

BOARD NOTES:

April 11, 2017, Regular Board Meeting:

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included minutes from the March 14th Regular Board Meeting and the monthly bills and salaries.

Capital Improvement Update: Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange was happy to report that crews are finishing the plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems in the new building. The space is about 80% drywalled and paint is starting to be applied. Window frames and glass has been installed in most of the academic wing, and the delivery of the “Vue glass” (windows that dim on command) is expected by the end of this month. Dr. Stange reminded the Board that the SRS administrative team will be relocating to Middlefork on June 23rd for the remainder of the summer, to allow construction to continue unimpeded. Dr. Stange explained that only half of the \$1M contingency fund has been spent so far. Since the beginning of such a large construction project is typically when most contingency funds are spent, and considering we are in the end stages now, he feels strongly that that safety net is in good shape. The Board also discussed the three proposals received relative to the installation of the solar panels for the new building. An opportunity has arisen for the District to take advantage of a Com Ed rebate and SREC (Solar Renewable Energy Certificates) sales deal that would discount the overall price of the panel project. The Board explored this opportunity, instructing Dr. Stange and Chief School Business Official Mr. Tom Beerheide to look into developing a contract with one of the companies that could be presented at the next meeting.

Old Business: The Board approved the Community Center Intergovernmental Agreement as amended, which outlines the processes and protocols surrounding the use of the large gym that both the Community Center and Middlefork School share.

Audience Comments: Dr. Kurt Schneider, the new NSSD Superintendent, introduced himself to the Board, offering his help in support of our district in any way, after which Board member Mrs. Debbie Papas thanked him for such a great partnership. Mr. Bill Hayes addressed the Board on the topic of selling SRECs, pointing out the potential conflicts of that opportunity.

Board Open Discussion: Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson reported that Board member Mrs. Jill Mirkovic would be returning to Northfield this week and is looking forward to getting back to her board duties.

Finance and Facilities: Board member Mr. Scott Subeck reported that after reviewing the financial impact of adding one FTE in support of the SRS Computer Science curriculum and financing the solar panel project ourselves to the fund balance over the long term, it was concluded that projected levels are manageable. The next meeting is April 25, 2017, at 6pm.

Education Committee: The next meeting is May 9, 2017, at 6pm.

IASB: Mrs. Peterson reported that all Board members, and community members, are encouraged to contact their legislators to urge them to pass a state budget and discourage them from introducing unfunded school mandates that pose a great burden on school districts around the state.

PTO: Mrs. Peterson reported that the PTO has approved their yearly slate and budget, and thanked them for all the good work they do in support of the school district every day. The PTO also approved two new board positions, a Public Relations Manager and an NSSED Representative.

NSSED: No report.

Northfield Park District: No report.

Village of Northfield: No report.

Foundation Fund: Mrs. Peterson reported that the Foundation will be holding their Annual Meeting on May 7th, at which they will be discussing future fundraising initiatives and any role they might take in the activities surrounding the closing of the old SRS or the opening of the new building. To date the Foundation has raised \$805,000 towards the project. Dr. Stange added that he will be sharing an updated enhancement list with the Board soon.

Administrative Report: Dr. Stange reported that enrollment holds steady at both schools, and they are watching 2017/18 Kindergarten enrollment carefully in order to plan for staffing needs. He also explained the longterm enrollment projections, which are studied every three years and extend into 2027. Dr. Stange let the Board know that staffing needs are being addressed as the District advertises and interviews for next year's open positions. Following that, Dr. Stange and Mr. Beerheide described the change from personal printers located in SRS classrooms to multifunction copier stations to be used in the new building. This set up will not only significantly save on printer supply costs, but also cut down on the amount of physical copies being made, which in turn is more in line with the District's desire to be increasingly "green" in its practices. Upon ending this discussion, the Board approved a Multifunction Copier Lease Contract with Impact, and Dr. Stange thanked the staff for their willingness to explore a new printing protocol. Dr. Stange and Mr. Beerheide then moved on to an explanation of the District's need to digitally archive the over 50 years of school records we are required to keep, creating a significant storage issue. If we switched to digital records, the District can send records easily to New Trier (as they are no longer accepting paper records) and will no longer have to pay off-site storage costs. After this explanation, the Board approved the Electronic Archiving Contract with Datamation. The Board then confirmed that it was in favor of adding an additional full time teacher to support the SRS Computer Science curriculum by approving that position for next year, in addition to approving the FY17 Audit Engagement Agreement.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session Minutes of March 14, 2017, the District Legal Services Agreements, and the employment of one additional 1.0 FTE Teacher Assistant.

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the wenbite following their approval at the April 25, 2017, Special Board meeting.