

# *Dale's School Board Meeting Recap*

*July 20, 2020 School Board Meeting*

## **Our Mission Together**

**Empowering students with  
knowledge and skills to succeed.**

## **Our Vision**

**To be the school district of choice, inspiring  
excellence in academics, arts, and activities.**

**NOTE:** This review is authored by the Superintendent, intended as information for the District employees, to keep them informed of the important decisions made by the School Board. This review includes selected items as determined by the Superintendent, and does not include all items of business conducted by the Board. This review is not intended to replace the official minutes of the School Board. Additional information can always be obtained from the official Board minutes or by contacting Dale.

## Student Support

2020-2021 Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL): The Board approved renewing its membership to the MSHSL for the coming school year.

## Facilities

10-Year Long Term Facility Maintenance Plan (LTFM): State statute requires the School Board to approve a ten (10) year long-term facility maintenance (LTFM) program budget for its facilities to be able to levy for the Alternative Facilities pay-as-you-go, Debt Service on Alternative Facilities bonds and Health and Safety Funding for the 2021-2022 school year. The Board approved the LTFM plan as presented.

## Workforce

Reassignment – The Board approved the reassignment of Wendy Schultz for the 2020-2021 school year. Wendy is moving from Grade 3 to Physical Education at the Elementary School.

Non-Tenure and Tenure Contracts – The Board approved the following probationary/tenure teacher advancements.

- Second Year Probation – Marcus Fischer, Olivia Erickson, Erin Krenik, Brittney Nesbit, Sara Misgen, Cassidy Williams, Cynthia Gail, Liz Stiernagle
- Third Year Probation – Kelly Delacruz, Neil Fuchs, Marc Kruger, Brittney Waters
- Tenure – Missy Dunn, Kiley Lassahn, Miles Otstot, Susan Schaub

Contract Renewals – The Board approved the following contract renewal.

- Cortney Klocek -- Secondary Special Education Teacher: Non-renewal was due to license requirement.

South Central Human Relations (SCHR) Purchase of Service Agreement for Mental Health Services: The Board approved renewing the District's agreement with SCHR for Mental Health Services for the 2020-2021 school year for a total amount not to exceed \$51,900.00 For a Family Service Coordinator providing 192 days of service (8 hour days).

Contracted Services: The Board approved the following contracted services for the 2020-2021 school year.

- Ann Lange—1.0 FTE District School Nurse Long-term Substitute: Ms. Lange has agreed to provide nursing services throughout Mrs. Petsinger's leave of absence starting about October 1 through the end of the school year. Ms. Lange plans to work an average of 5.5/day at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
- Shawna Peterson-Brown—School Psychologist: Ms. Peterson-Brown has agreed to provide Psychologist services for up to 37 days for the school year or about 0.2 FTE. The agreement includes a daily rate of \$475.

## Finance

Donations -- We are fortunate to have community members, organizations, and businesses who make donations to the school district. Often the donations are designated toward specific programs or activities. The Board approved the following donations.

Finly's Wings at Work	Gratitude Campaign	\$500
Misgen Auto Parts	Clay Target Sponsor	\$150
Waseca Sleigh & Cutter Festival	Clay Target Sponsor	\$500
Virgils Auto Clinic	Clay Target Sponsor	\$200
Rick's Appliance	Clay Target Sponsor	\$25
Woodridge Interiors	Clay Target Sponsor	\$150
Eagle Concrete	Clay Target Sponsor	\$75

Midwest Repairables Inc	Clay Target Sponsor	\$100
Budach's NAPA	Clay Target Sponsor	\$100
Hartland Firefighters	Clay Target Sponsor	\$500
Geneva Lumber	Clay Target Sponsor	\$100
Trappers Lanes	Clay Target Sponsor	\$100
ARO Accounting	Clay Target Sponsor	\$150
Pederson Trucking LLC	Clay Target Sponsor	\$500
Blue Knights MN VIII	Clay Target Sponsor	\$100
Total		\$3,250.00

Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Membership Renewal: The Board renewed its MSBA membership. The Association Dues are \$4,244.00 and the Policy Services Renewal is \$700 per year for a total of \$4,959.00. This is an increase of about 1.7% over last year's amount of \$4,876.00.

Minnesota Rural Education Association (MREA) Membership Renewal: The Board renewed its MREA membership. The Base Fee is \$1,100.00 and the Legislative Fee is \$946.00 per year for a total of \$2,046.00. A 2020-2021 Discount of 10% was applied for a total of \$1841.00 which is a decrease of about 10.4% over last year's amount of \$2,055.00.

Budget Development Calendar for 2021-2022: The Board adopted the Budget Development Calendar for 2021-2022.

Bus Lease Agreement: The Board approved a bus lease agreement with Santanger leasing of two (2) 2020 IC CE 77 passenger school buses with payment of \$24,918.50 for four (4) years.

Resolution Relating to Increasing the General Education Revenue of the School District and Calling an Election: The Board approved a resolution to increase the general education revenue and calling for election by placing a question on the November 3, 2020, ballot. More specifically, the resolution included:

The Board hereby determines and declares that it is necessary and expedient for the school district to increase its general education revenue by \$560 per adjusted pupil unit. As provided by law, the ballot question must abbreviate the term "per adjusted pupil unit" as "per pupil." The additional revenue will be used to finance school operations and the property tax portion thereof will require an estimated referendum tax rate of approximately 0.1079761% of the referendum market value of the school district for taxes payable in 2021, the first year it is to be levied. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. The question on the approval of this referendum revenue authorization shall be School District Question No. 1 on the school district ballot at the special election held to approve said authorization.

### **SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION NO. 1**

#### **Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization**

The board of Independent School District No. 2168 (New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Public Schools) has proposed to increase its general education revenue by \$560 per pupil. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.



**Yes**

Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 2168 be approved?



No

**BY VOTING “YES” ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.**

The Board also examined and developed potential “talking points” to be referenced when communicating with constituents about the November 3 referendum including:

**Ballot Question and Tax Impact**

- The Board of Education (BOE) authorized placing a question on the November 3, 2020, ballot to increase its general education revenue by \$560 per pupil annually over a period of ten years.
- Tax impact on a \$125,000 home would be about \$11.25/month or about \$0.37/day.
- Increase in revenue per student is about \$47/month or about \$1.50/day

**Reasons/Needs for Increased Revenue at this Time**

- Increase in state aid over the past five years has not kept pace with the District’s operational expenses, mandated purchases, and employee wages/benefits.
- After making more than \$160,000 in operational expenditure reductions for the 2020-2021 school year while still planning for a \$200,000 deficit in spending, additional revenue is needed in order to maintain current programs and operational services.
- Schools throughout our region are investing more in their students than we are in NRHEG
- As part of community surveys in 2018 and 2016, respondents identified priorities including
  - Maintaining current class sizes and course offerings
  - Recruiting and retaining high-quality staff
  - Updating Career and Technical Education curriculum, equipment, and facilities
  - Sustaining curriculum replacement cycle
  - Utilizing latest technology in classroom
  - Expanding mental health services
  - Preparing students for life after high school including college and/or career
  - Increasing student achievement in literacy

The BOE has determined the increased revenue is needed in order to maintain and address the priorities listed above.

**Board Governance**

Report from Board Chair regarding Superintendent Annual Performance Review: The Board Chair read a summary of the Board’s 2019-2020 performance evaluation of the Superintendent conducted in closed session at the June 15, 2020, School Board meeting.

Board 2019-2020 Self-Evaluation: The Board conducted its annual performance self-evaluation examining progress made toward achieving 2019-2020 work goals along with other governance performance areas.

Board 2020-2021 Goals: The Board will examine draft work goals for 2020-2021 at the August 17 School Board meeting.

**Miscellaneous**

Statewide Enrollment Options: The Board approved the following enrollment options:

- One (1) student moving to this district this summer but choosing to stay with their current district.