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CXXX BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS

OFFICIAL REPORT

**Regular Business Meeting
St. Louis, MO
September 11, 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 Compton/Drew ILC Middle School, located at 5130 Oakland Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting came to order at 6:31 p.m.

PRESENT: Charli Cooksey, Bill Haas (arrived at 7:17 p.m.), Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell, Katherine Wessling

ABSENT: None

A quorum was present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:32 p.m.

4a. APPEARANCES - PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Mihaela Rusu shared the following comments:

- Ms. Rusu shared concerns regarding school culture and academic progress at Woerner Elementary School.
- Ms. Rusu shared concerns regarding a lack of transportation provided by the district for her children to Buder Elementary School.
- Ms. Rusu requested that transportation be provided to Buder, or that her children be allowed to attend school in a county district.

Mr. Todd Boehlje shared the following comments:

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- At the start of the year, parents were notified that baseball and softball teams in the district would not be allowed to compete in state competitions.
- There has been a lack of a transparent process or a clear explanation for this change.
- If it is a financial issue, individual families may be able to support the effort through fundraising.
- There is a lack of practice fields available to schools.
- There are rumors that this is a one-year hiatus.
- Scouts won't be able to see games and evaluate players who are potentially eligible for scholarships.
- Parents want to be on the record for their opposition, and want to work with the district to find a resolution.

5. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2018 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Katherine Wessling and seconded by Secretary Natalie Vowell, the Board voted to approve and adopt the amended September 11, 2018 Meeting Agenda, with the removal of agenda item 8A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: LETTER TO SLPS COMMUNITY, on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell, Katherine Wessling

The motion carried.

6. PRESENTATION BY SUPERINTENDENT DR. KELVIN ADAMS: TRANSFORMATION PLAN 2.0 UPDATE

Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams gave a presentation on Transformation Plan 2.0. Afterward, Dr. Adams offered the following responses to questions posed by the Board:

Pillar 1:

- 78.6% of schools are fully accredited.
- The increase in the fund balance comes from the passage of Proposition 1, a detailed review of expenditures, and renegotiated contracts. In the future, the fund balance may be impacted by reduced state funding and declines in federal funding.
- Transformation Plan 3.0 increases the fund balance goal to 20%.
- A district response to an information request from the Board related to Proposition 1 is being drafted.

Pillar 2:

- The School Leader Effectiveness assessment is completed by the division of Talent, Strategy and Management. A copy of the scale can be made available. It was created by adapting a tool from the Council of Great City Schools.
- The district's Teacher Effectiveness Rating is on a scale that is unique to the district. The district is not satisfied with the current effectiveness ratings.

Pillar 3:

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- The goal for 3rd graders reading on grade level is 80%. Growth, as well as proficiency, is being considered for Transformation Plan 3.0.
 - Grades K, 1 and 2 are more likely to be reading on grade level.
 - A reading loss takes place after each summer.
 - Older students do not like to take the assessment and have less of an incentive to do so. Additionally, the district was not assessing gifted students and including them in the overall district data previously.
 - Students who do not speak English as a first language are included in the data, which is approximately 2,000 students.
 - All schools have developed a reading improvement plan and submitted those plans to the district.
 - The district can provide a breakdown of the percentage of graduates who attend a 2-year college versus the percentage that attend a 4-year college, as well as what this breakdown is per each high school. Much of this data is pulled from the Clearinghouse.
 - The district also collects information regarding the rate of graduates who must take remedial courses in college from University partners.
 - The highest percentage of district graduates attend St. Louis Community College.
- Pillar 4:
- The district approves MOUs with partners for work aligned to the Transformation Plan, and includes a rubric on the goals or objectives of that partnership.
 - The district is still waiting on state data from School Year 2017-2018.

7A. NEW BUSINESS: MSBA BOARD REPORT

The Board watched a presentation of the September MSBA Board Report, which included the following updates:

- The state is currently searching for a new commissioner of education.
- The state is working on full funding for transportation over the next nine years.
- The MSBA policy department is working on policy updates for school boards based on new state laws that took effect at the end of August.
- MSBA is sending out a personnel survey. Districts that participate get free access to the full database.

7B. NEW BUSINESS: MSBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Ms. Susan Jones commented on the following:

- The MSBA Annual Conference is a great networking opportunity, and a great time to gain information.

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following:

- The conference includes an array of best practices with very useful sessions, including information on parliamentary procedure.

8B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: UPDATE: NSBA/ MSBA BOARD GOVERNANCE TRAINING SESSION: SEPT. 15TH / SEPT. 16TH

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- The second NSBA/ MSBA training session will take place on September 15th and September 16th.
- Breakfast is available at 8:00 a.m. each day, and the sessions will start at 8:30 a.m.
- There will be a closed session on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. with Mr. Rick Sullivan and Dr. Kelvin Adams.
- The meetings will adjourn by 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and by 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- The training session will be heavy on St. Louis specifics, with an emphasis on equity.
- Six Board members indicated that they would be present for the training. Ms. Katherine Wessling indicated that she would not be present.
- Video-conferencing capabilities will be available.

9A1. COMMITTEE REPORTS: ONBOARDING COMMITTEE

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following:

- Vice President Charli Cooksey, Ms. Katherine Wessling, and Secretary Natalie Vowell have not yet met for this committee.
- Possible topics discussed for new member onboarding include: the number of students in the district, the number of buildings, the neighborhoods, Robert's Rules of Order, and navigating the district website.
- The focus of onboarding would be practicing with the board and getting business done.

9A2. COMMITTEE REPORTS: REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Ms. Donna Jones commented that there has not been a Real Estate Committee meeting.

9B. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Katherine Wessling, Vice President Charli Cooksey, Ms. Susan Jones, and Mr. Bill Haas indicated that they did not have Board Member Reports.

Secretary Natalie Vowell presented the following Board Member Report:

- Secretary Natalie Vowell requested an update on softball and baseball for the district, and indicated that Ms. Gretchen Jensen submitted a request form to be added to the October Board Meeting agenda on that topic.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell met with Eric Scroggins and Marcus Robinson from the Opportunity Trust, and suggested to them that they need to speak with community organizations and neighborhood groups. Any suggestions of organizations they should meet with can be sent to Secretary Natalie Vowell by the end of the week.
- A monthly calendar has been created for Board of Education work flow.

9B. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dorothy Rohde Collins presented the following Board President's Report:

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- In the September Board work session, there will be several minutes from previous meetings voted on.
- The League of Women Voters is seeking a co-sponsor for an Election Forum ahead of the November St. Louis Board of Education election. The SLPS Foundation and another organization have both expressed interest, and the League of Women Voters has asked if the Board of Education would like to formally cosponsor.
- Ms. Katherine Wessling and Ms. Susan Jones indicated that the Board of Education has not, in the past, officially cosponsored the Election Forum.
- Mr. Bill Haas suggested that this be brought up at the Board's September work session.

10. INFORMATION REQUESTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following:

- The Board will follow up on the information request regarding the district's baseball and softball programs.

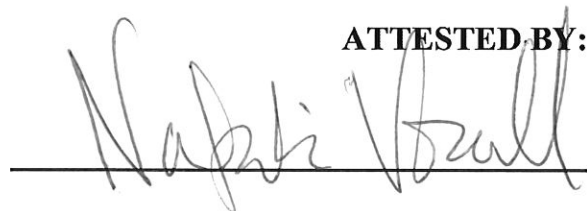
11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon a motion by Mr. Bill Haas and seconded by Ms. Katherine Wessling, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Bill Haas, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins,
Natalie Vowell, Katherine Wessling

The motion carried.

ATTESTED BY:



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Natalie Vowell', is written over a solid horizontal line.

NATALIE VOWELL, SECRETARY