

**HERMANTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Minutes: April 8, 2019**

The Board of Education of Hermantown Independent School District No. 700 met in regular session on Monday, April 8, 2019, at the Administration Board Room. Chair, Dianne Mathews, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Gary Kneisl, Karly Madill, Dianne Mathews, Tim Peterson, Aaron Salmela, Jonathan Thornton, Ex-officio Member Kerry Juntunen, Superintendent, and Lance Takkunen, Director of Business Services.

Visitors: Jenny Wiese, Jeff Olson, Mark Ostazeski, Lori Fichtner, Lynda Nikko, Kristal Berg, Deb Reynolds, John Muenich, Jerry Kaldor, and Karen Kucza, Nancy Litman, and Skip Ferris.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Kneisl to approve the amended agenda with the following additions, deletions, or corrections: Add under Consent Agenda the names for hire for the Bus Drivers: Dan Schlichting and Barb Nichols. Passed unanimously.*

**APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve Minutes of Board Meeting dated March 12, 2019.
- Approve and authorize payment of checks #4445-4446, audited vouchers #101756-101933, and voided checks #99712, #100673, #100823, #101178, and #101648.
- Approval of Personnel Items
  - Retirement of Todd Bergstedt as Life Science Teacher and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Retirement of Randy Lee as Music Teacher.
  - Retirement of Ellen Minter as Business Education Teacher and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Resignation of Harold Biskey as Bus Driver and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Retirement of Jody Kolquist as Elementary School Teacher and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Retirement of Teri Juntti as Bus Driver and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Resignation of Liza Butkiewicz-Hartley as Cheer Coach and Lateral Work Design to post position.
  - Lateral Work Design for Paraprofessional Long-Term Substitute.
  - Lateral Work Design for Speed and Strength Advisor.
  - New Position Request for 1.0 FTE Math Teacher.
  - Memorandum to Employ Allison Terne as School Readiness Child Care Aide.
  - Memorandum to Employ Josiah Tonder as Assistant Tennis Coach.
  - Memorandum to Employ Dan Schlichting as Bus Driver.
  - Memorandum to Employ Barb Nichols as Bus Driver.
  - Approve Long-Term Substitute Contract for Kristine Holt.
  - Leave of Absence of Beth Theisen.
  - Leave of Absence of Steven Bonkoski.
  - Leave of Absence of Sam Rodman.
  - Leave of Absence of Tim Wagner.

*A motion was made by Salmela and seconded by Madill to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed Unanimously.*

#### **RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATIONS**

*A motion was made by Madill and seconded by Thornton to accept donations to the General and Extra-Curricular Funds received thru April 8, 2019. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

#### **COMMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS**

- Tony Oman congratulated Elk Senior Students of the month for February and March. For February – Ethan Anderson and Natalie Arntson. For March – Sarah Bailey and Riley Hinnenkamp.
- Juntunen commends all Directors on their hard work during this time of year, and especially each of the building principals for their work on schedules.
- Salmela thanked Laura Goucher and Ken Ahlberg for the amazing trip they organized for the Band and Choir Students to New York. He also thanked Laura Goucher for the Gustavus Band opportunity last Saturday.

#### **RECOGNITION OF VISITOR BUSINESS – NONE**

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS: MSBA'S JEFF OLSON**

- Jeff Olson from MSBA provided information regarding help that is needed in strategic planning for the District. The main focus is student achievement. MSBA would help develop action plans and would help develop a monitoring plan for the strategic plan.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Juntunen received a letter from the Teacher Union and the Confidential Unit to start negotiations.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

- Director of Early Learning, Nancy Litman and Director of Headstart, Skip Ferris, presented on Early Learning. She shared current brochures and data regarding enrollment in Early Learning Classes. Mr. Ferris shared guidelines regarding Headstart enrollment and models being used in other Districts, full and half time programs and different funding options. The Goal is to have 2 blended classrooms of School Readiness and Headstart.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Enrollment Update. Stable and holding off on open enrollment requests until August.
- Negotiations Update. Teachers have a tentative meeting date set. Meeting with confidential Unit soon. We have a tentative agreement with the Food Service Director.
- Essentia Health and Wellness Center Update. Meeting regarding use agreements will be tomorrow night, some wording does need to be worked on. Will be addressing the parking use on the side connecting to our green space field.
- Snow/Cold Day Legislation. This has been passed into law and it does not pertain to us.
- Other.
  - Elementary School Parent Pick up will be changing due to 2 major construction projects. This was communicated to parents. Park and wait in the student lot, or you can park at Administration Building and pick up at the Elementary School Building.

- All schools are talking about adding new schedules and options for students and teachers. There will be different opportunities at the Middle School and Elementary School. Teachers need more time to work on plans, High School needs more staffing in math.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Thornton attended the Hermantown Legacy Fund Meeting on March 28, 2019. A \$2500 Grant will be given to Hermantown Schools to support the Respect Retreat. A contact at IRS for 501(c)(3) status has been identified and will be working with us.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- *A motion was made by Thornton and seconded by Madill to approve the request to accept Upper Lakes Foods as Food Service Prime Vendor. Passed unanimously.*
- *A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Madill to accept the bid from Johnson Wilson for construction of the New Community Learning Center. Passed unanimously.*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Resolution of Membership Enrollment in the Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative was presented for renewal. No action taken.

### **CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES**

*A motion was made by Salmela and seconded by Kneisl to close the meeting for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies at 7:22 p.m. Passed Unanimously.*

*A motion was made by Madill and seconded by Mathews to open the closed meeting for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies at 7:26 p.m. Passed Unanimously.*

*A motion was made by Thornton and seconded by Madill to close the closed meeting for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies at 8:17 p.m. Passed Unanimously.*

### **REOPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

*A motion was made by Mathews and seconded by Peterson to reopen the meeting to the public at 8:17 p.m. Passed Unanimously.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Madill and seconded by Kneisl to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Passed unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jonathan Thornton, Clerk

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Dianne Mathews, Chair