

**REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #152
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 8, 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 10, 11, 14 and 20.

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

MATTERS PRESENTED BY CITIZENS/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS: (Citizens who wish to address a non-agenda item have the opportunity to speak by raising their hand and being recognized by the School Board chair. Speakers must state their name and will be limited to three minutes. Speakers must complete the sign-up form, which outlines the public input process, and submit it to the School Board secretary.) None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Valan moved, seconded by Steffes, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

Minutes - Approve the August 21, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes and the August 25, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Donation - Accept the donation of mat board and direct administration to send a thank you. K and Krafts donated their entire inventory of mat board to the school district's art department. The value of the donation is in excess of \$4,500.

Memorial Donation - Accept the memorial donation of \$50 for the Moorhead Area Public Schools kindergarten program and direct administration to send a thank you. The family of Marlene Rayment made the donation in her honor.

Claims - Approve the September Claims, subject to audit, in the amount of \$957,575.37.

General Fund:	\$922,870.30
Food Service Fund:	\$14,037.57
Community Service Fund:	\$20,667.50
TOTAL	\$957,575.37

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The August Wire Payments, subject to audit, in the amount of \$609,017.52.

General Fund:	\$607,375.01
Post Employment Trust Fund:	\$1,642.51
TOTAL	\$609,017.52

Change in Contracts

Anne Lysne - Paraprofessional, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, from 1.0 FTE to .50 FTE, effective with the 2014-2015 school year (replaces Beth Ann Johnson).

Barb Mohs - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School to Administrative Assistant, Red River Area Learning Center, B21 (4) \$16.65 per hour, 8 hours per day, effective August 27, 2014 (replaces Kathy Becher).

Resignations

James Boots - Paraprofessional, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, effective August 21, 2014.

Ann Wilson - Early Childhood Teacher, Probstfield Center for Education, effective August 25, 2014.

Ramelle Day - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective August 25, 2014.

Justin Gall - Girls Head Track and Field Coach, High School, effective August 27, 2014.

Levi Tronnes - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective August 29, 2014.

Margo Johnson - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, effective September 5, 2014.

Other Leave of Absence

Barb Mohs - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective August 30, 2014.

Family/Medical Leave

Bayan Alemadi - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, effective September 8, 2014 until October 1, 2014.

Kristin Dehmer - Executive Director of Human Resources, Probstfield Center for Education, effective approximately October 3, 2014 for eight weeks.

Amanda Craig - Teacher, Probstfield Elementary, effective approximately December 15, 2014 thru March 9, 2015.

Nicole Odegaard - Teacher, Moorhead High School, extension of leave from 2013-2014 school year for an undetermined amount of time.

New Employees

Chandi Mueller - Interpreter, District, B32 (0) \$26.56 per hour, 7 hours per day, effective August 25, 2014 (replaces Rachel Burcham).

Rachel Gladue - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective August 25, 2014 (replaces Lindsey Patenaude).

Megan Ramsey - Student Assistance Counselor, Horizon Middle School, MA (1) \$42,787.00,

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1.0 FTE, effective August 25, 2014 (new position).

Lacey Haskamp - LSS Teacher, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, BA (5) \$41,680.00, 1.0 FTE, effective August 25, 2014 (replaces Lainey Anderson).

Jan Van Hatten - Spanish Teacher, Moorhead High School, MA+20 (10) \$18,226.50, .3 FTE, effective August 25, 2014 (new position due to increased enrollment).

Laura Wieck - LSS Teacher, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, MA (6) \$49,819.00, 1.0 FTE, effective August 25, 2014 (new position due to increased enrollment).

Rhiannon Walstrom - Paraprofessional, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective August 27, 2014 (replaces James Boots).

Stacy Herman - Lunchroom Supervisor, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, 2.25 hours per day, \$10.00 per hour, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Jennifer Hoefs).

Christie Steen - Lunchroom Supervisor, Robert Asp Elementary, 3 hours per day, \$10.00 per hour, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Eng Nguyen).

Michelle Hassenstad - Lunchroom Supervisor/Crossing Guard, Probstfield Elementary, 2.75 hours per day, \$10.00 per hour, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Ahmed Hussein).

Brian Clark - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (3) \$15.93 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Ashley Cole).

Evan Youngs - Night Custodian, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$15.93 per hour, 8 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Charles Glidden).

Nicole Tremel Pausch - Interpreter, District, B32 (0) \$26.56 per hour, 7 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (position vacant since 2012, utilized contracted services).

Ellen Gianotti - Lunchroom Supervisor, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, 2.75 hours per day, \$10.00 per hour, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Miranda Wells).

Nicole Boersma - Paraprofessional, Robert Asp Elementary, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Chad Dodd).

Tyler Flaa - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Barb Mohs).

Brandi Carlson - Paraprofessional, Moorhead High School, B21 (3) \$15.93 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 2, 2014 (replaces Jessica Thompson).

Dixie Duncan - Interpreter, District, B32 (6) \$29.04 per hour, 7 hours per day, effective September 4, 2014 (replaces Samantha Guttu).

Becky Sipe - Paraprofessional, Robert Asp Elementary, B21 (4) \$16.16 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 4, 2014 (replaces partial FTE's of Amanda Carlsrud/EngNguyen).

Hope Wilson - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$15.37 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 8, 2014 (replaces Margo Johnson).

Linda Jones - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (5) \$16.38 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, effective September 8, 2014 (replaces Levi Tronnes).

Motion carried 7-0.

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OPENING ENROLLMENT: Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent, reviewed the September 2, 2014 enrollment data for the elementary and secondary schools and the district's off-site educational programs.

Opening enrollment was 5,928, which is 216 students more than opening enrollment from a year ago and 445 more students than were enrolled at the end of the 2013-14 school year. The largest class in the district is second grade with 509 students followed by kindergarten with 506 students and grade 1 with 505 students. Ninth grade is the smallest grade level in the district with 417 students.

Enrollment typically fluctuates the first few weeks of the school year before stabilizing in October and November. An updated report and projected figures for the next several school years will be presented to the board in November.

2013-14 ASSESSMENT RESULTS: Missy Eidsness, director of school improvement and accountability, reviewed the reports for Moorhead Area Public Schools Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) district data for the 2013-14 school year. The reports show the district average compared to the state average for the MCA assessments in reading, mathematics and science.

Student proficiency in reading, mathematics and science held steady overall. The district's proficiency levels resemble the results of the entire state. According to Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) reports for Moorhead Schools, 57.3 percent of students were proficient in reading, 59.8 percent were proficient in math and 49.7 percent were proficient in science. Reading proficiency for the district increased from 54.8 percent in 2013 to 57.3 percent (gain of 2.5 percent). Math proficiency for the district decreased from 63.2 percent in 2013 to 59.8 percent (decrease of 3.4 percent). Science proficiency decreased from 51.9 percent in 2013 to 49.7 percent in 2014 (decrease of 2.2 percent). Eidsness also reviewed district trend data from the MDE Report Card for reading, mathematics and science MCA results.

MOORHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGACY FUND (FOUNDATION) UPDATE:

Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent, stated a resolution was passed by the School Board on September 24, 2012 establishing the Moorhead School District Legacy Fund and a partnership between West Central Initiative and Moorhead Area Public Schools.

The Legacy Fund will support innovative educational programs that enrich the experiences of all students served by the school district. The funds will be used for endowment, activities and innovation grants as well as other uses recommended by the advisory committee.

The school district had formed an initial committee and now will form an expanded committee made up of the superintendent and/or the assistant superintendent, athletic director, School Board

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member representative, district communications coordinator, district accountant, Moorhead Booster Club member, Education Moorhead representative, building-level parent representatives, area business representatives, retired educators and community members.

MOORHEAD PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM: Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent, explained the City of Moorhead approved extending property tax abatements through 2016 and would like the school district and other public entity's to participate in the residential property tax abatement program for new home construction and improvements to existing homes for the period commencing January 2, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016 by abating its property taxes as allowed by Minnesota law.

Valan left the meeting at 7:48 p.m. and returned at 7:51 p.m.

Michael Redlinger, city manager, and Scott Hutchins, director of planning and neighborhood services, provided background information by explaining the Make Moorhead Home property tax rebate program was implemented to address a decline in Moorhead's single family housing trends. Clay County made the program available in its other cities on an optional basis. From 2009-2011, at the request of the City of Moorhead, the State of Minnesota funded a state-paid property tax abatement program for new home construction as a flood recovery initiative for the cities of Moorhead and Dilworth. When state funding ended, the City of Moorhead, Clay County and Moorhead Area Public Schools entered into a self-funded property tax rebate program in 2012 (pursuant to Minn. Stats. 469.1813 - 469.1816). The program was branded as the Make Moorhead Home (MMH) Property Tax Rebate.

In June and July of 2014, the City of Moorhead surveyed all 2013 purchasers (617) of existing and newly constructed homes regarding their home-buying experience and their impressions of Moorhead. The response rate was 33 percent (205 responses).

It is recommended that the Make Moorhead Home Property Tax Rebate extend seamlessly through 2016. Fargo and West Fargo continue their property tax abatement programs and are more competitive on property taxes than ever before. The property tax rebate is an important issue for the housing industry and consumers. A resolution will be presented to the board at the September 22 board meeting.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES UPDATE: Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent, provided a brief construction update on Probstfield and Robert Asp Schools. Probstfield's addition is enclosed and remains on track. Electrical and duct work continue at Asp and Probstfield.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Superintendent Kovash reported on her excitement related to Friday's soccer and football games played on the new turf field and thanked the School Board,

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Dean Haugo, Pam Redlinger, Rob Bye, Pam Gibb and Brian Cole and others who made the events memorable. Kovash shared the impact statement from Dean Haugo read at the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting event.

Kovash noted opening day went smoothly with some glitches that are being worked through, and administrators are reflecting on ways to make things better for students and parents. She commented staff members were positive, even in some less-than-ideal classrooms due to current construction.

Kovash said she should have World's Best Workforce information and reports soon but the Multiple Measurement Ratings are embargoed until Oct. 1. She noted the 2013-14 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement and summary report will be presented to the board in October with a report summary sent to the department of education.

Board member Valan requested information related to land Kurtz and Holy Cross Townships being purchased by the federal government for the diversion and what the potential tax loss of farmland would be and the impact on enrollment and property values.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Brief reports were heard regarding the Joint Powers Committee, Spuds Meet and Greet, and Indian Education Parent Committee meetings.

OTHER PERTINENT ITEMS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: Board member Tomhave noted the MSBA Fall Area meeting was scheduled for Sept. 23 at Lakes Country Service Cooperative starting at 1 p.m. Kovash reminded board members of the MREA regional and virtual meetings and the November 16-18 conference. Board members were asked to contact Michelle if interested in attending.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Laurie Johnson, Clerk