

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #242**

**December 10, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Merkouris at 7:00 pm. Directors present were: Knutson, Korman, Linn, Marschalk, Merkouris, Olson and Steele.

Directors absent: none.

Others present were: Supt Brian Shanks, Janet Bremseth, Paul Ragatz, Latisha Thomas, Patty Yaw, Brett Sindelir, Matt Erkkila, Chad Schmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Graves.

2019-06-048 Korman moved and Steele seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of 12b – wrestling pairing update. Approved.

Mr. & Mrs. Graves addressed the board regarding the increased value of their property resulting in a 41% proposed increase in their taxes. They were informed that the school district does not set property valuation and they were advised to contact the county assessor regarding their concerns.

Chairman Merkouris thanked Kim Knutson for her 12 years of school board service and Wayne Olson for his 8 years of school board service. He stated “you will be missed.”

2019-06-049 Linn moved and Olson seconded a motion to approve the financial reports and board minutes in the consent agenda as presented. Approved.

2019-06-050 Marschalk moved and Korman seconded a motion to set the final 2019 levy at \$1,184,926.31 as shown on the Levy Limitation report. Approved.

2019-06-051 Steele moved and Linn seconded a motion to approve a long-term substitute contract with Vikki Pence to cover for Jenny Jensen. Approved.

2019-06-052 Steele moved and Olson seconded a resolution to approve the combined polling place for all school district elections at the old city hall building in Alden, MN for the 2018 year. Roll call vote: Yes: Marschalk, Linn, Olson, Merkouris, Steele, Korman, Knutson, No: none. Approved.

2019-07-053 Korman moved and Marschalk seconded a motion to approve the following extra-curricular contracts:

Joseph Brooks	Asst Football Coach
Joseph Brooks	JrHi Girls Basketball Coach
William Hintz	JrHi Boys Basketball Coach

Approved.

2019-06-054 Steele moved and Linn seconded a motion to change the Fund balance policy from 2 months of operating expenses to 4 months of operating expenses. Approved.

Mr. Shanks shared the proposed Pairing Agreement with Glenville-Emmons regarding shared sports. This proposed policy will be reviewed at the next Glenville-Emmons school board meeting as well. This is the first reading of the required three readings for a new policy and will govern current pairings as well as any future pairings.

Mr. Shanks and Mr. Ragatz gave a report on the communication problems we are having with Albert Lea Schools regarding the wrestling pairing arrangement. Albert Lea is not notifying us of practices, meets, bus times, etc. Also, transportation is an issue as we are transporting only high school athletes as that is all that is covered under the pairing agreement. Albert Lea would like us to transport students as young as 6<sup>th</sup> grade for their club programs as well. Mr. Shanks will be sending a letter to the Albert Lea administration and Athletic Director asking that the situation improve or we will look elsewhere for a wrestling pairing agreement in future years.

Mr. Ragatz's report included information on the K-5 Holiday Concert, the 6-12 Band & Choir Concert, the beginning of speech for the 2018-19 school year, the upcoming NHS "Red Out" fundraiser on Jan. 18, 2019 and a new app the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is using to increase interest in writing. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms are sharing their new skills with the first grades as well. Friday, Dec 21 there will be an assembly to recognize the Fall Trap Team and teachers who have volunteered will take a pie in the face depending on how much money is raised for the Spirit of Christmas in the 6-12 grades.

Mr. Shanks reported on the Freeborn County Emergency Management Team meeting he attended last week. It involved planning for what to do in the event of a train derailment in Alden. We will be updating our emergency preparedness plan due to this training. The Meet & Confer committee met last week and the EA mentioned things that are going well. Communication is now good. There are two more meetings this year. He has had 71 surveys returned regarding uses of the remaining bond funds. Everyone is encouraged to get their surveys turned in and people are reminded the survey is available on the school's website or in the high school office. The public meeting is set for January 23, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. An anonymous donor is providing funds for all school employees, board members and bus drivers to eat at the holiday meal on December 14 at the school. The MSBA Conference is being held January 17-18, 2019 and Mr. Shanks will be attending. If any board members also want to attend, they should contact him to get registered. He then showed the board the plaque that will be installed next to the rock wall thanking all the donors for their contributions to this project. Finally, he thanked both Kim Knutson and Wayne Olson for their years of service as school board members.

2019-06-055 Olson moved and Knutson seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm.  
Approved.

*(Board minutes are not official until approved at the next regular board meeting.)*