

FERTILE-BELTRAMI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Independent School District #599
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
8:00 p.m., January 14, 2025
Fertile-Beltrami School Board Conference

The Board of Education of Independent School District #599 met in regular session at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2025. The following were present: Matt Erickson, Nathan Rasch, Paul Stromstad, Ryan Opdahl, Mark Sorenson, April Grunhovd, Tia Gullickson, Bookkeeper Jessica Vanderplaats, Principal Messick, and Superintendent Clarke.

Visitors: Jenna Schrom, Karina Skaug, Angie Whitcomb, Kayla Campbell, Amy Kleinwachter

Chairman Erickson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m..

Election of Officers

Rasch nominated Erickson for chairperson, Rasch moved, Opdahl seconded, nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. UC

Opdahl nominated Rasch for vice-chairperson, Opdahl moved, Stromstad seconded, nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. UC

Stromstad nominated Opdahl for clerk, Stromstad moved, Sorenson seconded, nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. UC

Sorenson nominated Stromstad for treasurer, Sorenson moved, Rasch seconded, nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. UC

Opdahl moved, Sorenson seconded to set the board appointments and committees as follows:

Board Appointments:

Minnesota State High School League – Tia Gullickson
Legislative Liaison – Paul Stromstad, Mark Sorenson
Pine to Prairie Vocational Board – Matt Erickson
Polk County Family Services Collaborative—Ryan Opdahl

Board Committees:

Staff Development – April Grunhovd, Ryan Opdahl
Technology – Mark Sorenson, Tia Gullickson, Nathan Rasch
Community Education – Matt Erickson, Nathan Rasch
Transportation – Paul Stromstad, Ryan Opdahl & Mark Sorenson
Facilities – Nate Rasch, Tia Gullickson & Matt Erickson
Negotiations – Paul Stromstad, Nathan Rasch & Matt Erickson
Policy/Meet & Confer – Ryan Opdahl, Paul Stromstad & Nathan Rasch
Discipline – Nathan Rasch, April Grunhovd & Mark Sorenson. UC

Rasch moved, Gullickson seconded to designate the Fertile Journal as the official school newspaper, Bremer Bank (main account), Red River State Bank (revolving account) and the PMA Financial Network, Inc. are designated as the official depositories. UC

Sorenson moved, Opdahl seconded to delegate the authority to make electronic transfers to the Superintendent, the bookkeeper will initiate electronic transfers upon approval of the superintendent. UC

Opdahl moved, Grunhovd seconded to set the school board meetings and informational meetings for Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 p.m, March mtg at 8:01 (due to Township Elections) , Informational Meetings- the 4th Tuesday of each month. UC

Stromstad moved, Sorenson seconded to set the board per diem as \$85 per meeting, \$100 for meetings over 4 hours & board chair stipend of \$500. UC

Opdahl moved, Stromstad seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting Regular Meeting, December 10, 2024. UC

Rasch moved, Grunhovd seconded to approve the agenda as presented/amended. UC

The following made public comments: None

Cash balances for December were reviewed.

Rasch moved, Sorenson seconded to approve payment of the January bills in the amount of \$1,224,304.66 for checks 69301-69393 \$314,313.15 and wires \$909,991.51. UC

Teacher report: upcoming I Love to Read Month activities

Dean Bruggeman reported on the following: N/A

Principal Messick reported on the following: Elementary Giving Project, Knowledge Bowl meets, READ Act training, One Act Play Jan 17.

Superintendent Clarke reported on the following: construction updates, TRA employer increase, MN Paid Leave Program costs

Member Rasch introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND
POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFOR.

WHEREAS, there is an anticipated reduction in student enrollment, and,
WHEREAS, this reduction in expenditures may include discontinuance of positions and discontinuance or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made as to which teachers; contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 599, as follows:

That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions to effectuate economies in the school district and reduce expenditures and, as a result of a reduction in enrollment, make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Stromstad and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Opdahl, Sorenson, Gullickson, Grunhovd, Stromstad, Rasch, Erikcson

and the following voted against the same: none
whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Sorenson moved, Rasch seconded to authorize the continued use of the 2024 check signature plate until a new one can be obtained. UC

Stromstad moved, Opdahl seconded to approve the 2025 Seniority List. UC

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m., February 11, 2025

Chairperson Erickson adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

_____ Chairperson _____ Clerk