



Independent School District No. 834 – Stillwater Area Public Schools
Stillwater City Hall, 216 North 4th Street, Stillwater, MN
September 14, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call: Present: George Hoepfner, chair; Paula O'Loughlin, vice chair; Tom Lehmann, treasurer; Jennifer Pelletier, clerk; Shelley Pearson, director; Mike Ptacek, director; Sarah Stivland, director; Superintendent Pontrelli (ex-officio) Student Members: Annabel Gregg and Ava Yokanovich

III. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Hoepfner led Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. District Mission and School Board Goals: The mission statement was read by Member Pearson and the goals were read by Member O'Loughlin.

V. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

Motion by: Tom Lehmann; Second by: Jennifer Pelletier; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays, Motion Carried.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pontrelli:

- shared information related to the start of the school year
- announced the bus property purchase will be coming to the board in the near future
- commented on why the superintendent's report has moved up on the agenda
- addressed an open forum question from the last meeting related to the Freedom of Information Act

VII. Introductory Items

A. Student Report

The new student members introduce themselves and shared information about homecoming week, provided a sports update and gave a report on the academics taking place.

They announced:

- The music rummage sale is September 23 from 8 – 3
- The play Grease will be performed October 10 – 23 and 26-28
- The Academic Awards Ceremony is September 19 at 7 p.m.
- NHS is sponsoring a blood drive on September 22

B. District Recognition

1. Superintendent Pontrelli called on Ms. Keister to recognized Community Thread and United Way of Washington County East for their collecting for than \$11,000 worth of school supplies for our students.

VIII. Open Forum (4 speakers)

1. Tina Riehle, 10960 Norell Ave. N., Stillwater spoke about accountability and ethical behavior.

2. Kristie Mack, 421 W. Pine St., Stillwater, asked questions about the GATE program and stated she hosted the recent Townhall meeting.
3. Dr. Genella M. Stubrud Jemelka, 15417 56th St. N., Oak Park Heights, spoke about the district policies and cultural competency.
4. Sandi Hayner, 1357 Lydia Circle, Stillwater, clarified that the recent Townhall meeting was not an 834 VOICE event and expressed concern that a certain board member has not met with her.

IX. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of August 10, 2017 School Board Meeting
- B. Minutes of August 10, 2017 Closed Session
- C. Minutes of August 23, 2017 Closed Session
- D. Disbursement Register August 4 through September 6, 2017
- E. Human Resources Personnel Report
- F. Uniform Grant Guidance Update
- G. Field Trip: Stillwater Choir Spring Conference Tour, 1 advisor, 10 chaperones, 82 students to travel to New York City, April 18-22, 2018.

Motion by: Tom Lehmann; Second by: Paula O'Loughlin; Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 recused (Hoepfner) Motion Carried.

X. Reports

A. ThoughtExchange

Ms. Keister provided an overview of the information received from the spring process. The community conversation was about the skills, attributes and experiences students need for success. More than 1700 people shared 3,520 thoughts and assigned 133,741 stars to the thoughts. The feedback will be considered as part of the strategic planning process.

B. Transition Update

Dr. McDowell shared information on the new spaces and new opportunities for our students. New learning opportunities at the elementary level include responsive classroom, changes to gifted and talented, a new Spanish Immersion program and updates and leveling of intervention and supports. New learning opportunities for middle schools include WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Pony Time, Project-Based Learning, Teaming for grades 6 and 7 and intervention and enrichment. New learning opportunities for high school include Link Crew BARR, small learning communities and flex time. Hundreds of staff moved to different grade levels, subjects and/or buildings.

XI. Action Items

A. Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) Membership

Board Member Ptacek presented information on the possibility of becoming a member in the SEE organization. The SEE membership was part of the budget reductions in the 2014-15 school year. The cost of the membership for the 2017-18 school year is \$10,154.07.

Motion by: Mike Ptacek; Second by: Sarah Stivland; Vote: 4 ayes Pearson, Pelletier, Ptacek, Stivland 3 nays (Hoepfner, Lehmann, O'Loughlin), Motion Carried.

XII. Board Member Reports

1. Mr. Hoepfner read a statement from the National School Board Association regarding immigrant families and shared information about the snack pack program available for families in need from Valley Outreach, mentioned the board was looking at revising their meeting calendar for the remainder of the 2017 year, shared that have been working with a consultant on governance and goals, and reminded others that board reports should be limited to something that impacts District 834.

2. Mr. Ptacek shared information from the recent NE Metro 916 board meeting, announced that he will be attending the MSBA Advocacy Tour.

D. Working Group Reports

1. Ms. Pelletier reported that the policy working group began meeting to work on updating policies.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Motion by: Shelley Pearson; Second by: Tom Lehmann; Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays, Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Pelletier, school board clerk.