutes of the special meeting of March 16, 2009; the minutes of the regular meeting of March 16, 2009; and the minutes of the special meeting of March 25, 2009, were approved by consent

RECOGNITIONS

State Champions – Superintendent Dressen congratulated the Edina High School Boys' Swimming and Diving Team on their successful season and the state championship. He introduced Art Downey, coach, and thanked him for his longstanding commitment to the team. Scott Johnson, assistant coach, and the team members introduced themselves.

Minnesota Public Relations Association Star Awards – Superintendent Dressen introduced Doug Johnson, director of community education services and community relations; and Jolene Goldade, communications manager, and congratulated them for receiving an award for their work on the *Why Edina?* video. He also recognized Jenni Norlin-Weaver, director of teaching and learning; Thel Kocher, director of research and evaluation; Cheryl Gunness, Gunness Consulting; Doug Johnson and Jolene Goldade, for their work on the *Edina Public Schools Annual Report*.

REPORTS

2009-2010 Proposed Community Education Services Budget – Amy Haben, community education services board chair; and Doug Johnson, director of community education services and community relations, reviewed the membership and structure of the community education services (CES) board, and CES staff organization and programs. Ms. Haben noted that 86% of the revenue of over \$900,000 comes from program fees. Nearly half of the expenses are related to Edina KIDS Club and 22% from the Edina Family Center. Ms. Haben shared highlights of the work of community education services and the communications department, including a branding study, the production of the “*Why Edina?*” video, the first edition of *Learning* (a newsletter for the community), activities passes for adults age 60+, a communications audit and a community survey.

2009-2010 Planning – Superintendent Dressen shared that, during the planning for 2009-2010, it has been important to keep the district's mission statement in mind. Dr. Jenni Norlin-Weaver, director of teaching and learning, reviewed the timeframe and the concept of the personalized learning initiative. Superintendent Dressen noted the initiatives for 2009-2010, the focus of the budget, budget clarifications, and budget recommendations and limitations.

CONSENT ITEMS BEFORE THE BOARD

It was moved by Member Robb and seconded by Member Johnson that the resolutions in Volume 80, Reports 350 through 359a, pages 640-652a be approved. All members voted Aye. These reports are:

- 350 Personnel Recommendations
- 351 Community Education Services Personnel Recommendations
- 352 Termination/Nonrenewal Recommendations
- 353 Expenditures Payable on March 23, 2009
- 354 Expenditures Payable on April 13, 2009
- 355 Alternative Facilities Bond Expenditures Payable on March 24, 2009
- 356 Commendation of Edina High School 2008-2009 Boys' Swimming and Diving Team
- 357 Commendation of Edina Public Schools Communications Department
- 358 Gift from Creek Valley Elementary School PTA
- 359 Gifts from Target
- 359a DECA National Competition in Anaheim, California

ACTION ITEMS APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Alternative Learning Program at Edina High School: It was moved by Member Almog and seconded by Member Hedberg that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 366, page 671, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Comments: Dr. Jenni Norlin-Weaver, director of teaching and learning; and Dr. Bruce Locklear, principal, and Mr. Michael Pretasky, dean, of Edina High School; shared about the planning process for the alternative learning program at the high school. Dr. Norlin-Weaver described the program as a path to success for every student. Dr. Locklear noted that the process began in January 2008 when a team of teachers and administrators began looking at why some students were not successful in school. He stated that the program has been approved by the Minnesota Department of Education. One of the district's major initiatives is to maximize achievement for all students and this program will offer increased flexibility and options for a segment of students for whom the traditional model of education does not work. He shared that the district had been sending 20-30 such students to Intermediate District 287 programs. The district incurs a cost for this, as well as a lack of control over the quality of the education. As a result of the alternative learning program, the district will be sending only nine students, and it will be better for the district, the at-risk students, and their families for the students to remain in the district. Mr. Pretasky shared the program description, target audience and mission of the program. He described the three main components of the alternative learning program: day school, extended-day program and summer programming. He stated that students can be identified for the program by an intake committee consisting of teachers and administrators, or they can self identify. Student progress will be monitored through a continuous learning program. Dr. Norlin-Weaver shared that there will be a unified data and identification protocol and that the program will allow for

increased alignment between the middle schools and the high school. It will begin in summer 2009 and the 2009-2010 school year. Member Cella inquired as to the implication of the budget decisions on the plans. Dr. Locklear shared that the committee had taken the budget into consideration. He noted that additional revenue will be generated as the result of keeping students in the district. Superintendent Dressen noted that the program may require initial one-time funding, but will ultimately be revenue-neutral. Member Robb inquired as to how “not on track to graduate” is defined. Mr. Pretasky stated that the state uses 12 qualifiers to identify students, including falling behind in credits, chemical abuse and truancy. Member Ledder suggested more emphasis on the chemical health violations portion of the program since the district has a policy regarding chemical health. Chair Meyer inquired as to what assessments will be used to determine if the program is successful. Dr. Locklear noted that assessments will include attendance, attendance, and diplomas awarded. He clarified the distinction between an alternative learning program (ALP) and an alternative learning center (ALC). An ALC would be a standalone entity. The ALP is one more option offered by Edina High School to maximize the achievement of all students.

2008-2009 General Fund (01) Budget Adjustments: It was moved by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Hedberg that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 360, page 653, be approved. All members voted Aye.

2008-2009 Transportation Fund (03) Budget Adjustments: It was moved by Member Robb and seconded by Member Almog that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 361, pages 654-657, be approved. All members voted Aye.

2008-2009 Internal Service Fund – Dental (20) Budget: It was moved by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Cella that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 362, pages 658-661, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Comments: Member Hedberg inquired as to whether this fund came out of the general fund. Mr. Jay Willemsen, director of business services, said that it had. He shared that for several years, district premiums had exceeded claims, so made the decision to self-insure. Chair Meyer inquired as to whether costs had been built into the program. Mr. Willemsen affirmed that there would be no additional costs related to self-insuring.

2008-2009 Community Education Services Fund (04) Budget: It was moved by Member Almog and seconded by Member Johnson that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 363, pages 662-663, be approved. All members voted Aye.

2009-2010 Elementary and Special Education Class Size Guidelines and Secondary Class Size Staffing Factors: It was moved by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Ledder that the revised resolution in Volume 80, Report 364, pages 664-665, be accepted. All members voted Aye. Member Robb moved and Member Cella seconded that the revised resolution be approved. All members voted Aye.

Comments: Chair Meyer noted that there had been some minor changes made to the resolution after distribution of the agenda materials. Dr. Gwen Jackson, director of human relations and administrative services, noted that the effect of the changes will be one additional student in grade 2 and two additional students in grade 3. Average class size in grades 6-9 will change from 24.8 to 25.8. In the high school, the average class size will change from 28.5 to 29.5. Chair Meyer noted that it was important to maintain class sizes across the district.

Settlement Agreement – Independent School District 273, Health Service Associate Organization and Wendy Olness: It was moved by Member Cella and seconded by Member Johnson that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 365, pages 666-670, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Student Teaching Agreement with Luther College: It was moved by Member Ledder and seconded by Member Cella that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 367, pages 672-673, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Lease of Online Instructional Support Technology: It was moved by Member Almog and seconded by Member Johnson that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 368, page 674, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Comments: Member Cella inquired as to how the technology will be used. Dr. Norlin-Weaver noted that it has been and will continue to be used in a variety of ways, especially math. She noted that, in effect, the district will be leasing 100 “seats” which can be used by grade 6-12 students.

Countryside Elementary School Flooring Asbestos Removal Bid: It was moved by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Cella that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 369, pages 675-676, be approved. All members voted Aye.

Countryside Elementary School Flooring Bid: It was moved by Member Cella and seconded by Member Almog that the resolution in Volume 80, Report 370, pages 677-678, be approved. All members voted Aye.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BEFORE THE BOARD

2009-2010 Budget Reductions: Superintendent Dressen and Mr. Willemsen shared information about the four tiers of proposed budget reductions for 2009-2010.

Primary Election: Mr. Willemsen shared that the district is no longer required to hold a primary election for School Board members, but may choose to do so. If they do, since there are four members up for reelection, nine people would be required to file before the primary would be required. The cost would be \$50,000-\$60,000. If the Board does wish to have a primary if nine people file, a resolution for action must be passed. Member Almog noted that it is approximately the amount to hire a teacher. The Board determined that a primary election would not be necessary.

New 400 Series Policies – Personnel, Phase V: Member Cella noted that the district's compensatory practices match what is in the policy.

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Dressen stated that a dialogue with state legislators will be held on April 24, 7:30 am. He noted that the district will recognize retiring staff at a districtwide celebration on June 8.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Cella shared that on April 2-4, the Edina robotics team competed in a regional semifinals competition and won two awards. One award is for the team's website. The other award was given to Mark Lawrence, one of the mentors, who will now be eligible to win a national mentoring award. Superintendent Dressen noted that Edina's robotics team has been working with Annandale robotics team during its first year.

At 9:25 P.M., it was moved by Member Ledder and seconded by Member Robb that the meeting be adjourned. All members voted Aye.