

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS -Administration Building - 801 N. 11th Street - 6:30 pm  
(Tuesday, June 11, 2024)**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**Attendance:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Donna Jones, Natalie Vowell (virtual), Matthew "Matt" Davis, and Antionette "Toni" Cousins.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITIONS**

**Sneaker Ball Thank You Message:**

Saint Louis Public Schools and the Board of Education would like to thank everyone who participated in the Sneaker Ball, a celebration of student success in reading and writing. More than two thousand students and families joined us for an afternoon full of fun, face painting, dancing, and literacy! We want to thank our partners at the O'Fallon Park YMCA for allowing us to use their beautiful facility. A special thank you to the barbers, glam station artists, cooks, face painters, and volunteers. We can't wait to host this event again next year.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Matt Davis moved to approve the November 14, 2023, board meeting minutes, seconded by Tracy Hykes.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Matt Davis moved to approve the December 12, 2023, January 9, 2024, February 13, 2024, and April 9, 2024 board meeting minutes, seconded by Tracy Hykes.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

**JUNE CONSENT AGENDA**

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda items (06-11-24-01) through (06-11-24-14), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda item (06-11-24-15), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda items (06-11-24-16) through (06-11-24-41), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda item (06-11-24-42), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda item (06-11-24-43), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda item (06-11-24-44), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins  
**Nay:** None

The motion passed.

Toni Cousins moved to approve consent agenda item (06-11-24-45), seconded by Matt Davis.

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis  
**Nay:** None  
**Abstain:** Toni Cousins

The motion passed.

(06-11-24-01) To approve a contract renewal with Thinking Collaborative subcontractor - Michele Tissiery (Communities in Collaborative Conversation) Michele Tissiery to provide eight sessions of training on Cognitive Coaching to a selected group of district leadership for the period September 17, 2024 - February 26, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.00, This contract supports Pillar 3: Culturally Responsive Learning Environments, Goal 1: Provides PD to leaders to foster culturally responsive learning.

(06-11-24-02) To approve the purchase of Esports Team Packages from Generation ESPORTS for Central VPA, Clyde C. Miller, CSMB, Gateway STEM, McKinley, Roosevelt, Soldan, Sumner, and Vashon High Schools and Carnahan, Carr Lane, Gateway, Long, McKinley and Yeatman Middle Schools at a cost not to exceed \$44,625.00 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. This service supports Pillar 4: Read to Succeed, Goal 4D: College and Career Readiness.

(06-11-24-03) To approve the purchase of instructional resources from Hand2Mind (Science Manipulative Kits) and Discovery Education: Mystery Science at the cost of \$115,000 for the period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. St. Louis Public Schools has used National Geographic as a core science program. The program and the resources have expired and are no longer in print. The purchase of Discovery Education: Mystery Science and Hand2Mind Science Manipulative Kits will serve as a stopgap measure to address the expiration of National Geographic science resources.

(06-11-24-04) To approve the purchase of music and music supplies from Nottelmann Music, Midwest Sheet Music, St. Louis Strings, Low Key Music, and Ernie Williamson Music for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a total combined cost not to exceed \$25,000 pending the availability of funds. Vendors provide small amounts of music and music supplies on an as-needed basis per school. This service supports Pillar 2: Fairness Equity Across System, Goal 2A: Equitable Resource Distribution.

(06-11-24-05) To approve the purchase of musical repair services from Nottelmann Music, St. Louis Strings, Low Key Music, and Ernie Williamson Music for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a total combined cost not to exceed \$25,000 pending the availability of funds. The vendors provide small amounts of musical instrument repairs on an as-needed basis per school. This service supports Pillar 2: Fairness Equity Across System, Goal 2A: Equitable Resource Distribution.

(06-11-24-06) To approve the purchase of materials for General Classroom Supplies and Technology supplies (i.e., document cameras) for all art classrooms for the period of July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, at a total cost to not exceed \$83,000. Consumable visual art supplies for all art classrooms will support accessibility to high-quality instruction in line with Missouri Fine Art Learning Standards. To purchase resources for facilitating community displays, contests, and opportunities for public recognition of our scholars.

(06-11-24-07) To approve the funding of annual salaries for the 20 SLPS employees working as Springboard to Learning Teaching Artists from 2024 to 2025 FY for \$125,000.

(06-11-24-08) To approve a purchase of SIOP training from Savvas Learning Company LLC to provide training to 160 district teachers working with English language learners for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, for \$47,400. Teachers working with ELLs need specialized training to simultaneously address students' language development and content needs. SIOP is a research-based model that supports teachers in addressing students' language development and content needs at the same time. SIOP Training for teachers through Savvas will support district teachers in addressing ELL students' language development and content needs.

(06-11-24-09) To approve the renewal of the single source purchase of services from Follett School Solutions to provide library collections (fiction and non-fiction print books) processing and cataloging for 60 District schools and four alternative sites for each student attending SLPS for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost not to exceed \$260,500 pending funding availability. Follett is a member of the TIPS COOP. This purchase will support Pillar 4: Read to Succeed and Transformation Goal 4B: Student Reading Support.

(06-11-24-10) To approve a single source membership renewal with MOREnet to use the database system for 64 school libraries for the 2024-2025 school year, with a one-year renewable option, at a cost not to exceed \$16,733, pending funding availability. Each student attending a school has access to the database. Membership in MOREnet allows District access to various online resources, including academic databases, newspapers, magazines, journals, career/college information, and ACT and other test preparation sites. This membership supports Pillar 4, Students Learn to Read and Succeed, Goal 4B, Student Reading Support.

(06-11-24-11) To approve funding the MOCAP/Virtual Learning platform, Schools PLP for K-12 grade students at a cost not to exceed \$250,00.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. The virtual learning platform Schools PLP will provide virtual learning courses and instruction in alignment with the MOCAP DESE requirements for St. Louis city residents and students.

(06-11-24-12) To approve a contract renewal with AOS Staffing/Challenge Unlimited, an agency providing staffing services, to supplement the staffing needs of St. Louis Public Schools. This Agency provides vetting and recommendations for contracted custodians, non-certificated classroom-based positions, and clerical roles. The number of contractors each year is based on district needs and requests from the district to the Agency. This contract renewal would be for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This contract renewal will not exceed \$1,300,000, pending funding availability and staffing needs. This service will support Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1.3: Innovative Staffing and Recruitment Practices.

(06-11-24-13) To approve implementing and accepting the Missouri Career Ladder Salary Supplement Program funds for current SLPS teachers participating in Career Ladder activities. This is for a period between July 1, 2024, and May 6, 2025. Up to 120 teachers will receive stipends up to \$5,000 for extra work related to student achievement outlined in the St. Louis Public Schools District Career Ladder Plan. The total cost to the District shall not exceed \$138,000, with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education contributing \$207,000. This is the program's third year as approved by the Missouri legislature and approved for the state budget in Spring 2024. This initiative aligns with Pillar 3: Culturally Responsive Environments, Goal 3.2: High Quality and Effective Teachers.

(06-11-24-14) To approve a one-year contract renewal with Nimble, an applicant tracking system (ATS) to provide talent and applicant tracking services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not exceeding \$53,000.00 to the district. This request supports Pillar 1:Excellent Schools, Goal 1.3: Innovative Staffing and Recruitment Practices. Pillar 3: Culturally Responsive Environments, Goal 3.2: High Quality and Effective Teachers.

(06-11-24-15) To renew a single-source contract with the University of Missouri – St. Louis to provide teacher certification services in prioritized subject areas for approximately 37 teacher candidates to receive training and certification to teach in SLPS classrooms. The Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund donates the funds. The cost for this contract will not exceed \$387,500, and we request approval to accept the funds. This is the fifth year of the program. After certification, these teachers will serve St. Louis Public Schools for at least three years. This contract renewal would be for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This service will support Pillar 1:Excellent Schools, Goal 1.3: Innovative Staffing and Recruitment Practices. Pillar 3: Culturally Responsive Environments, Goal 3.2: High Quality and Effective Teachers.

(06-11-24-16) To renew a single-source contract with Saint Louis University to provide teacher certification services in prioritized subject areas for approximately 19 teacher candidates to receive training and certification to teach in SLPS classrooms. The Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund donates the funds, and the cost for this contract will not exceed \$300,000. We would like to request acceptance of the funds. This is the fifth year of the program. After certification, these teachers will serve St. Louis Public Schools for at least three years. This contract renewal would be for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This service will support Pillar 1:Excellent Schools, Goal 1.3: Innovative Staffing and Recruitment Practices. Pillar 3: Culturally Responsive Environments, Goal 3.2: High Quality and Effective Teachers.

(06-11-24-17) To approve a contract renewal of a single source purchase from Data Dash, Inc. to provide Laserfiche software licenses and technical support to maintain and scale features related to digital personnel record management for a period from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, a cost not to exceed \$50,000. This request supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1D: Efficient Equitable Staffing of the Transformation Plan 4.0.

(06-11-24-18) To approve a contract with BusinessSolver that covers Benefits Enrollment Services, including the Customer Service Call Center, Vendor Eligibility File Submissions, COBRA Services, and Flexible Spending. The cost of this contract will not exceed \$330,000. This is the final year of a three-year contract renewal. This will cover July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025.

(06-11-24-19) To approve a contract renewal with T-Mobile (formerly Sprint) for unlimited data on our iPads and hotspots, pending funding availability, not to exceed \$1,900,000. This is for the period from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, pending funding availability. As a District initiative, this resolution impacts all schools—all students. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-20) To approve a contract renewal with Softchoice, the direct partner, and provide the sale of the entire Microsoft Product Suite and anti-virus protection to each of our computers in the diDistrictor the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$490,000, pending funding availability. Additionally, it includes upgrades to other new apps delivered for the virtual teaching delivery method. This corporation is the preferred vendor for this type of service in districts across the state. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-21) To renew a contract with US Bank (Softchoice's Finance Company) to lease the Sophos Anti-Virus software from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not exceeding \$95,000. This provides anti-virus software protection for all end-user devices in the district. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-22) To approve a sole source contract renewal with Koa Hills to provide support services for the Business+ System for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$55,000. This contract will provide workflow and other software updates/modifications to the current financial application system. PowerSchool contracted Koa Hills upon implementation of their software. They assisted with the workflow and other modules during that time. Koa Hills was an integral part of the implementation. A standalone contract is now needed for continuity of services. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-23) To approve contract renewals with multiple vendors (Haddock/Promethean and TSI/SMART) to provide interactive boards and peripherals, including training & installation for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a total combined cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.00, pending funding availability. Schools also use the same vendors for their school purchases. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-24) To approve a contract renewal with Kronos for maintenance services and licensing for the updated timekeeping system for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$205,000, pending funding availability. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-25) To approve a contract renewal with Charter Business Solutions to provide Telephone Line Services to connect to the Smart Trunks System for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, pending funding availability. This provides the outside lines for the phone system. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability. As a District initiative, this impacts all school leaders and administrators across the dDistrict

(06-11-24-26) To approve a contract renewal with Charter Business Solutions for local phone line service for elevators with emergency communication Systems for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, pending funding availability. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-27) To approve a contract with BTU to provide E-Rate consultant work for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$83,106.00 annually. This contract has a renewal option for two additional years. The service includes expertise in filing E-Rate required documents and compliance paperwork and supporting the RFP processes and procedures aligned to the District's E-Rate projects. This service supports Pillar: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability, and supports and provides to all schools.

(06-11-24-28) To approve a contract renewal with Belcan Info Services for technical personnel for the period July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$200,000, pending funding availability. Personnel are to be used in the Technology Department to support intranet, email accounts, and server administration through our specific District propriety applications. Their expertise is critical to the software applications we provide. As a District initiative, this resolution impacts all schools—all students. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-29) To approve a contract renewal with Huber & Associates from state contracts NCPA 01-97 and NASPO – IBM MNWNC-116 to maintain the virtualized environment for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$100,000, pending funding availability. These services maintain the District's complete server environment for all database work. This also includes the cost of the VEEAM digital backup system. This vendor is the preferred vendor through IBM for the blade system in both our District and disaster recovery locations. As a District initiative, this resolution impacts all schools—all students. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-30) To approve a new contract with Focus School Software, Inc. (SIS K-12) for implementing the Student Information System (SIS) to be provided from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$165,000, pending funding availability. This equates to \$7.00 per student for the comprehensive package throughout the initial year, with a 3% increase upon renewal. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability.

(06-11-24-31) To approve the renewal of an Agency Agreement with Saint Louis University for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, to assign at least two (2), but no more than three (3) Post-Doctorate Fellows to provide no less than sixty (60) hours per week in support of the District's Office of Accountability with primary responsibilities to include systemic program, title, and district academic program evaluations. This is pending funding availability. The District shall compensate the Agency for the work outlined in the Scope of Services in the amount of \$140,000.00, pending funding availability. This agreement supports our Pillar 1: Excellent Schools.

(06-11-24-32) To amend the previously approved board resolution to approve a contract renewal with AT&T for local phone line telephone service for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$550,000.00, pending funding availability. This service is primarily for elevators and closed school locations. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability. As a District initiative, this impacts all school leaders and administrators across the District. The original cost of the resolution was \$150,000.00. This is to cover our bills since February and cost overruns due to the type of infrastructure and agreements.

(06-11-24-33) To amend the previously approved board resolution to approve a contract with AT&T to provide a Fiber Wide Area Network (WAN) infrastructure ASE to support high-speed data access for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$805,940.00 (SLPS match after E-Rate approval for the 2020 funding period). This process was distributed through the E-Rate Federal Program – 470 form. This is the 1st year of an optional 2-year renewal. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability. As a District initiative, this impacts all school leaders and administrators across the District. The previous cost of the resolution was \$665,940.00. In January 2024, AT&T completed its investigation of a closed account several years ago and billed the District \$130,514.98.

(06-11-24-34) To amend the previously approved board resolution to approve a contract with Ricoh USA, Inc. to provide multi-functional devices (lease) and support, print shop management, and mail services, along with the printer management and document management application services for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$1,700,000, pending funding availability. This contract is based on the master agreement #140602 state contract through NASPO – copiers and managed print services. This is the first year of a five-year agreement. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1C: Financial Sustainability. The previous cost of this resolution was \$1,300,000.00. This is to cover the additional cost of Ricoh's printing jobs.

(06-11-24-35) To renew contracts as the "Preferred Vendor" status with Office Essentials (primary) and Office Depot (secondary) for District-Wide School and Office supplies for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a total combined cost not to exceed \$1,500,000.00, pending funding availability. The contracts include two one-year renewal options. This service supports Pillar 1: Excellent Schools, Goal 1A: Student Attendance.

(06-11-24-36) To approve the FY2024-2025 SLPS General Operating Budget and accept allocations for the Non-General Operating Budgets.

(06-11-24-37) To approve a contract renewal with US Bank to provide the District's banking services for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Fees up to \$50,000 may be incurred for various services. This renewal is the final year of the four renewal options.

(06-11-24-38) To approve a contract extension with RubinBrown LLP to audit governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, which collectively comprises the financial statements of the St. Louis Public Schools. The performance period will be from July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, at a cost not exceeding \$220,000.

(06-11-24-39) To approve contracted services with Robert Half through the Choice Partners purchasing cooperative for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, not to exceed \$2,000,000.

(06-11-24-40) To approve the FY2024-2025 District tuition rate of \$24,880 per pupil.

(06-11-24-41) To approve a contract with TALX to provide Electronic Pay advice and W-2s for employees for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$62,000.00.

(06-11-24-42) To amend the previously approved calendar for school year 24-25 to reflect 168 student days.

NEW (06-11-24-43) To approve a contract with Hankins Construction to provide all supplies, tools, equipment, materials, and labor to support the window replacements at Central VPA/CSMB for the period June 12, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$1,810,000.00. With an additional 10% contingency of 181,000.00, the total cost will be \$1,991,000.00, funded by Proposition S. The contract supports Pillar 1: A System of Excellent Schools, Goal 1B: Safe & Secure Schools.

NEW (06-11-24-44) To approve a contract renewal with Steven R. Carroll and Associates to provide legislative representation for the District for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$108,000.00, pending funding availability. This service supports Pillar 1: System of Excellent Schools of Transformation Plan 4.0.

NEW (06-11-24-45) To approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Camp Sun Splash to provide the Summer Food Services Program to the students participating in the summer enrichment program for the period June 12, 2024, through August 19, 2024. This Agency supports Pillar 5. Community Partnerships and Resources, Goal 5B: Cultivate Strategic Partnerships.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Chief Thierno Barro presented the SIS Implementation update.
- Dr. Lucretia Brown presented the Classroom Libraries update.
- Dr. Randle presented the Instructional Vision update.
- Dr. Scarlett presented the Future of SLPS: System Rebuild.

#### **REPORTS OF THE BOARD**

- Toni Cousins-Gave a report on the Sneaker Ball. Met with the MHB representatives regarding the BB7 resolution. Vashon students won the Stockmarket award from Junior Achievement. District students received 60 million dollars in scholarships.
- Matt Davis-Next Legislative meeting June 25, 2024 to establish legislative priorities for next year. Gloria Nolan will lead the Board Candidacy Education efforts for new Board candidates.
- Emily Hubbard-Sneaker Ball report.
- Donna Jones-Gave a report on graduations. Ms. Jones attended 11 of the 12 SLPS graduations.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- William "Bill" Monroe
- Greg Michaud

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

**Motion by Matt Davis, seconded by Natalie Vowell.**

**Aye:** Tracy Hykes, Sadie Weiss, Emily Hubbard, Natalie Vowell, Donna Jones, Matt Davis, Toni Cousins

**Nay:** None

**The motion passed.**

**Attested By:**



**Donna Jones  
Board Secretary**