

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administration Building
360 Colborne Street

January 17, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. by the Chair, Ms. Street-Stewart.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Conlon, Mr. Brodrick, Mr. Oertwig, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Street-Stewart, Ms. Carroll, Mr. Kanavati, Interim Superintendent, Ms. Yeager, Chief of Staff and Ms. Polsfuss, Assistant Clerk

ABSENT: Ms. Kong-Thao

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

1. Order of the Consent Agenda

Ms. Street-Stewart noted changes to the Consent Agenda included pulling Item 5, page 33, Permission to Apply for a Ramsey County Workforce Solutions YouthLEAD Grant Operated Under the Workforce Investment Act and Minnesota Youth Program from consideration and replacing the placeholder page 60 with the Monthly Operating Authority, new page 60.

Mr. Oertwig requested Item 24, page 58, Name Change for Cleveland Quality Middle School, be pulled for separate consideration.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved acceptance of the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Brodrick.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

2. Order of the Main Agenda

The Chair noted the change to the Main Agenda was replacing placeholder page 27 with the actual Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of January 10, 2006.

Mr. Oertwig requested the addition of a recognition.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved approval of the Main Agenda as revised, seconded by Mr. Brodrick.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of December 6, 2005
2. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting December 14, 2005
3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Education January 3, 2006

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education meetings of December 6, 2005, December 14, 2005 and the Annual Meeting of January 3, 2006. Seconded by Ms. Carroll.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

V. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Oertwig spoke of the passing of Mr. Kenneth A. Berg a longtime public educator with St. Paul Public Schools. He was a professor, teacher, guidance counselor, principal, district administrator and Deputy Superintendent of St. Paul Public Schools, retiring in 1983. Mr. Conlon and Mr. Brodrick added their remembrances.

A moment of silence was held in recognition of his contributions to the community and St. Paul Public Schools.

VI. PROGRAM UPDATES

1. School Choice Season
Christine Wroblewski, Director of Communications and Jill Cacy, Assistant Director of Student Placement were asked by Superintendent Kanavati to update the Board on what was happening currently with School Choice relative to enrollments for the next year. Ms. Wroblewski stated they would be reviewing three main events/products: the Parent Information Fair, the "SPPS Today" publication and the School Choice website. She noted the Parent Fair was scheduled for the upcoming Saturday, January 21 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Roy Wilkins Arena in River Center. She then gave a quick overview of the "SPPS Today School Choice Edition," its distribution and content and indicated she would review the website which had been built to enhance its scope and coverage following Ms. Cacy's presentation.

Ms. Cacy described the school choice process as handled by the Student Placement Center. She indicated what the placement center was doing now is the foundation for the following year. The process is very collaborative, with the Placement Center doing a lot of the frontline parent contact along with the support of administration, schools, principals and district departments. Communications is key in keeping the process moving and organized. The Placement Center staff do "gigs," going wherever they are invited (last year there were over 90 meetings involving about 1500 parents) to talk with parents and assist them in understanding the enrollment process. Parent outreach is done multi-lingually (Spanish, English, Hmong and Somali) and the people doing the interpreting also work at the Center so are fully informed on the process. Deadlines are critical (February 28 for secondary applications and March 10 for elementary). Deadlines are kept consistent so parents know what to expect and when. Applications are collected while outreach programs are being done. All applications received on-time are treated equally. If any one school or grade level has more applications than spaces available, the Board preferences are used as a "tie breaker" to determine who will be accepted and who will be on waiting lists and in what order. Notification for secondary schools goes to the homes about the second week in March in a letter to the parents (in four languages) indicating the school the students have been accepted at and giving all necessary information. At the same time the information is provided to the schools so they can begin to do outreach with the

families. It is also given to the Technology Department so that they can input the information to have it ready for registration. Elementary notifications come later in April so it is received before the magnet school open houses. Applications at the magnet schools at elementary level are not the only kind of applications handled, there are also alternative processes which impact the neighborhood elementary schools. Magnet schools are done first for kindergarten orientation scheduling then the Center moves on to daycare transfers, elementary transfers and reassignment or extended enrollment options as well as open enrollment so everything is completed by mid-May. Every family that submits an application gets a personal contact from the Placement Center. On-going evaluation of the process is done by the Center so decisions can be made as to what worked and what didn't so changes can be implemented.

Ms. Wroblewski returned to demonstrate the on-line version of the Choice catalog which was developed through the cooperation of Urban Planet, SPPS Communications, Technology and the Student Placement Center. The website will "go live" on February 21 at the Parent Fair where demonstrations will be given to attendees. Additional evolutions will include offering it in Spanish, Hmong and Somali and exploration will be made into the feasibility of on-line application.

Discussion occurred on how the website is to be promoted (libraries, etc.); applications and why they are only in English and what is being done to bridge the digital divide. A request was made to state the location of the Placement Center: 2102 University Avenue West (intersection of Cleveland and University).

Superintendent Kanavati recognized Connie Fiel for her assistance in getting the website up.

The Board offered their compliments on the innovations and for providing more comprehensive information for students and parents allowing for a more substantive decision making process.

The Superintendent asked Chris Emerson to give a brief review of the upcoming Parent Fair. Ms. Emerson stated the effort this year was to streamline the fair and make it more user friendly. She stated the location, date and times indicating there would be 136 booths focused on school choice. She also described the shuttle services being provided.

VII. INFORMATION REQUESTS AND RESPONSES ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

MOTION: Mr. Brodrick moved referral to a future Committee of the Board (COB) meeting the subject of School Climate including data on disciplinary incidents, number of police calls and visits at the schools as well as expulsion information. Mr. Conlon seconded the motion.

A request was made that this be discussed in a work session to more fully define issues to be explored and put them in the context of the Board's mission and ends. Additionally data already collected should be reviewed (i.e., Council of Urban Boards of Education National Climate Study, etc.).

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

MOTION: Mr. Goldstein moved referral to a future Committee of the Board meeting the subject of environmental issues as they affect the District in terms of utilization of alternative energy sources and an audit of where the District is at in terms of rising energy costs, efficiencies and what might

be possible with additional capital funds to retrofit schools or deal with energy uses. Seconded by Ms. Carroll.

Again a request was made that this be discussed in a work session to more fully define issues to be explored and then refer it on to a future COB meeting.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Minutes of the Meeting of December 12, 2005

In the absence of Ms. Kong-Thao, Ms. Carroll reported on the COB meeting of December 12, 2005 which covered the subjects of: Sweatshop Free Policy, the Legislative Agenda and School Choice.

• **Sweatshop Free Policy**

Ms. Carroll provided background on the issue stating that in study of this subject over the past several months it has become apparent no one has found a way to verify whether companies from which equipment is purchased and their suppliers/affiliates are sweatshop labor free and secondly it is very costly to try to achieve this verification where it can be done. After exploring three alternatives, administration recommended establishment of a "Code of Vendor Conduct" setting out why the District is looking at a sweatshop free policy and its expectations of vendors working with the District. The expectation is that this will be included as a part of specifications in the bid process particularly for sporting equipment and clothing. Implementation of this policy will necessitate some additional staff resources at an estimated cost of \$22,000-23,000. Ms. Carroll then read the proposed motion made at the meeting:

PROPOSED MOTION: It was moved and seconded that staff follow through by moving the proposed policy through the normal policy approval process by putting it into standard policy format and bringing it forward for its first reading at the January 17, 2006 Board of Education meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved the motion on Sweatshop Free Policy be amended to have the policy brought forward at the February 21, 2006 Board meeting. Seconded by Mr. Brodrick.

Mr. Conlon stated he supported the principal behind the policy (opposition to child labor) but expressed concerned for the additional cost for the clerk and stated he would rather see general fund monies go to programming rather than this type of effort and stated he would be voting no on the issue.

The amendment was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	No
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

AMENDED MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Brodrick that staff follow through by moving the proposed policy through the normal policy approval process by putting it into standard policy format and bringing it forward for its first reading at the February 21, 2006 Board of Education meeting.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	No
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

- **Legislative Agenda**

Ms. Carroll stated Mary Gilbert, Legislative Liaison had brought the 2006 Legislative Agenda to the Board for their approval noting the \$700 million surplus that was projected in mid-December is devoted first to buying down the education shifts that occurred in the 2002 and 2003 sessions. It was also noted that despite the additions there are still deficits looming statewide and particularly in St. Paul. Even though there was an increase in per pupil funding in the 2005 budget it did not allow the District to recover from three years of frozen funding and categorical aid cuts to special ed, ELL, integration revenue and compensatory education aid. Reductions will be necessary again this year because last year's budget was balanced using one-time-only money.

A report was also made on continuing the work of the Governor's Education Funding Reform Task Force. The report indicates Minnesota is \$1 billion short in funding education for 2003-2004. The next phase of the group's work will be to look at what adequate funding levels for schools would be by demographics, size and location in order to provide education under the standards based reforms.

Recommendations (more fully described in COB minutes of 12/12/05) for the 2006 legislative session were made which included

- a. Under the End: High Achievement
 - Fully funded State and Federal mandates
 - Allowing Districts the option to levy locally if mandates are not fully funded
 - Extend Limited English Proficiency Revenue to a minimum of seven years
 - Fund school readiness programs for three and four year olds
 - Allow boards to "opt out" of new mandates if not adequately funded
 - Retain and recruit highly qualified teachers to work collaboratively in District
- b. Under the End: Meaningful Connections
 - Continue funding for both inter and intra district integration revenue
 - Increase Adult Basic Education Funding
 - Increase funding for adult disability programs
- c. Under the End: Respectful Learning Environment
 - Extend school district local bonding authority for another five years
 - Provide emergency energy assistance & other incentives
 - Continue to support teacher of color and other higher education scholarship programs

MOTION: Mr. Oertwig moved, seconded by Mr. Finney, that the Board of Education approve the Legislative Agenda.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

A clarification was made on money coming to the District from the State when there is more revenue provided by the State; what is done is a delay in payments and the District then borrows in anticipation of the revenue coming in so it shifts State payment from one fiscal year into the next. The payment schedule is moved rather than additional revenue coming in.

The Board extended its compliments and thanks to Mary Gilbert for the effort she made in tying the Legislative Agenda to the “Ends” of the District.

- **School Choice**

Ms. Carroll noted this was a report and no action was taken on the subject. Discussion was held on how to proceed with further discussion on school choice and to establish direction and reconnect with the original reasons for choice to be sure everyone was aligned before any further moves are made. Staff is to report back at the January 10 Committee of the Board meeting with further steps.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of January 10, 2006

In the absence of Ms. Kong-Thao, Mr. Conlon reported on the COB meeting of January 10, 2006 which covered the subjects of: Humboldt Senior High, School Choice and External Committee Assignments.

- **Humboldt Senior High School**

Mr. Conlon indicated the school has been struggling with the issue of declining enrollment, keeping neighborhood students in the school as well as student achievement and a number of other concerns. Superintendent Kanavati requested the school come back with a proposal on addressing the issues. John Bianci, principal at Humboldt presented (with parents, staff and students) a proposal involving a partnership among the five west side schools to bring the community together. Humboldt Junior and Senior High are planning to align their schedules and work to move junior high students into the senior high. Other items they are working on are: marketing of the schools, better communications with the public, regular meetings with community and media, marketing brochures and an educational summit. A selling point for the school is that it is a small school providing small learning environments. The committee was asked to consider two items: (1) implementation of the proposals over a 3 year timeline and (2) exemption from the dress code policy for implementation of a dress code at the school.

The proposals presented were (1) program & instruction – a college in the school, (2) environment and structural improvements in facilities and (3) standard dress/attire. The committee noted the site council has authority to move ahead on the school and academic components of the proposals, the environmental proposal will take study as it does involve capital investment. There was not consensus on the uniform issue. The following motion was made on the issue:

MOTION:

Mr. Conlon moved, seconded by Mr. Oertwig, that the Board of Education approve there are no plans to close Humboldt at this time and offered Board support for the school's future success.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

- **School Choice**

Administration came back to the committee noting a set of priorities, all important, and requested direction on which ones the Board wanted to focus on. Some of these included: the type of plan to move toward (regional, no change, neighborhood); should change be driven by academics, desegregation, meeting every parents' demands, providing school choice for all, equity, should these be prioritized or treated equally. As a result of the discussion consensus was not reached but the following motion was made:

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved, seconded by Ms. Street-Stewart, that the Board of Education approve that the School Choice Plan should be driven primarily by the academic component with the other components given due consideration.

Ms. Carroll noted since she was not able to be present during this discussion she would abstain.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Abstain
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Abstain

• **External Committee Assignments**

Mr. Conlon reported the following assignments to external committees/organizations. He noted two assignments will be held over until the next meeting: the Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) and the Council of Great City Schools. Other assignments were made as follows:

- The Children’s Collaborative – Representatives: Elona Street-Stewart and Lou Kanavati, Superintendent
- Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) – Representative: Al Oertwig (through the April 06 meeting) then Elona Street-Stewart (beginning in June 06). Alternate: Tom Conlon.
- Inter-District Joint Powers Board (EMID) – Representative: Al Oertwig
- Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee (JPTAC) – Representatives: Al Oertwig, John Brodrick and Tom Goldstein. Alternate: Kazoua Kong-Thao.
- Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee (3 County Project) – Representatives: Al Oertwig and John Brodrick.
- Metro Educational Cooperative Service Unit – Representative: Tom Conlon
- Metropolitan Learning Alliance – Representative: Tom Goldstein. Alternate: Kazoua Kong-Thao.
- Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (MMEP) – Representative: Elona Street-Stewart. Alternate: Kazoua Kong-Thao
- Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) – Representative: Tom Conlon
- Ramsey County League of Local Governments – Representative: John Brodrick. Alternate: Anne Carroll.
- State High School League – Representative: Anne Carroll
- St. Paul Teachers Retirement Assn. Board of Trustees – Representative: Al Oertwig
- West St. Paul Community Health Services – Designated by the Superintendent (no Board representative)

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Brodrick, that the Board of Education approve the noted assignments to external committees/organizations and that the assignments to the Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) and the Council of Great City Schools be addressed at the February 21, 2006 Board meeting.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved, seconded by Mr. Brodrick, that the Board of Education approve all Consent Agenda Items with the exception of Item 5, page 33, Permission to Apply for a Ramsey County Workforce Solutions YouthLEAD Grant Operated Under the Workforce Investment Act and Minnesota Youth Program which was pulled from consideration and Item 24, page 58, Name Change for Cleveland Quality Middle School which was pulled for separate consideration.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

BF 26630 Acceptance of Scholarship from The Kopp Family Foundation in Partnership with Kopp Investment Advisors

That the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Johnson Senior High School to accept this gift from the Kopp Family Foundation in partnership with Kopp Investment Advisors. This gift of \$5,000 will be deposited into the Intra-school Fund, 19-230-291-000-5096-0000.

BF 26631 Gift Acceptance from the Kevin Garnett Foundation, Excellence in Leadership

That the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Arlington Senior High School to accept this gift from the Kevin Garnett Foundation. The total of the gift of \$10,000.00 will be deposited into the intra-school fund, 19-240-291-000-5096-0000.

BF 26632 Request for Permission to Accept Grant Funds from the Deluxe Corporation Foundation for the Reading Recovery® Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept grant funds of \$19,500 from the Deluxe Corporation Foundation to provide instructional supplies to 12 teachers and a stipend for the instructor. Funds will be paid from the Deluxe Corporation Reading is for Life Grant, budget # 29-005-203-000-6xxx-3390. There will be no cost to the District.

BF 26633 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to the Medtronic Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Medtronic Foundation for programs or projects that improve the fitness and nutrition of students in the district; to accept funds, if awarded, and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

BF 26634 Request for Permission to Submit a Development Project Grant Application to the Ramsey County Soccer Partners Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Ramsey County Soccer Partners Program for artificial turf to upgrade our existing fields; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the projects as specified in the award documents.

BF 26635 Use Agreement at Bruce F. Vento Elementary School

That the Board of Education authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute a Use Agreement at Bruce F. Vento Elementary School between the Saint Paul Public Schools, the Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative and the East Side Family Center and further authorize the Superintendent or his/her designee to execute annual renewals of this agreement.

BF 26636 Request for Permission to Participate in Student Teacher and Student Nurses Agreements

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to participate in a Student Teaching or a Student Nurses Agreement with Bemidji State University, Bethel College, College of St. Catherine, Concordia College-Moorhead, Luther College, Mankato State University,

Metropolitan State University, Metropolitan State University Nursing Program, Northwestern College, St. Cloud State University, University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota, Duluth, Department of Education, University of Minnesota School of Nursing, University of North Dakota, University of St. Thomas, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, University of Wisconsin – River Falls and Winona State University.

BF 26637 Authorization for Agreement with the Cuningham Group for Professional Consulting Services for the Washington Middle School Addition and Remodel

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to execute the Proposal and Agreement for Providing Professional Services and the Abbreviated Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Architect for professional consultant services from The Cuningham Group for the Washington Middle School addition and remodeling project, in accordance with all terms and conditions of said agreement.

BF 26638 Contract for Services with On Call Clinicians

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with On Call Clinicians to provide speech language services for students required by their individual education plans for the period November 7, 2005 through June 15, 2006, at the cost not to exceed \$50,000 to be paid from Special Education's federal flow-through entitlement (P.L. 94-142). The budget number is 29-005-470-419-6305-1330.

BF 26639 Professional Consultant Services for Apex Analytics, Inc.

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to procure professional environmental/analysis consultant services from Apex Analytics, Inc. as needed, base don a schedule of rates not to exceed \$80.00 per hour for the period January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 or for additional extended periods at the same terms and conditions.

BF 26640 Authorization for Hourly Rate Increase: BWBR Architects

That the Board of Education authorize an increase in the maximum hourly rate for professional consultant services provided by BWBR Architects not to exceed a maximum rate of \$170.00 per hour.

BF 26641 Authorization for Change Order No. 2 to Contract for Accessibility Improvements at Various Schools

That the Board of Education authorize Change Order No. 2 for an add amount of \$14,446.00 to the district's contract with PMI Construction Company for construction of accessibility improvements at various schools.

BF 26642 Authorization of Change Order No. 3 to Contract for Lighting Replacement at Randolph Heights Elementary School

That the Board of Education authorize Change Order No. 3 for an add amount of \$19,274.76 to the district's contract with Egan Companies, Inc. for construction of lighting replacement work at Randolph Heights Elementary School.

BF 26643 Bid No. A9049-M Air Duct System Restoration

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9049-M for providing air duct system restoration on an as-needed basis at district buildings for an eighteen month period starting approximately January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 to the lowest conforming bidder, Envirobate Metro, Inc., for unit prices determined by a multiplier of .789. The total estimated eighteen month period cost is \$480,000.00.

BF 26644 Bid No. A9050-W Cisco Computer Hardware

That the Board of Education authorize award of Bid No. A9050-W to purchase, deliver, install and configure Cisco computer hardware to the lowest conforming bidder, En Pointe Technologies, in an amount not to exceed \$713,110.37.

BF 26645 Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625, Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul Principals' Association

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment principals in this school district for whom the Saint Paul Principals' Association is the exclusive representative: duration of said agreement is for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007; and that the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 adopt a resolution that this contract maintains the District's fiscal structural balance.

BF 26646 Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625, Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul Federation of Teachers, Exclusive Representatives for Education Assistants

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those educational assistant employees in this school district for whom the Saint Paul Federation of Teachers is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007; and that the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 adopt a resolution that this contract maintains the District's fiscal structural balance.

BF 26647 Minnesota School Board's Insurance Trust Property and Liability Plan Annual Renewal

That the Board of Education approve the contract renewal for 2/1/06 through 2/1/07 for property and liability insurance coverage with the Minnesota School Board's Insurance Trust, administered through Berkley Risk Administration Co., LLC, at the proposed premium of \$1,117,318, an increase of .9%.

BF 26648 Request for Permission to Submit a Striving Readers Grant Application to The U.S. Department of Education

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a Striving Readers Demonstration Grant to the U.S. Department of Education for a five year *MN Adolescent Reading Consortium* project to increase the reading achievement levels of middle school students in Title I-eligible schools with significant numbers of students reading below grade level; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 26649 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant Application to Education Minnesota for Wellstone Elementary

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to Education Minnesota for a Peace Pole Project; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 26650 Accept a Grant Award from the University of Minnesota for Early Childhood Family Education's Community-Engaged Parent Education for the Calendar Years 2005 and 2006

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept this grant from the University of Minnesota for Community Engaged Parent Education for the calendar years 2005 and 2006 and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 26651 Approval to Enter into an Interagency Agreement with Ramsey County, Independent School Districts No. 621, 622, 623, 624, 282 and Community Action Partnership of Ramsey County and Washington County/Head Start

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into the Ramsey County Interagency Initiative for Children with Disabilities agreement allowing the District to participate in the planning for the coordination of services and resources for children and youth with disabilities with Ramsey County, Independent School Districts #621, #622, #623, #624, #282 and the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties/Head Start.

BF 26652 Permission to Accept a Grant Award From Minnesota Department of Education – Adult Basic Education (MDE-ABE) and Distribute the Funds to Saint Paul Community Consortium Members

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the Bush Foundation Grant from the Minnesota Department of Education—Adult Basic Education and to disburse funds to Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium members to establish new ESL

Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

A request was made that the wording in the Board Agenda Items involving application for/acceptance of grants (other than government) include a statement that an acknowledgement will be made to the grantor from the Board acknowledging receipt of the grant and extending the Board's appreciation of their support of education in St. Paul.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS (7:00 p.m.)

1. Sarah Greenfield – School Bus Standards/"Driving Up Standards"
Ms. Greenfield, a community organizer with a union of public school employees (SEIU Local 284) along with Lee Xeng Yang, bus driver and Lindy Ellenbaum, a Minneapolis bus driver, spoke to the "Driving Up Standards" campaign. The program is a project of SEIU along with the Teamsters, the Transportation Union of Great Britain and parent/community groups around the country concerned about school transportation workers, students and safety. The program is based on best practices from contracts around the country in public schools and includes increased safety reporting, standardized recruitment and retention reports, improved enforcement measures to be sure districts get what is being paid for and insistence on one paid sick leave day per month for drivers and aids employed. Mr. Yang and Mr. Ellenbaum spoke to the reasons this program is important for both driver and student health and safety.
2. Vicki Davis – African American Community Concerns
Ms. Davis was accompanied by Judy Daniel, professor from Metro State and working with NAACP; Oralee Pattersen, former executive director of the Summit/University Education Consortium and 2nd VP of the NAACP and Eric Mahmoud, principal, Harvest Preparatory School. Ms. Davis spoke on behalf of the children in the community and her concerns regarding the disrespect the District and superintendent have shown to the African American community stating many in the community see black people as another face, an invisible face. She highlighted three points: (1) Minnesota's recalcitrance in responding to findings that state "you have it wrong;" as far as education of students of color (2) that Minnesota is the second most segregated place in the country and (3) spoke to the "Help A Child Read" program and its failure at Webster School to provide improvement in reading levels. Additionally, she stated her disappointment in the Superintendent Search process. She stated St. Paul doesn't need anyone to tell the District how to educate white students, that is known and done very well. The data is clear that St. Paul is leading the nation in education of white students but at the same time doing a worse job in educating children of color.

The Board requested administration get back to them with further information on some of the issues raised by Ms. Davis.

XI. OLD BUSINESS -- None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading: Policy 707.00 Transportation/Eligibility

Mr. Lalla, General Counsel, stated this was a first reading so no action is needed, the policy is simply brought before the Board as the first step in the process. He noted this is an amendment to existing policy to bring it into accord with amendments to Minnesota Statutes adopted during the last legislative session.

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

1. Human Resource Transactions

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Conlon, that the Board of Education accept the Superintendent's Report as published.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

A question was raised regarding Tri-Council layoffs. Mr. Quinn, Executive Director, Operations stated these were seasonal layoffs reducing grounds staff over the winter season.

XIV. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

1. Superintendent Search Update

Ms. Street-Stewart indicated the Board has just heard report from PROACT, the consulting firm conducting the superintendent search, a report from the citizen's advisory group and a review of the revised profile for the superintendent position.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Brodrick, that the Board of Education accept the materials provided by PROACT and the Advisory Committee and the revised profile and that the information be posted to the SPPS Superintendent Search website.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

MOTION: Mr. Conlon moved, seconded by Ms. Carroll, that the Board of Education extend its heartfelt appreciation for the Superintendent Search Advisory Committee's superb work and tireless engagement in supporting the Board in this important decision-making process.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

2. Minnesota School Board Association State Convention

Mr. Conlon gave a brief overview of the recently completed meeting of the MSBA.

3. Council of Great City Schools

Ms. Carroll noted she will give her report on the meeting of the Council last fall at the next board meeting.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS -- None

XVI. FUTURE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

The Chair reviewed the dates of the upcoming Board of Education Meetings noting the April 18 date is in conflict with the Ordway Honors Concert.

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Oertwig, that the Board of Education reschedule the April 18 Board of Education meeting to April 25, 2006.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

1. Board of Education Meetings (5:45 p.m.)

- February 21, 2006
- March 21, 2006
- April 18, 2006 – CANCELLED
- April 25, 2006
- May 16, 2006
- June 20, 2006

Ms. Street-Stewart then reviewed the dates of the upcoming Committee of the Board meetings noting April 25 will include both a COB meeting and a Board meeting.

2. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 p.m.)

- January 24, 2006
- January 31, 2006 -- CANCELLED
- February 14, 2006
- February 28, 2006
- March 13, 2006 (MONDAY)
- March 20, 2006 (MONDAY)
- March 28, 2006
- April 17, 2006 (MONDAY)
- April 25, 2006
- May 2, 2006
- May 9, 2006
- May 30, 2006
- June 13, 2006
- June 27, 2006

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Brodrick, that the Board of Education adjourn.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

Mr. Conlon	Yes
Mr. Brodrick	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	Yes
Mr. Goldstein	Yes
Ms. Street-Stewart	Yes
Ms. Carroll	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by
Marilyn Polsfuss
Assistant Clerk, Board of Education