

REGULAR MEETING

Board of Education  
Ind. School District 739

September 18, 2019  
Kimball, MN

Chair Schreiner opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with members Davis, Helgeson, and Zipoy present. Becker and Waldorf were absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Motion by Zipoy, seconded by Helgeson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

Chris Hall, BerganKDV Auditor, presented the annual audit. Resident students increased by about 30 and students served increased by about 15 compared to 2017-2018. When comparing the budget to actual, revenues were budgeted conservatively while expenditures were over-budgeted, resulting in a final variance of revenues over expenditures of \$533,308. The Food Service Fund and the Community Service Fund both increased their fund balances over prior year as well. The District ended the year with a 12.42% positive fund balance, the highest since 1999-2000 when they held a 20.25% fund balance. Mr. Hall thanked the district staff for being well prepared for the audit, allowing it to go smoothly and efficiently.

Celest Stang, Community Education Director, addressed the board with several concerns. Community Education employs several students both in programming and in Cubs Club. When these students prove to be reliable, responsible, and return for several years, she would like to be able to increase their wages from minimum wage, which is the practice of the District currently. Motion by Helgeson, seconded by Davis to authorize a 25 cent wage increase for any District student employee when they prove they are reliable, responsible, and return for a second or third year of employment. Motion carried 4-0.

Regarding the finances of the Cubs Club program, there are several concerns. Currently there are 110 students enrolled in the before and after school program. On average there are 30-50 students present before school and 40-60 after school. However, on non-school days, if all 110 students attended they would be in violation of room capacity in the Community Education Center. There is a real need for space and updates to the CE Center. Also, due to the number of participants, additional staff are needed to keep the ratios where they need to be. A couple options for fee increases as well as a proposal for pre-payment requirements was presented.

Celebrations and Successes of Students and Staff included a thank you to Joan, Tracy and Kathy for their work in preparing for and working through the successful audit.

Motion by Helgeson, seconded by Zipoy, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 4-0. The consent agenda included:

- Approve minutes from the August 14, 2019 meeting
- Approval of Bills
- Treasurer’s Report
- Approve reinvestment of \$100,000 CD at Bank Ozk, Little Rock, AR, for 90 days, maturing 12/12/19, at 1.96%
- Resolution Accepting Donations from:

| Donor                       | Amount     | Designated Purpose (if any) |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Wrestling Booster Club      | \$2,100.00 | Football Program            |
| Wells Fargo/Parent Donation | \$140.00   | Kimball Elementary          |
| Class of '95                | \$250.00   | Scholarship Program         |

Mr. Timmerman reported that Homecoming week is going great; students are having a good time with all of the dress-up days and activities. Andrea Welter is doing a great job with the changes to the Title I program. They are focusing more on the primary grade students to make sure all are reading by third grade. The Cubs Pride Positive Behaviors, Intervention and Expectations (PBIS) is implemented at the elementary and going well. This is a focus on the positives rather than the negatives. The Preschool parent advisory committee met earlier this week. PIE held a meeting last week with plans made for how they can support programs at the elementary. School pictures will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Grandparents Day is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup> and Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Bonnifield shared pictures of happenings at the high school. Updates were made in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade/junior high commons adding a countertop and stools for students to do work or projects, also Adirondack chairs have been added for seating. All of the old tube TV's have been removed from classrooms and around the building and replaced with a couple flat-screens for announcements. New this year students are being asked to leave their cell phones at the door when going to class. This is resulting in more face-to-face communication between classes and at lunch rather than always on their phones catching up. Mr. Boser has started doing a before-school trivia for his first hour students. They have to answer a trivia question to get into his class; students line up early to get in on the fun. Two photos, taken at about 8:15 am, shows just one person in each hallway shot. Our students are coming to school and going to their classrooms early; class starts at 8:20. This year we are offering a 7<sup>th</sup> grade STEM class in which the students are building a shelf. It's the end of the fourth week of school and students are ready to start putting the teak oil on their shelves. Five students have committed to apprenticeship programs with Coldspring, Kids of the Kingdom Daycare, Malco, and AM Maus & Son. A "signing day" was held on September 10<sup>th</sup> where the students signed their contracts with the employer. Lastly, the fire alarm went off unexpectedly during the lunch period on Monday, the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was a sensor above the stove hood in the kitchen that set off the alarm. Because this was not a drill the fire department had to come and verify that everything was alright. All students were allowed time to eat lunch, and classes were adjusted accordingly.

Mr. Widvey reported that enrollment has increased by about 60 students since May of 2018. He has been in contact with Sheriff Soyka to try to get a part time School Resource Officer in the District. The elementary roof is complete with only the flashing around the edges and above the replaced windows remaining. Work is being done on the north gym and girls' locker room at the high school presently. The District is putting together plans to construct an additional garage for school vehicles so they don't remain outside in the elements. The estimate is between \$40 and \$50 thousand. Roger and Kay Worner will be in the District on September 25<sup>th</sup> conducting interviews in relation to the District's Strategic Plan. The North Star Report has been published. Mr. Widvey will be meeting with the negotiations committee members to discuss pay rates for substitute para's and teachers. September 24<sup>th</sup> is the Special Board meeting to interview construction management companies. The Leadership Team met with ATS&R architects to discuss potential bond issue and necessary timeline.

Chair Schreiner provided board members with a copy of the Superintendent Evaluation documents.

Member Zipoy had questions regarding boarding arrangements for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade overnight field trip. Ms. Niemi explained that what they have found to work best was to have one parent and their child in a room along with two other students. It isn't safe to leave four 5<sup>th</sup> graders in a hotel room unsupervised overnight. Mr. Widvey will investigate if there is a sample policy available that addresses this concern.

Mr. Widvey reported on Benton-Stearns Education District meeting.

There was discussion on student behavior during Homecoming Week.

Motion by Davis, seconded by Helgeson to approve the annual audit report as presented. Motion Carried 4-0

Following review of the 2019-Payable-2020 Levy, motion by Helgeson, seconded by Davis to approve certifying the Maximum on the Levy. Motion Carried 4-0

Motion by Zipoy, seconded by Helgeson, to adopt Resolution Designating Erik Widvey and Joan Nystrom as the Identified Officials with Authority (IOWA) to authorize user access to State of Minnesota Education secure websites for the District. Upon roll call vote, Davis, Schreiner, Zipoy and Helgeson voted in favor; none voted against; members Becker and Waldorf were absent.

Motion by Davis, seconded by Helgeson to adopt Resolution Supporting Form A Application to Minnesota State High School League. Upon roll call vote, Davis, Schreiner, Zipoy and Helgeson voted in favor; none voted against; members Becker and Waldorf were absent.

Motion by Helgeson, seconded by Zipoy to authorize Superintendent Widvey to move forward with the process leading to facility updates at the Elementary and High School and the Community Education Center. Motion Carried 4-0

The first reading for updated Policy 516 – Student Medications, updated Policy 806 – Emergency Plans-Crisis Management, and new Policy 722 – Public Data Requests was held. These policies will come to the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the second reading and final approval.

The Special Meeting to meet with Construction Management companies is scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The next Regular School Board meeting is at 6:00 pm on October 9th. The next Benton-Stearns Education District meeting is October 16th. The World’s Best Workforce Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Helgeson, seconded by Davis to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

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Barb Waldorf, Clerk