

The regular meeting of the ISD #318 School Board was called to order by Chair Peltier at 7:30 p.m. on December 3, 2007 in the Board Room of the Administrative Services Building. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members present: Meyer, Hietala, Schroeder, Peltier and Ross. Members absent: Olson

Student Representatives: Ian Godfrey and Parker Havel

All reports, budget information, bids, etc., may be viewed and/or questions answered at the ISD #318 Superintendent's Office, 820 NW 1 Ave., Grand Rapids, MN, (218) 327-5704.

Motion by Hietala, supported by Schroeder, to approve the agenda for the December 3, 2007 regular School Board meeting with one change, to remove from the agenda the Community Education, Early Childhood and Extended Year Programming Indicator Report. Motion carried without dissent.

HIGHEST STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Student Board representative reports:

Havel Parker – RJEMS: the posting of mid-quarter reports on the parent portal, green team recycle project, RJEMS advisory meeting, school dance, and math masters activities.

Ian Godfrey – GRHS: the madrigal dinner, the math team successes, winter sports, band and choir activities. Ian's substitute for Board meetings will be Sarah Stejskal.

Kathy Dodge, executive director of the Itasca Orchestra Society, distributed information on their program and introduced Dan Aalto, the director of the orchestra. The collaboration between ISD #318 and the Itasca Symphony Orchestra began in 1981 and is funded by memberships, lesson fees, ticket sales, area businesses, project grants from Arrowhead Regional Arts Council and a sustaining grant from the Blandin Foundation. Five beginning level students performed on their violins for the Board. The Board thanked them for coming.

EFFECTIVE & EFFICIENT SYSTEMS

Moved by Meyer, supported by Hietala, to approve the minutes of the 11/13/07 School Board meeting. Motion carried without dissent.

Motion by Hietala, supported by Schroeder, to approve the final 2007, payable 2008, levy as presented by Ben Hawkins. After discussion, motion carried without dissent. The levy for the 2008/09 school year was presented along with a comparison of last years' levy and is the same as the preliminary levy passed in September. The decrease over last year is \$571,127.71 or 9.91%. The primary reason for the decrease is the excess funds in debt service. This excess is being returned to the taxpayers. The levy is \$5,191,099.14.

Moved by Hietala, supported by Meyer, to approve a full time leave of absence for Regina Hawkinson, teacher. Mrs. Hawkinson addressed the Board by reading a letter she had written explaining her reasons for requesting a 5 year leave beginning August 2008. Joe Silko explained the district's financial obligation for staff on leave. After discussion, motion carried without dissent with a roll call vote: Meyer=yes, Schroeder=yes, Hietala=yes, Ross=yes, Peltier=yes.

Motion by Ross, supported by Meyer, that the Board put a moratorium on accepting any other requests under this policy or procedure until the Board has had an opportunity to review the policy and procedure and determine the fiscal impact on the district. The review of this policy and procedure (adopted on 7/25/1997 and relating to the payment of TRA and Health Insurance Premiums for teachers while on an approved extended or part-time leave of absence) will be brought to the Board by Superintendent Silko at the December 17 School Board meeting. After discussion, motion carried without dissent.

Motion by Hietala, supported by Ross, to approve January 7, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. as the School Board 2008 annual organizational meeting date and January 3 at 5:15 p.m. as a Board workshop. Motion carried without dissent. An open forum will be held on January 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Meyer, supported by Schroeder, to approve the Invest Early Service Agreement between IASC (District #6070) and Grand Rapids (District #318) with two wording corrections. After discussion, motion carried without dissent.

A schedule of the dates when contracts and annual agreements renew will be provided to the Board.

Moved by Ross, supported by Hietala, to approve the 2008 membership to the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS). After discussion, motion carried without dissent.

Motion by Meyer, support by Ross, to approve a resolution as read by Meyer authorizing the execution of a lease agreement and ground lease and authorize Mr. Silko to sign the document as presented by Ben Hawkins. This agreement is with Wells Fargo and is for the Robert J. Elkington Middle School addition and additions to two elementary buildings. After discussion, motion carried without dissent. The closing date is 12/12/07.

PARTNERSHIPS

Board Reports

Meyer: Systems accountability
Endowment

Superintendent Report

Silko: Eagleview staffing update helps financial situation
January 9 5:00 p.m. Regional legislative forum
January 21 Multi District Inservice.
E-12 Education Hearing at the capital

Meeting Announcements

- (1.) Intergovernmental Planning Board 12/5/07 11:30 a.m. Court House
- (2.) District Shared Decision Council 12/10/07 8:00 a.m. Rom 135
- (3.) Early Childhood Interlink-IEIC 12/10/07 1:00 p.m. IRC
- (4.) District Staff Development 12/11/07 12:30 p.m. Board Room
- (5.) Reif Board 12/13/07 7:00 a.m. Reif Center
- (6.) School Board Open Forum 12/17/07 7:00 p.m. Board Room
- (7.) School Board Regular Meeting 12/17/07 7:30 p.m. Board Room

OTHER BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC INPUT: None

Hearing no further business and no public input, Chair Peltier adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Paul Meyer, Clerk