

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

JUNE 12, 2001
5:45 p.m.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. by Becky Montgomery, Chair.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Ms. Carroll; Mr. Conlon; Mr. de la O (late arrival); Ms. Montgomery; Mr. Oertwig; Dr. Phillips; Mr. Thao (late arrival); Dr. Harvey, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Lalla, General Counsel; Mrs. Higgins, Assistant Clerk.

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

1. Order of the Consent Agenda

By Dr. Harvey:

1. Replacement Page: Superintendent's Reports - Professional Staff

By Dr. Harvey:

2. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of April 11, 2001.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Oertwig, that the Order of the Consent Agenda be approved as amended and that the rules be waived to accept the minutes of the Committee of the Board meeting of April 11, 2001.

The motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Committee of the Board
a. Meeting of June 11, 2001

Dr. Phillips, Associate Chair, Teaching and Learning, reported there were three topics on the agenda: 1) Charter Schools, 2) Student Achievement Update, and 3) Work Session. She commented that her report will cover the Charter Schools portion of the meeting, and that the full set of minutes will be reported on at the Board of Education meeting on June 26, 2001.

1. High School for the Recording Arts

Motion Recommended by Committee: That the Board of Education approve the High School for the Recording Arts Charter School's contract laid out in the administrative recommendation as a condition of a three (3) year renewal.

Ms. Carroll moved, seconded by Mr. Oertwig, that the language be corrected to read:

MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the High School for the Recording Arts Charter School's three (3) year renewal with the conditions laid out in the administrative recommendation.

The corrected motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

2. New Spirit Charter School

Recommendation by Committee: That the Board of Education approve the renewal of New Spirit's Charter School contract for a three (3) year period of time subject to: (1) Inclusion in the contract of the conditions set forth in the Superintendent's June 11, 2001 recommendation and the April 13, 2001 recommendation, (2) the evaluation and determination by the school district's Board of Education, in its full discretion, by no later than May 1, 2002 of New Spirit's compliance with the conditions set forth in the Superintendent's April 13, 2001 recommendation, and (3) termination of the contract if New Spirit is determined, as aforesaid, not to have complied with the conditions set forth in the Superintendent's April 13, 2001 recommendation.

Mr. Conlon commented that he voted No on this recommendation at the April 11th meeting of the Committee of the Board, and will be voting No tonight. He noted his concerns: charter schools should have the freedom to independently manage; intervening in parental disputes with administration of the school is micro-managing; the short period of time of the contract ties their hands in the areas of funding possibilities and building workout. He feels a three-year clean contract with the least bit of intervention would be the best option for New Spirit as well as the High School for Recording Arts.

Board members commented on the various aspects of sponsor responsibility of charter schools and the need for oversight on a regular basis versus giving charter schools their charter and not doing a review until the end of the three-year contract. Problems, such as financial instability and the lack of curriculum to standard, could be determined early and resources for correction could be provided if discovered with regular reviews. It was the consensus of the majority of Board members that this would not be considered micro-managing.

Continuation of the Motion:

The motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Mr. de la O	-	Abstain
Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Mr. Thao	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	No

Dr. Phillips commented briefly on the topic of Student Achievement Update which was the second item on the agenda for this meeting. A complete report on this topic will be given at the Board of Education meeting on June 26, 2001. Dr. Phillips noted various successes that have been made: progress in reading scores in all schools, the improvement in third and fifth grade scores, and in the area of Academic Probation Schools, having seven schools taken off that list. She attributed this success to the excellent people working in order to make these gains.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Oertwig, seconded by Ms. Carroll, that items 1 through 3 be approved.

The motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Mr. de la O	-	Yes
Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Mr. Thao	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

The Approved Consent Agenda Items Follow:

B.F. 24648 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with United Association of Steamfitters-Pipefitters, Local Union No. 455, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2001-2002.

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom United Association of Steamfitters-Pipefitters, Local Union No. 455, is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2001 through April 30, 2002.

B.F. 24649 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with United Association of Plumbers, Local Union No. 34, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2001-2002

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom United Association of Plumbers, Local Union No. 34, is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2001 through April 30, 2002.

B.F. 24650 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Sheet Metal Workers International Association, Local 10, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2001-2002.

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of

those employees in this school district for whom Sheet Metal Workers International Association, Local 10, is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2001 through April 30, 2002.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

1. Human Resources
 - a. Professional Staff
 - b. Teaching Assistants
 - c. Educational Assistants
 - d. Classified/Unclassified Service Personnel

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Dr. Phillips, that items a through d be approved.

The motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Mr. de la O	-	Yes
Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Mr. Thao	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

VII. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Oertwig, that the following dates be scheduled for Regular Board of Education meetings:

July 24, 2001	5:45 p.m.
August 28, 2001	5:45 p.m.
September 10, 2001	5:45 p.m.

The motion carried with the roll call vote as follows:

Mr. de la O	-	Yes
Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes
Mr. Thao	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Conlon, seconded by Mr. Thao, that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m. with the roll call vote as follows:

Mr. de la O	-	Yes
Ms. Montgomery	-	Yes
Mr. Oertwig	-	Yes
Dr. Phillips	-	Yes

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Mr. Thao	-	Yes
Ms. Carroll	-	Yes
Mr. Conlon	-	Yes

Prepared and submitted by
Gerrie Higgins, Assistant Clerk
Board of Education