

FINAL

CXXX BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS

OFFICIAL REPORT

**Regular Business Meeting
St. Louis, MO
July 10, 2018**

MINUTES

The Board of Education of the City of St. Louis met in Open Session pursuant to Board Bylaw B9350 on the date noted above at Busch Middle School, located at 5910 Clifton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting came to order at 6:43 p.m.

PRESENT: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell (via phone)

ABSENT: Bill Haas, Katherine Wessling

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:44 p.m.

APPEARANCES - INVITED GUESTS

None

APPEARANCES - PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Erik Shelquist shared the following comment:

- Mr. Shelquist is the Republic candidate for the Missouri House of Representatives for District 82.
- Mr. Shelquist shared that he is interested in hearing ideas of how to improve education in the Missouri House.

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- Mr. Shelquist left his phone number on the sign-in sheet.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE JULY 10, 2018 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

On a motion by Vice President Charli Cooksey and seconded by Ms. Susan Jones, the Board voted to approve and adopt the July 10, 2018 Meeting Agenda on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins

ABSTAIN: Natalie Vowell

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: SAB COMMITTEE REPORTS- REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Ms. Donna Jones shared that she attended the last Real Estate Committee Meeting of the Special Administrative Board (SAB).

- Several properties were identified in need of new boilers and chillers. One of these properties is Langston Middle School, which is currently being used by Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church.
- A Use Agreement was approved between Friendly Temple and the district for the use of Langston Middle School.
- The cost to replace the chiller at Langston was estimated to be \$130,000.
- The recommendation of the committee was to replace the chiller at Langston Middle School and Stephens Middle School, given the use agreement and the desire to keep Stephens Middle School ready as a back-up site in case of an emergency at another school site.
- Dutchtown Renovations, LLC offered to purchase Cleveland High School for \$300,000. The building is valued at \$2,300,000. The offer was rejected.

NEW BUSINESS: SAB COMMITTEE REPORTS- AUDIT COMMITTEE

Secretary Natalie Vowell shared an update from the Audit Committee Meeting of the Special Administrative Board:

- RubinBrown is halfway through the annual audit process.
- There was a reduction of the budget by 10M in SY 2018-2019.
- The district had a 20% surplus at the end of the fiscal year, in the amount of 75M. 20% is generally the fund balance policy for most districts.
- This year, there was a new system for the audit.
- All minutes for previous board meetings were due June 30, 2018.
- Given that the district had not provided a district appointed secretary to the Elected Board, RubinBrown indicated that all meeting minutes through September are due in September.

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- The final audit will be completed by December 6, 2018, in time for the December Special Administrative Board meeting.
- There is a PDF of the Scope of Services that RubinBrown provides.
- There are few concerns but nothing major.

Ms. Donna Jones asked the following:

- Is the RubinBrown audit for the entire district, including assets?

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following:

- The guidelines that they use follow those from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and include assets (including buildings, copy machines and leases) as losses or gains.

Ms. Donna Jones asked the following:

- Dr. Adams spoke of assets being given away to the public. Is there a listing of assets being given to the public, or has the big giveaway already happened?

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following:

- Secretary Natalie Vowell can ask about that and also see if it is of concern to the audit committee. Secretary Natalie Vowell will ask the question to Dr. Adams as well.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: TRANSITION/ TRAINING

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- The National School Board Association (NSBA)/ Missouri School Board Association (MSBA) trainings will take place on the following dates:
 - Aug 3 and 4
 - Sept 15 and 16
 - Oct 13 and 14 (NEW)
 - Oct 26 and 27
 - Nov 17 and 18
 - ~~Dec 14 and 15 (REMOVED)~~
- A quorum is needed for each training session.
- If all material is completed faster, the November training session may not be necessary.

Ms. Donna Jones asked the following:

- Will the training sessions be paid for by the public, and recorded?

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- MSBA will be recording the meetings and will make the recordings available for future board members.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins and Vice President Charli Cooksey have a phone call scheduled with Dr. Adams, NSBA and MSBA to review the training curriculum, and should have a copy prior to July 19th.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice President Charli Cooksey presented the following report on the Consortium Partnership Network:

- Mr. Sullivan shared that the Special Administrative Board interpreted the Elected Board's lack of support for related legislation as a lack of support for the Consortium Partnership Network.
- Mr. Sullivan will share the Elected Board's feedback regarding the Consortium Partnership Network with the Special Administrative Board.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dorothy Rohde Collins presented the following report:

- The Special Administrative Board meeting dates have been distributed.
- The last Special Administrative Board consent agenda had two items pertaining to the Consortium Partnership Network:
 - A contract with SIUE and Jesse Dixon for technical assistance and design support, for \$30,000.
 - A contract with Empower Schools to design and launch the consortium, for \$90,000.

Ms. Donna Jones asked the following:

- Secretary Natalie Vowell presented that the district had a 10M shortfall, correct?
- All other districts have one superintendent and are not spending public dollars to split the district up.
- Springfield, Massachusetts, which is where Empower Schools has worked in the past, does not reflect the same demographics as the City of Saint Louis.

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- We are requesting a device to make sure Secretary Natalie Vowell is adequately heard by the audience.

INFORMATION REQUESTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon a motion by Ms. Susan Jones and seconded by Vice President Charli Cooksey, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, , Dorothy Rohde Collins

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ABSTAIN: Natalie Vowell

The motion carried.

ATTESTED BY:



NATALIE VOWELL