CXXX BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS

OFFICIAL REPORT

Regular Business Meeting St. Louis, MO January 22, 2019

<u>MINUTES</u>

The Board of Education of the City of St. Louis met in Open Session pursuant to Board Bylaw B9350 on the date noted above at the Board's central office, located at 801 N. 11th St., St. Louis, Missouri 63130.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting came to order at 6:51 p.m.

- PRESENT: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell
- ABSENT: Katherine Wessling

A quorum was present.

<u>3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:52 p.m.

4a. APPEARANCES - PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Avis Funches shared the following comments:

- Her daughter was recently transferred from a school in Illinois to Mason Elementary School.
- Her daughter had been attending Kindergarten at Mason for two weeks when Ms. Funches was informed that she would have to enroll her daughter in preschool based on her birthday.
- > Ms. Funches reached out to the district's central office but received no response.
- State law states that a school may give full credit to a student who attended Kindergarten out of state.

➢ If a child comes in from another state and has already done kindergarten, why not have a pathway, even if it is a testing pathway, in order for her to stay in Kindergarten?

5. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE JANUARY 22, 2019 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

On a motion by Vice President Charli Cooksey and seconded by Ms. Donna Jones, the Board voted to approve and adopt the January 22, 2019 Meeting Agenda on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

6. MOCK MEETING- COVERING PERTINENT CONTENT FROM THE DECEMBER 6, 2018 AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

6a1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Angie Banks presented the following summary of the district's External Audit Report, which had been previously presented to the Special Administrative Board at the December 6, 2018 SAB meeting:

- > The External Auditor presents the annual External Audit Report to the Board each year.
- > The Board approves of the External Audit for the last fiscal year.
- > The External Audit Report is due to the state on December 31st of each year.
- The district has an Audit Committee, which has a Board representative who can provide reports back to the Board on a regular basis.
- This is the 2nd year that the district has received a clean audit. Several recommendations and corrections were suggested, but nothing material.

6a4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: BUDGET AMENDMENT

Chief Financial Officer Angie Banks presented the Budget Amendment Report, which had been previously presented to the Special Administrative Board at the December 6, 2018 SAB meeting.

A discussion took place between the Board and Superintendent Kelvin Adams on the presentation:

- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked for additional information on emerging legislation on the governance of transitional school districts.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that there was a bill filed for governance to be immediately returned to the Elected Board.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that he was meeting with a legislator today about this bill, and will be able to provide an update by the end of the week.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked if the district's legislative agenda is aligned with that of the Missouri School Board Association (MSBA).
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that he was not aware of the MSBA legislative agenda, but could check with the lobbyist for the district, Mr. Carrol, and could have a response by Friday.

- Ms. Donna Jones asked about the specific system of interventions that would be put into place to lead to improvements.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that this was the Board's legislative agenda, and that the governing board can direct the agenda. Each September or October, the board meets with the lobbyist to provide direction.
- Ms. Donna Jones commented that she had met with Mr. Carrol, and that he had mentioned a meeting with legislators in St. Louis in February.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that he did not know for sure. In the past similar meetings have been held in November or December, but the Superintendent indicated that he could check on this.

6a2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: ATHLETIC FACILITIES UPDATE

Deputy Superintendent of Operations Roger CayCe presented the Athletic Facilities Update, which had been previously presented to the Special Administrative Board at the December 6, 2018 SAB meeting.

A discussion took place between the Board, Deputy Superintendent of Operations Roger CayCe, and Superintendent Kelvin Adams on the presentation:

- Deputy Superintendent of Operations Roger CayCe commented that the district audited its energy consumption, and is upgrading to LED lighting. This work is being completed in house.
- ➤ The district received a 1.6M loan for that work, which is 80% complete across all gymnasiums in the district.
- > The district has contracted out for flooring improvements.
- Ms. Donna Jones asked for additional information on improvements in the athletic facilities at Northwest High School.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the school did not have a football team or athletic program on the field this school year. Students are participating with Sumner High School.

6a3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: FOOTBALL UPDATE

District Athletic Director Teron Sharp presented the Football Update, which had been previously presented to the Special Administrative Board at the December 6, 2018 SAB meeting.

A discussion took place between the Board, District Athletic Director Teron Sharp, and Superintendent Kelvin Adams on the presentation:

- Ms. Donna Jones asked who is able to serve on the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA).
- District Athletic Director Teron Sharp commented that Principals and Superintendents sit on the committee from across the state.
- ➢ Ms. Donna Jones asked if a committee had been developed to find out why the participation numbers in sports programs are continuing to decrease.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that students overall are less interested in football, specifically citing concussions as an issue.

- > Ms. Donna Jones asked about modern helmets that better address concussions.
- > Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district recently updated helmets.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that, due to Northwest remaining open for next year, the district would be making another recommendation for the Sumner and Northwest football programs at a later date.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked if the district is finding that a similar percentage of students are interested in football as other districts.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district has had conversations with other urban districts, and that across those districts a larger number of students have opted out of football than in the past.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked if the district is finding that the overall percentage of students participating in athletics is staying the same.
- Ms. Susan Jones asked how the district is planning to increase enrollment in schools where the district is seeing a decline in students.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district is in conversation with developers. Some neighborhoods have declined by as much as 26% from the 2000 census.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that he had met with principals today and asked them how the district could support them in targeted efforts to increase enrollment. The plans that they have come up with can be shared at the next meeting, as they are in the formative stage now.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district has lost between 1.5%-2% of the overall population each year.
- > Ms. Susan Jones asked how the district is engaging city leadership in this effort.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that he had recently spoken with all legislators and aldermen in these neighborhoods to ask how they could assist with this effort.

6a5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: 2019-2020 SUPERINTENDENT'S INITIATIVES

Superintendent Kelvin Adams presented the 2019-2020 Superintendent's Initiatives Update, which had been previously presented to the Special Administrative Board at the December 6, 2018 SAB meeting.

A discussion took place between the Board and Superintendent Kelvin Adams on the presentation:

- Vice President Charli Cooksey asked what structures are in place to measure the correlation between these initiatives and desired outcomes for the district.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district is currently developing a school report card and a district report card.
- Vice President Charli Cooksey asked if these report cards can say that a specific training supported a specific outcome.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district believes that survey data, the school report card and the district report card will address this.
- Vice President Charli Cooksey asked if these tools could demonstrate a correlation between fidelity to a K-8 reading program and the impact of that program on reading.

- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that there will be a presentation at the February Board meeting on reading initiatives at the district, including the additional one million dollars spent on reading this year.
- Ms. Donna Jones asked if neighborhood schools are engaging in similar recruitment events as magnet schools.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the district is in the process of doing open houses or similar events in neighborhood schools, and that a calendar of these events can be provided to the Board.
- Vice President Charli Cooksey asked if the report cards will be publicly facing and available online.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the report cards will be online but in draft form given that schools started the year without the report card in place.

6b1. BUSINESS ITEMS: CONSENT AGENDA

A discussion took place between the Board and Superintendent Kelvin Adams on the Consent Agenda:

- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked what evidence of impact existed for the groups using the buildings to justify the expense of replacing the chillers at Stevens and Langston Middle Schools (Items 12-06-18-06 and 12-06-18-07).
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that Langston Middle School had been used for the past six months by Friendly Temple Church for counseling services, sports programs, and programs to address homelessness. The chiller died this past summer, and must be replaced so that the building can be used as a part of the district's agreement. Friendly Temple Church and the district have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) through 2022. Continued use of vacant buildings lowers district expenses for security or for the replacement of copper in buildings, and positively impacts the community.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked if the district has an evaluation process in place to determine how aligned a particular organization is with the district's goals.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that, on a case-by-case basis, organizations are reviewed to look for alignment between an organization and the district's strategic plan. All MOUs are evaluated at the end of each year, and deliverables are built into all MOUs.
- Dr. Joyce Roberts asked if SLPS students have the opportunity to be referred to the resources occurring in these buildings.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that Stephens Middle School has been used for art shows and storage, and district students have been able attend events there free of charge.
- Vice President Charli Cooksey asked if all consent agenda items and partnerships could be explicitly aligned to outcomes stated in the district's transformation plan.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that previously, all consent agenda items were aligned to district long-range plans, and that this could be done again.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell asked how often the Board could update the legislative platform.
- Superintendent Kelvin Adams commented that the lobbyist provides an update to the Special Administrative Board every Thursday or Friday, and that the Board provides feedback to the lobbyist on a regular basis.

On a motion by Secretary Natalie Vowell and seconded by Ms. Susan Jones, the Board voted to approve Special Administrative Board consent agenda items 12-06-18-01 through 12-06-18-06 on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion passed.

On a motion by Vice President Charli Cooksey and seconded by Ms. Susan Jones, the Board voted to approve Special Administrative Board consent agenda item 12-06-18-07 on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion passed.

On a motion by Ms. Susan Jones and seconded by Dr. Joyce Roberts, the Board voted to approve Special Administrative Board consent agenda items 12-06-18-08 through 12-06-18-13 on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion passed.

On a motion by President Dorothy Rohde Collins and seconded by Vice President Charli Cooksey, the Board voted to approve Special Administrative Board consent agenda item 12-06-18-14 on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion passed.

On a motion by President Dorothy Rohde Collins and seconded by Secretary Natalie Vowell, the Board voted to approve Special Administrative Board consent agenda item 12-06-18-15 on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion passed.

7a. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: TRANSITION/ TRAINING UPDATE

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President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented on the following:

Board members have received certificates from the Missouri School Board Association (MSBA) for completion of the training this past fall.

8a. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports were presented for the Audit Committee and the Real Estate Committee.

Secretary Natalie Vowell presented the following Onboarding Committee report:

- > The onboarding process has gone well, and is being refined for the April election.
- Secretary Natalie Vowell sent out a request for edits, and has received edits from Dr. Joyce Roberts.
- > A finalized, living document will be compiled in the next week to two weeks.

Vice President Charli Cooksey presented the following Norms Committee report:

- Dr. Joyce Roberts and Vice President Charli Cooksey met to discuss a draft set of norms that Dr. Joyce Roberts had crafted.
- > The draft norms captured the suggestions from the prior work session, and synthesized the recommendations put forth by each board member into five norms.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented that the draft norms would be discussed at the February Work Session.

8b. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

No Board member reports were presented.

8c. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dorothy Rohde Collins presented the following Board President report:

- > This first "Mock Meeting" was a success.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented that she was pleased to see good representation by the Elected Board at the last Special Administrative Board meeting.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented that the Elected Board had good representation at the Missouri School Board Association legislative webinar, and that she will distribute the information to the board.

9. INFORMATION REQUESTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Natalie Vowell commented on the following announcement:

- > The Missouri School Board Association is hosting a Legislative Day at the capital, which is an opportunity to work with Mr. Carrol, the district's lobbyist.
- Dr. Joyce Roberts commented that she had signed up, and had made contact with local senators to meet there.
- President Dorothy Rohde Collins commented that she would put in a request to the Special Administrative Board for funding.

Vice President Charli Cooksey commented on the following information request:

➢ Would it be possible to have an audit or list of all partners or MOUs related directly or indirectly to literacy, and in what ways each is aligned to the district's reading program?

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon a motion by Ms. Susan Jones and seconded by Secretary Natalie Vowell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

AYE: Charli Cooksey, Donna Jones, Susan Jones, Joyce Roberts, Dorothy Rohde Collins, Natalie Vowell

The motion carried.

ATTESTED BY:

DOROTHY ROHDE COLLINS