

SAULT STE. MARIE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN 49783
SPECIAL MEETING, BOARD OF EDUCATION
Phone 906/635-6609

Minutes – Monday, July 26, 2023

19. **I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Sault Area Middle School, 684 Marquette Avenue.

20. **A. ROLL CALL OF BOARD**

Board Members Present: Melissa S. Pingatore, Christine M. Curtis, Caitlin L. Galer, William E. Odbert, Michelle M. Ribant, Kenneth D. Dunton

Absent: None

21. **B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Member Pingatore, supported by Member Ribant, that the Board of Education adopt the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Pingatore, Curtis, Galer, Odbert, Ribant, Dunton

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

22. **II. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

1. MI Tri-Share Child Care

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the Michigan Tri-Share Child Care opportunity the district could offer to qualified employees who utilize state licensed child care for their children from birth to age 17. She noted the program allows 1/3 of the expenses to be paid by Tri-Share, 1/3 by the district, and 1/3 by the employee allowing for a significant savings to the employee. Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer indicated enrollment into this program would align with the district's goal to attract, train, and retain quality employees.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the district would need to determine the maximum amount of money to budget for its share.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer stated she would bring the full proposal to the Board for action at the August regular meeting.

23. **B. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was none.

III. ACTION ITEMS

24. **A. INTERVIEW AND APPOINT BOARD MEMBER**

President Curtis welcomed each candidate and explained the interview and ranking process. She noted the candidate with the highest number of points would be recommended for appointment.

The Board interviewed Elise Beaudoin-Johnson, Debbie LeBlanc, and Amy Goetz.

On behalf of the Board, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer presented five questions to each candidate.

At the conclusion of the interviews, President Curtis invited the candidates to either wait for the board appointment or to expect a call at the conclusion of the meeting.

Upon inquiry from Member Dunton, Board Secretary Missy Pingatore tallied the Board's points for each candidate.

It was moved by Member Pingatore, supported by Member Dunton, that based on the Board's rankings Amy Goetz be appointed to the Board of Education to fill the recently vacated seat of Amelia Lindsay.

President Curtis thanked the other candidates and asked them to consider running in the next election or when another opening arises.

Yeas: Pingatore, Curtis, Galer, Odbert, Ribant, Dunton

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

25. **B. *CALL FOR SPECIAL ELECTION – Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer***

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer referenced the Michigan Campaign Finance Act as it governs the activities of public bodies. She confirmed each member had received the Frequently Asked Questions of the Campaign Finance Act provided by Thrun Law.

It was moved by Member Dunton, supported by Member Galer, that the Board of Education approve the resolution calling for a November 7, 2023, Special Bond Election.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer informed the Board they could not advocate for the election while in a quorum, during a meeting or via email.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the district had been working for over a year to see if a millage was desirable and viable. She stated the project had progressed and the Board was not in need of following the finance election rules and calling for the election.

President Curtis read the ballot proposition language in the resolution and referenced Exhibits A and B of calling for the election.

Yeas: Pingatore, Curtis, Galer, Odbert, Ribant, Dunton

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

26. **C. *SAULT HIGH ROOF REPLACEMENT BID – Mrs. Michelle Bennin***

Mrs. Bennin reported the district contracted with UP Engineers & Architects on the Request for Proposal for the remaining portion of the Sault High roof replacement. She noted 3 out of the 4 proposals received met the requirements, and the low bidder was Great Lakes Roofing.

Mrs. Bennin reported Jeremy Gagnon of EUP Engineers & Architects was on hand to answer any questions, and funding for the project would be paid from ESSER III funds.

Upon Board inquiry, Mr. Gagnon reported UP Engineers & Architects would inspect the installation by Great Lakes Roofing as the Duro-Last roof membrane has a lifetime warranty if everything was installed correctly.

There were no other questions.

It was moved by Member Ribant, supported by Member Pingatore, that the Board of Education award the Sault Area High School roof replacement bid to Great Lakes Roofing for a total project amount of \$1,106,700.00.

Yeas: Pingatore, Curtis, Galer, Odbert, Ribant, Dunton
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried.

27. **IV. BOARD GOVERNANCE AND BOARD POLICY ISSUES**

Upon inquiry from Member Dunton, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she would be making a public release on the election through a variety of sources starting tomorrow and would be working on a pamphlet with Banach, Banach & Cassidy to ensure accurate information was provided under the Campaign Finance Act.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she and Michelle Bennin had met with officials from the Sault Soccer Association about relocating their fields from the location by the high school where the newly proposed elementary building would be constructed to behind the A.J. VanCitters football field. She provided a visual of where the soccer fields would be relocated courtesy of Tom Nelson.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she and Michelle Bennin had met with city officials regarding possibly selling lots off from the Lincoln School and Washington School locations to be used for much needed housing in the area.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer confirmed the next couple of months would be very busy with a lot of community meetings and ensuring there was no missed steps in getting the correct information out to the public.

28. **V. FUTURE PLANNING**

August 14 – Regular Board Meeting – Sault Area Middle School – 7:00 p.m.
August 28 – Staff Welcome Back – Sault Area High School – 7:15 a.m.
September 5 – First Day of School
September 11 – Regular Board Meeting – Sault Area Middle School – 7:00 p.m.

29. **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board at 6:05 p.m., it was moved by Member Dunton, supported by Member Odbert, that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Pingatore, Curtis, Galer, Odbert, Ribant, Dunton

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Christine M. Curtis, Board President

Melissa S. Pingatore, Board Secretary

Judy L. Sirk, Recording Secretary