

Minutes of the School Board Annual Organizational Meeting

Of the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 held at the Historic Old Central High School, 215 North First Avenue East, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, on

Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Annie Harala
Art Johnston
David Kirby
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp
Alanna Oswald
Nora Sandstad via Google Hangout
Harry Welty

Others Present:

Bill Gronseth, Superintendent
Doug Hasler, Deputy Clerk
Jackie Dolentz, Secretary

- Temporary Chair Harala called the organizational meeting of the school board to order at 4:30 PM.

M-Welty, S-Oswald, to approve the agenda. Upon a vote to approve the agenda as presented, the same was approved – unanimously.

Election of Chairperson:

Temporary Chair Harala opened the nominations for the office of Chairperson.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for the office of Chairperson.
Member Loeffler-Kemp nominated Member Kirby for the office of Chairperson.
Temporary Chair Harala closed the nominations for the office of Chairperson.

Temporary Chair Harala announced that Member Kirby was elected as Chairperson 4-3 as follows:

Kirby: 4 – Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 – Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Vice Chairperson

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson.
Member Harala nominated Member Loeffler-Kemp as Vice Chairperson.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald as Vice Chairperson.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Loeffler-Kemp was elected as Vice Chairperson 4-3 as follows:

Loeffler-Kemp: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Clerk

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Clerk.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for office of Clerk.
Member Sandstad nominated Member Harala for office of Clerk.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Clerk.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Harala was elected as Clerk 4-3 as follows:

Harala: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Election of Treasurer:

Chair Kirby opened the nominations for the office of Treasurer.
Chair Kirby nominated Member Sandstad for the office of Treasurer.
Member Welty nominated Member Oswald for the office of Treasurer.
Chair Kirby closed the nominations for the office of Treasurer.

Chair Kirby announced that Member Sandstad was elected as Treasurer 4-3 as follows:

Sandstad: 4 - Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad
Oswald: 3 - Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Appointment of Deputy Clerk:

Chair Kirby appointed Doug Hasler as Deputy Clerk.

Appointment of Board Secretaries:

Chair Kirby appointed Jackie Dolentz and Melinda Thibault as School Board secretaries.

Member Welty presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
Selection of Meeting Dates/Times

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Regular meetings of the School Board shall be held the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Administration Building unless otherwise scheduled by the School Board.

B-1-17-3415

January 3, 2017

M-Welty, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3415, Selection of Meeting Dates/Times. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Designation of Depositories and Acceptance of Collateral

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that Duluth Teachers Credit Union, North Shore Bank of Commerce, BMO Harris Bank, U.S. Bank, KeyBank, Wells Fargo, Park State Bank and Western Bank shall be depositories of the funds of this School District for up to a one year period commencing January 1, 2017, and said banks shall be required to deposit with said district collateral securities, subject to approval by the School Board, and kept in trust;

RESOLVED, That the collateral securities pledged by Duluth Teachers Credit Union and placed in trust at Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; North Shore Bank of Commerce and placed in trust at U S Bank N. A.; Key Bank and placed in trust at Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; all as provided by law and evidence by trust agreements executed by the Treasurer of the School Board, an officer of the depository bank, and acknowledged by an officer of the bank holding the securities in trust, shall be approved.

DULUTH TEACHERS CREDIT UNION –

\$500,000.00 FNSM, Cusip xxxxxxVM2, due 3/14/2017

\$500,000.00 FHOR, Cusip xxxxxxKG7, due 4/10/2018

NORTH SHORE BANK OF COMMERCE –

\$100,000.00 FHLB, Cusip xxxxxxCV7, due 3/10/2017

\$200,000.00 FHLB, Cusip xxxxxxDG1, due 5/30/2019

BMO HARRIS BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

U S BANK –

\$1,000,000.00 FGPC, Cusip xxxxxxWP6, due 5/1/2033

KEYBANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

WELLS FARGO BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

PARK STATE BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

WESTERN BANK –

Authorized up to maximum of \$250,000 on deposit at any one time

RESOLVED, That the Treasurer, Clerk, and/or CFO/Executive Director of Business Services shall be authorized to arrange for the exchange, release, or placing of additional collateral, provided that in all instances such exchange, releases, or placing of additional collateral shall be approved by the school board and all new collateral shall be placed in trust with the respective aforementioned institutions.

M-Loeffler-Kemp, S-Welty, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3416 - Designation of Depositories and Acceptance of Collateral. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Sandstad presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Designation of Authority to Perform Electronic Fund Transfers

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services has the authority to designate a district employee/employees to initiate electronic fund transfers, as required by MS 471.38.

B-1-17-3417

January 3, 2017

M-Sandstad, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3417 - Designation of Authority to Perform Electronic Fund Transfers. Upon a vote taken, the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Oswald presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Authorization for Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services to Sign Contracts and Grants

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that to increase operational efficiency, it is requested that authorization to sign revenue contracts and expenditure contracts for the lease, purchase, and contract for goods or services within budgetary and policy limits up to \$25,000 be granted to the Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services. This delegation of authorization is allowable under Minnesota Statute 123B.52 subd. 2. The superintendent's designee will review each contract before execution.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the Superintendent of Schools, or in his/her absence the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services, be designated the legal authorized representative to sign applications and execute grant documents for and in behalf of the school district in connection with federal and state laws and funding authorities and local, public, and private funding agencies that offer categorical financial support to this school district.

RESOLVED, By the School Board of ISD 709, St. Louis Country, Minnesota that a list of all the above contracts and grants hereby approved by the Superintendent or the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services will be provided as an informational item at the first possible regular School Board Meeting following the approval action.

B-1-17-3418

January 3, 2017

M-Oswald, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3418 - Authorization for the Superintendent of Schools and CFO/Executive Director of Business Services to Sign Contracts and Grants. Upon a vote taken on the resolution – the same was approved – unanimously.

Member Harala presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
Selection of District's Legal Counsel

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the following firms have been selected as legal counsel for the District.

Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.
302 West Superior Street, Suite 700
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 722-0861

Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney
730 Second Avenue South, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 339-0600

Dryer, Storaasli, Knutson & Pommerville
202 West Superior Street, Suite 200
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 249-0608

Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.
330 South Seventh Street, Suite 2800
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612. 436.4300 (office)
612.436.4340 (fax)

RESOLVED, that the authorized contact persons for the District are as follows:

Chair of the School Board
Superintendent of Schools
Executive Assistant to Superintendent of Schools
Assistant Superintendent
CFO/Executive Director of Business Services
Executive Assistant to the CFO/Executive Director of Business Services
Director of Special Education
Manager of Facilities
Finance Manager
Senior Human Resources Manager
Human Resources Manager for Non-Certified Staff
Human Resources Benefits Coordinator

B-1-17-3419

January 3, 2017

M-Harala, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3419 – Selection of District's Legal Counsel.

M-Johnston, S-Welty, to amend resolution by deleting the later two firms; deleting Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney and deleting Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Sandstad, to amend Member Johnston's motion to delete only the firm of Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Sandstad, to amend his motion to terminate the contract with Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A. with the exception of ongoing cases that they are representing us in until the conclusion of those particular cases.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

M-Welty, S-Oswald, to table this item.

Discussion took place regarding tabling this item.

Member Sandstad to call the question.

Upon a vote, the call to the question passed - unanimously.

Upon a vote to table Resolution B-1-17-3419 Selection of District's Legal Counsel, the same passes 6-1 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Oswald, Sandstad, Welty

Nay: Johnston

Member Johnston presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Selection of District's Official Newspaper

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that the District's official newspaper will continue to be the Duluth News Tribune.

B-1-17-3420

January 3, 2017

M-Johnston, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3420 – Selection of District's Newspaper. Upon a vote taken on the resolution, the same was approved – unanimously.

Chair Kirby presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
Accepting the Eleven Tools of Civility

WHEREAS, The residents of Duluth Public Schools ISD 709 place a high value on respect and civility in their lives and they understand that these characteristics are essential to any healthy community; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussion in the community and within the School District; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 addresses sometimes controversial issues about which people often feel passionately and which at times leads to uncivil behavior; and

WHEREAS, An atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have a damaging effect on the proceedings, on the quality of debate, and on the practice of democracy itself.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 recognizes eleven tools of civility as encouraged by Speak Your Peace: The Civility Project that will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face our community. These tools include:

1. Pay attention
2. Listen
3. Be inclusive
4. Don't gossip
5. Show respect
6. Be agreeable
7. Apologize
8. Give constructive criticism
9. Take responsibility
10. Be honest and care for others
11. Show your evidence; share your reasoning

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 shall promote the use and adherence of these tools in conducting the business of the School Board.

B-1-17-3421

January 3, 2017

M-Kirby, S-Harala, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3421 – Accepting the Eleven Tools of Civility.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Member Sandstad to call the question.

Upon a vote, the call to the question failed 4-3 as follows:

Yea: Harala, Kirby, Loeffler-Kemp, Sandstad

Nay: Johnston, Oswald, Welty

Upon a vote, the resolution was approved – unanimously.

Member Welty presented the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

Approving the Continued Participation of Student School Board Representatives

WHEREAS, The School Board of Duluth Public Schools ISD 709 has included Student School Board Representatives since January 2005; and

WHEREAS, Student school board representatives provide the school board with a student voice and youth perspective; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota School Boards Association encourages school boards to develop a process to include student representatives; and

WHEREAS, The Superintendent and high school principals have reviewed and revised where necessary the selection process for appointing student school board representatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School Board of Independent School District 709 approves the continued participation of one Student School Board Representative from Denfeld, East and the Area Learning Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the term for the 2017 Student School Board Representatives will be January 3, 2017 to January 2, 2018.

B-1-17-3422

January 03, 2017

M-Welty, S-Loeffler-Kemp, to approve Resolution B-1-17-3422 – Approving the Continued Participation of Student School Board Representatives.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Upon a vote on the resolution, the same was approved – unanimously.

M-Welty, S-Harala, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the same passed – unanimously.

- Chair Kirby adjourned the Annual Organizational School Board meeting of January 3, 2017 at 5:24 p.m.