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BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF  
THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS

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OFFICIAL REPORT

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Regular Business Meeting  
St. Louis, MO  
October 9, 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 Beaumont High School located at 3836 Natural Bridge Ave, St. Louis, MO 63107.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

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

PRESENT: Charli Cooksey, Bill Haas (6:44 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 6:31 p.m.

**4. APPEARANCES - PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Gretchen Jenson shared the following comments:

- The softball and baseball seasons were cancelled for the district this year, due to a lack of facilities, equipment, and coaches for teams, and due to the number of games last season that were forfeited or ended by the “mercy rule.”
- That decision was made by the district in May, but not communicated to parents until the fall.
- On September 19, 2018, the district held a meeting with Ms. Terron Sharp, Dr. Kelvin Adams, principals, building athletic directors, parents, and students.
- After the meeting, the district petitioned MSSHA to reinstate the seasons, and received approval for baseball but not for softball given the timing.

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- Stakeholders should have been involved.
- Baseball and softball should be expanded to the middle school level.

Mr. Bill Monroe shared the following comments:

- How will St. Louis Public Schools address new students returning to the district due to the ending of the desegregation program?
- Mr. Bill Monroe is asking for support for Harriet Tubman High School and Career Center, proposed to be located in Beaumont High School.
- The school will impact crime negatively 30% in the surrounding community, through education, jobs, skill building, and support of homeless individuals.
- Mr. Bill Monroe requests to be on the agenda for the November Board meeting.

Mr. Adam Layne shared the following comments:

- There are seven candidates running for two open positions on the school board.
- Mr. Adam Layne is a former math teacher, who understands the potential of students in Saint Louis and who witnessed the lack of resources and supports given to teachers.

### **5. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2018 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

On a motion by Secretary Natalie Vowell and seconded by Ms. Susan Jones, the Board voted to approve and adopt the October 9, 2018 Meeting Agenda on the following roll call vote:

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

### **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSIONS**

On a motion by Ms. Katherine Wessling and seconded by Secretary Natalie Vowell, the Board voted to accept the October 10, 2017 meeting minutes on the following roll call vote:

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

### **7A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT DR. ADAMS' SEPTEMBER 11TH TRANSFORMATION PLAN PRESENTATION**

A discussion took place on the Transformation Plan Presentation given by Superintendent Dr. Adams' on September 11, 2018:

- Ms. Katherine Wessling commented on her support of year-round schools.
- Vice President Charli Cooksey and Ms. Susan Jones commented that this discussion could be integrated into transition training sessions or into future work sessions.
- Ms. Susan Jones asked how year-round school has worked in other urban cities.
- Mr. Bill Haas commented that the first step would be to ask Dr. Adams for his input into the issue, including associated costs and possible sources for those funds.
- Ms. Donna Jones commented on the financial burden for parents with added months to the school calendar, on the value of summer vacation, and on the importance for older

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children of summer jobs. Ms. Donna Jones also commented that parents should be surveyed. Ms. Donna Jones also commented on the possibility of students earning a summer stipend for year-round schooling.

- Vice President Charli Cooksey commented on whether Transformation Plan 3.0 is ready yet and written out in greater detail. How have the strategies in the Transformation Plan 3.0 been informed by evidence and research, and how have they demonstrated success in other regions or in this district in the past?

### **7b1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: TRANSITION/ TRAINING: UPDATE: NSBA/MSBA BOARD GOVERNANCE TRAINING SESSION: OCTOBER 13TH/ OCTOBER 14TH**

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- The next MSBA/ NSBA training will take place on October 13 and 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with breakfast provided prior to 8:30 a.m.
- Topics include: operations, policy and governance, with a mock board meeting with Dr. Kelvin Adams.
- Ms. Susan Jones commented that she would not be in attendance.
- Board members received the Board Book from the May, 2018 Special Administrative Board meeting.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented that the purpose is to get a feel for reviewing documents, asking questions, and implementing some of the information learned in training sessions and parliamentary procedure.

### **7b2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: TRANSITION/ TRAINING: SCHEDULING OF OCTOBER WORK SESSION**

President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

- The next Elected Board Work Session is scheduled for October 23, 2018. Wednesday, October 24, 2018 is the League of Women Voters Candidate forum, and Friday, October 26, 2018 and Saturday, October 17, 2018 is the next MSBA/ NSBA training.
- The only pressing item for that Work Session is the onboarding plan for new Board members. Onboarding is a separate committee, open to all board members, with Ms. Katherine Wessling, Secretary Natalie Vowell, and Vice President Charli Cooksey as members. The committee will provide an update to the Board soon.
- The October 23, 2018 Work Session is cancelled.

Mr. Bill Haas commented on the following:

- Deadline for adding agenda items has always been prior to the posting of the agenda.
- The Work Flow document was never voted on and is not a board policy, and therefore should be called a “suggested deadline” instead of a “deadline.”

### **8a. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

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

Secretary Natalie Vowell presented the following Board Member Report:

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- Secretary Natalie Vowell recently attended the Missouri School Board Association annual conference.
- The conference was beneficial, and a good networking opportunity.

Ms. Katherine Wessling presented the following Board Member Report:

- A program at Yeatman Middle School is assisting with trauma and response to traumatic events.

Mr. Bill Haas presented the following Board Member Report:

- Mr. Bill Haas read the Resolution to Censure Certain Wards/ Organizations.
- The board should discuss chromebooks for all classes in the district in the future.

### **8b. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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

- The League of Women Voters will be cosponsoring a Candidate Forum with the St. Louis Public Schools Foundation on October 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Metro High School.
- There are free MSBA resources under the Board President's page on parliamentary procedure. Parliamentary procedure will be discussed at the MSBA/ NSBA training.
- Board members should email the board president in the case of an absence. If the board member would like the absence to be considered excused, that member should provide a reason.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins met with a representative from the group that made a donation for the Consortium Partnership Network. The donation remains anonymous at this time due its legal nature. Any board member who would like to talk with that representative is invited to do so, and President Dorothy Rohde Collins aims to have the group present in November or December.

### **9. INFORMATION REQUESTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No information requests or additional announcements were made.

### **10. MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Upon a motion by Secretary Natalie Vowell and seconded by Ms. Donna Jones, the Board voted to go into closed session pursuant to RSMO §610.021, Sections (3)(Personnel) and (13)(Personnel Records) at 7:25 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

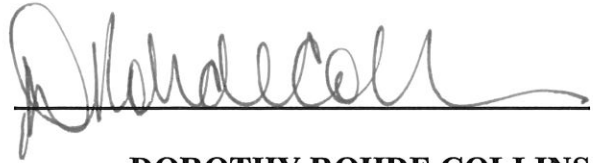
AYE: Charli Cooksey, Bill Haas, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell, Katherine Wessling

The motion carried.

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ATTESTED BY:



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Dorothy Rohde Collins', is written over a horizontal line.

**DOROTHY ROHDE COLLINS**