MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Jim Vue, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: Z. Ellis, J. Foster, H. Henderson, U. Ward, C. Allen, J. Vue, J. Kopp
Superintendent Gothard

C. Long, General Counsel; S. Dahlke, Assistant Clerk

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the order of the main agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Allen.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

- Director Ellis: Yes
- Director Foster: Yes
- Director Henderson: Yes
- Director Ward: Yes
- Director Vue: Yes
- Director Allen: Yes
- Director Kopp: Yes

4. RECOGNITIONS

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Angela Nguyen: Harding solutions
2. Valeria Barrios Sanchez: School safety
3. Latino Consent Decree: Safety in Schools
4. Debbie Montgomery: School Safety/SROs
5. Daryl Spence: School safety
6. Gita Ghei: Violence in high schools
7. Nasira Budal  Safety Concerns
8. Benjamin Wright  School safety
9. Khulia Pringle  School safety
10. Chris Baumhover  Elementary safety
11. John Thompson  Safe schools for our children
12. Julie
13. Emma Wolters  Status of SROs
14. Miki Frost  School safety
15. Mercedes Yarbrough  School safety
16. Ali A.  School safety
17. NK Nguyen  SROs

6. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with no items pulled for separate consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
   Director Ellis  Yes
   Director Foster  Yes
   Director Henderson  Yes
   Director Ward  Yes
   Director Vue  Yes
   Director Allen  Yes
   Director Kopp  Yes

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of December 13, 2022
B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of January 17, 2023
C. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of January 17, 2023

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of December 13, 2022; Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of January 17, 2023; and Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of January 17, 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
   Director Ellis  Yes
   Director Foster  Yes
   Director Henderson  Yes
   Director Ward  Yes
   Director Vue  Yes
   Director Allen  Yes
   Director Kopp  Yes

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of January 3, 2023
At the Committee of the Board Meeting on February 7, 2023, Vice Chair Kopp welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The first presentation was the PreK-12 Math Curriculum Review and Adoption. This topic will be brought before the Board again at the March 7th Committee of the Board Meeting, and again for action on this item at the March 21st Regular Meeting. This presentation sparked questions regarding the use of MCA scores in the curriculum review process including guardrails that could be used without using MCA scores, information on culturally relevant instruction in the proposed models and the importance of aligning our values on this topic with our partners and vendors, location of the vendors and if they are national or local, the rationale for using one vendor across all grade levels or different vendors across grade levels, updates to curriculum and their roll-outs, impacts on the shift to digital learning during the pandemic on this process, information on the other districts served by EdReports, the MLL spectrum of supports in these vendors and the translations available, materials to complement the curriculum, and family supports within each to support our students in math.

Next was the policy update presentation on Policy 716.00 - Advertising in the Schools. Within the discussion on this topic, board members requested information as to the district and logo usage and the process to inform the Board of their use in community and with our partners, as well as questions on the enforceability of this policy and language within the contract provisions. Overall, the Board approved this policy update to move to the three-reading process.

Next, the Chair and Vice Chair reviewed the logic model for our work in student outcomes focused governance, as well as community engagement as we go forward with this work. Questions from board members included the rationale for the timeline of the community engagement process, information on the plans for conversations in community, and the recommendation for board members to engage with a set of standard questions across all engagement sessions for consistency and details on the process.

Next the Board then participated in a brainstorming session about venues and communities in which to engage, including clarifying questions on the process.

MOTION: Director Kopp moved that the Board accept the report of the Committee of the Board Meeting of February 7, 2023, and approve the recommended motions and minutes of that meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Director Foster.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

- Director Ellis: Yes
- Director Foster: Yes
- Director Henderson: Yes
- Director Ward: Yes
- Director Vue: Yes
- Director Allen: Yes
- Director Kopp: Yes

9. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

A. Board of Education Meetings (5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)
   - January 3, 2023 | Annual Meeting: 4:30 p.m.
   - January 17
Superintendent Gothard began by providing words to Harding staff and the district for the outpouring of support for the tragic loss of Devin Scott. There are many ties to Harding, to this community, and to the children and staff of SPPS. There have and will be continued opportunities for engagement and noted that very few decisions of safety and well-being are binary – it is our ability to come together and find creative solutions to ensure the best in service to our students, families and staff. He then shared details on youth engagement opportunities, starting with the large high schools, to hear from our students and in a facilitated discussion to create a community where students feel comfortable sharing their experiences; as well as details on a planned safety survey. He also shared his experience at the Parent Meeting at Harding, and steps to support Harding during this time, and an update on the safety committee comprised of a multi-cross stakeholder groups. There will also be community of care meetings, and work with our partners in the community; as well as further discussion with our police department partners and with the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

He then went on to note the updates surrounding the winter weather, and the call for e-learning days and a snow day, as safety for our students, families and staff is a priority. He then shared details on the plans for the upcoming week and operations, as well as state statutes around e-learning and snow days in the calendar.

Board members then provided their reflections and thoughts. Director Allen noted the need for a change in education, including cultural identity and culturally responsive curriculum, and to create a space where students are safe and seen, and given the ability to solve problems, where they see and feel the humanity of themselves and others, as well as restorative justice practices. Director Henderson noted the greeting,
“How are the children?”, and the answer is the children are not okay – as we move back into buildings, recover from the pandemic, uprising, and police violence. The Board and community need to come together and support resources for our students to be okay. We need our students to be here with us and hearing their concerns. Our students need to be centered in this work and brought to the table; we need our students to be with us in this work. Director Ward noted his experience in talking with the Harding staff and community. He noted the concerns that were brought forth including that staff felt they were not heard in their concerns about school safety prior to the tragic event. It’s important to recognize that every single person who attends SPPS or works in SPPS deserves a safe school and environment. We need to be grounded in asking how our students are doing, what the research tells as effective, and with community. We need to ensure students are present as well. Director Ellis thanked the staff who showed up for supporting our schools, at Harding, and also at Central and Washington Tech. The events in our community affect our schools. She noted that she shared the concerns of her colleagues, and the timeline for changes to occur – it is not only on the school district to make those changes. The supports in each school are different – including the supports in elementary and middle schools. She noted equity for students across schools, and work with our community partners. Students and families need to know about the supports available to them as well. She also noted her own experience in feeling safe, and the definition of safety is different for each person, and we need to be clear in language going forward. We need to be purposeful in centering the voices of our young people. We need to stay focused on school safety, because another event will occur, and the attention will be directed elsewhere – we need short-term, mid-range, and long-term plans.

11. AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

A. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Director Vue moved approval of all items within the consent agenda withholding no items for separate consideration. Director Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

- Director Ellis: Yes
- Director Foster: Yes
- Director Henderson: Yes
- Director Ward: Yes
- Director Vue: Yes
- Director Allen: Yes
- Director Kopp: Yes

1. Gifts

**BF 33091** Acceptance of Gift from South Robert Street Business

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) and Johnson Senior High School to accept this gift from South Robert Street Business. This gift will be deposited into intraschool fund: 19-230-291-000-5096-U001.

**BF 33092** Highland Park Senior High School Gift Acceptance of $5,000.00

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the donation of $5,000.00 from Scott Milburn for continued library needs and that a letter of appreciation be sent to Scott Milburn.
BF 33093 Request for Permission to Accept a Donation from Global Arts Plus PTA
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the gift from Global Arts Plus PTA.

BF 33094 Scholarship Donation to Como Park Senior High School
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to allow Como Park Senior High School to accept a monetary gift from S. Robert Street Business of $5,000.00. The money will be deposited into the Scholarship Funds intra-school account, 19-212-960-340-5096-S120.

BF 33095 Science Museum of Minnesota Lending Library Award
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the Science Museum of Minnesota Lending Library Award for the value of $8,046.72.
That the Superintendent (designee) send a letter of appreciation to Joanne Jones-Rizzi, Vice President of Science, Equity and Education, Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellog Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55102

BF 33096 Timothy W. Scott Donation
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the $7,000 from Timothy W. Scott and provide a letter expressing appreciation for the gift.

BF 33097 Ratification of MSHSL Resolution and Acceptance of Gift from Minnesota State High School League Foundation
Ratify the MSHSL Resolution and Authorize schools to apply for and the Superintendent (or Designee) to accept the gifts from the Minnesota State High School League Foundation

2. Grants

BF 33098 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Ecolab Foundation
The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Ecolab Foundation to support relationship building for teachers through team building activities as well as transportation support; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33099 Request for Permission to accept a Grant from No Kid Hungry/Share Our Strength
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from No Kid Hungry/Share Our Strength for the funds for the Summer Youth Ambassador Program and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 33100 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from Special Olympics Minnesota Organization
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Special Olympics Minnesota to support the Unified Champion School Program Initiative; to accept funds, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.
BF 33101  Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education – Outdoor Learning to Support Kindergarten Transitions

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Education to promote instruction that supports the kindergarten tradition through outdoor and nature based learning experiences; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

BF 33102  2-Year Support Contract for Network Switches

That the Board of Education authorize award of RFP No. A22-2067-A to Insight Public Sector, Inc for the purchase of support contract for network switches for a 2-year period cost not to exceed $1,286,879.29.

BF 33103  Ricoh Fleet All-In-One Copier Lease Renewal

That the Board of Education authorize administration to approve the lease renewal proposal from Ricoh for 24-months, in the amount not to exceed $1,264,950.

BF 33104  Equipment Acquisition Award for FY23 A/V Replacement Program at Central High School and LEAP at John A. Johnson (Project # 0680-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of A/V equipment for the FY23 A/V Replacement Program at Central High School and LEAP at John A. Johnson (Project # 0680-23-01) to Bluum of Minnesota for a lump sum base bid of $204,630.

4. Agreements

BF 33105  Approval of Employment Agreement Between Independent School District No. 625 and Minnesota School Employees Association, Representing Classified Confidential Employees Association

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 enter into an Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those classified confidential employees in this school district for whom the Minnesota School Employees Association is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

BF 33106  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 for principals' in this school district for whom the Saint Paul Principals' Association is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

BF 33107  Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with 3DE Minnesota Schools, LLC, Junior Achievement North and Saint Paul Public Schools
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve this Memorandum of Agreement with 3DE National.

BF 33108 Request to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation (Right Track) and SPPS pertaining to the 3M STEP Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation (Right Track) for FY23.

BF 33109 Monitoring Equipment Site Lease Agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

That the Board of Education authorize the execution of the Lease Agreement between the District and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency at Harding.

5. Administrative Items

BF 33110 Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period December 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022:

(a) General Account
   
   #755589-756660                      $83,577,637.19
   #0004731-0004769
   #7004638-7004669
   #0007809-0007918

(b) Construction Payments
   
   - 0 -                                 $1,819,951.55

(c) Debt Service
   
   - 0 -                                 750.00
   
   $85,398,338.74

(d) Collateral Changes

   Released:   None
   Additions:  None

That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Workers’ Compensation Law falling within the period ending June 30, 2023.

BF 33111 Recommendations for Exclusion of Students Non-Compliant with Minnesota Statute 121A.15 Health Standards: Immunizations

That the Board of Education exclude noncompliant students from school effective March 1, 2023, should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

Human Resources Transactions

BF 33112 Transactions for January 1-31, 2023

BF 33113 Approval to Create a Two Year Co-Operative Sponsorship between SPPS High Schools (Central, Como, Harding, Highland, Humboldt, Johnson, and Washington) and Two Rivers High School in both Girls and Boys Lacrosse
That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve a two year co-operative sponsorship between SPPS High Schools (Central, Como, Harding, Highland, Humboldt, Johnson, and Washington) and Two Rivers High School in both Girls and Boys Lacrosse.

**BF 33114**  
Request to Approve BestPrep’s Use of the SPPS Logo and District Name on Partner Communications

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve BestPrep’s request to use the SPPS logo and district name in partner communications.

**BF 33115**  
Review of SPPS Policy 520.00 Technology Usage and Safety regarding CIPA compliance with internet safety guidelines

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the review of SPPS Policy 520.00 Technology Usage and Safety.

**BF 33116**  
Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul- Washington Technology Magnet and Liberty Classical Academy

Authorize the Superintendent (or Designee) to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship for Boys’ Tennis with St. Paul- Washington Technology Magnet and Liberty Classical Academy.

**BF 33117**  
Phase Gate Approval of the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping, and HVAC Replacement Project (Project #4260-23-01): Gate #2 – Project Charter; Gate #2A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping, and HVAC Replacement project (Project # 4260-23-01) at Phase Gate Check #2 – Project Charter; Gate Check #2a – Finance Plan Update.

**BF 33118**  
Phase Gate Approval of the Bruce Vento Elementary - New Construction Project (Project #1020-22-01): Gate #3 – Project Budget; Gate #3A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the Bruce Vento Elementary - New Construction Project (Project #1020-22-01) at Phase Gate Check #3 – Project Budget; Gate Check #3a – Finance Plan Update, setting the final project budget at $89,900,000 and indicating direction to proceed with construction bidding.

6. Change Orders

**ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION - None**

**B. Further Items that Require Board Action**

1. **American Indian Parent Committee Presentation of Annual Resolution 21/22**

Members of the American Indian Parent Committee then presented their Annual Resolution. The District will have 60 days to respond. Janice LaFloe, chair of the Committee, then provided details on the resolution, and recommendations – she noted that the Committee met and voted a resolution of non-concurrence.

The full report can be found in the BoardBook.
QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
- Director Kopp thanked Ms. LaFloe for her leadership in the parent group, and she was struck by the compassion and purposefulness, and we are fortunate to have strong leaders who advocate for our students, and we look forward to the continued work together.

BF 33119 American Indian Parent Committee Presentation of Annual Resolution 21/22

MOTION: Director Vue moved acceptance of the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee 2023 Resolution of Non-Concurrence. Director Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
- Director Ellis  Yes
- Director Foster  Yes
- Director Henderson  Yes
- Director Ward  Yes
- Director Vue  Yes
- Director Allen  Yes
- Director Kopp  Yes

12. AGENDA ITEMS THAT ARE INFORMATIONAL

A. Riverview Name Change

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Principal Licona-Gervich and Maggie Bruecken, Project Manager, to present the first presentation (of three total) of the Riverview Name Change. Details included in the presentation included the rationale for the change, options presented, engagement process, and voting results. The proposed name change is: Riverview Spanish/English Dual Immersion Program.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
- Director Vue requested further information on the family engagement process.

B. Policy Update

1. FIRST READING: Policy 716.00 Advertising in the Schools

Superintendent Gothard then introduced Erica Wacker, Director of Communications, and Aquanetta Anderson, Assistant Director of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships to present the first reading of the policy update to Policy 716.00 – Advertising in the Schools. Details included the rationale for the overall changes, which include that it was last updated in April 2012, does not meet current partnership standards and best practices; current language is overly limiting, unclear and not consistently implemented; and the need to update to clarify impacts on partners, vendors and prospective advertisers. Proposed changes and rationale for those changes within the policy were also reviewed, as well as a link to the proposed updated policy, an example of a partner’s website to feature the SPPS name/logo, and next steps.

The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.
QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Henderson noted that transparency to the Board will be helpful as to where the logo is being used, and updates to the Board on its use. Response: Yes, as part of the changing procedures with contract language, there will be updates to the documentation.
- Director Allen requested information on the resolve for recognizing that the logo is being used without permission. Response: That will be a part of the process and procedure, and will work with our partners.
- Director Ward noted questions around the use of the SPPS logo in places such as a news report. Response: In terms of media use, media is not included in this policy, and they do have the permission to use our logo and photos in reporting. This policy included the copyright, ownership, name and logo use and the ability to control the use of them, outside of media usage.

C. Executive Audit Summary Presentation for Saint Paul Public Schools

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services, and partners from the auditing firm CLA, to present the summary of the FY22 audit. Chief Sager thanked Ms. Hoffman, partner at CLA, and Finance staff for their work in this year’s audit. This presentation will not require a board action at this meeting, as it is summary comments. The audit will be coming back before the Board at the March Regular Meeting, once all financial statements and letter have been reviewed by CLA with their rigorous review and internal controls. Chief Sager also reviewed the unassigned General Fund balance, and the balance of that fund.

The full report can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

D. Envision SPPS Evaluation - Preliminary Results

Superintendent Gothard then introduced staff from Research, Evaluation and Assessment to present the preliminary results of Envision SPPS Evaluation. Details within the presentation included a review of the Envision timeline, evaluation areas and questions, and preliminary results of Envision Family survey results and Envision Staff survey results. Future areas of evaluation results were also highlighted – including student transportation distance analysis, principal interview analysis, well-rounded education analysis, and staff retention analysis.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Henderson noted concerns on the response rate from families as 9%. What was the response rate we were expecting, and are there other mechanisms to engage beyond the survey? Response: The response rate was low, and we generally expect or hope for 20-30%. We did not engage in other ways with families outside of the public hearings and meetings.
- Director Henderson noted tension with the missing information and the questions if families plan to continue to stay in SPPS – if that means families don’t know to share the information or dissatisfaction is so great they did participate. She encouraged Administration to continue to push and think about how we are building relationships and collecting information.
- She also questioned if there was a different model for communicating or establishing relationships with our EAs and TAs, since the 10% for each is troubling.
• Director Vue noted questions around the goal of well-rounded education and if those details will be included in the final evaluations. Response: Yes, that will be included, and we are now offering well-rounded education in new and merged sites, and information will be available in Summer 2023.

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas
• Director Allen requested data on investments in restorative justice training and models in years 202-21, 2021-22, and the current practices in 2022-2023. She also requested the plan for 2023-2028, and disaggregated data with staff trained in RP and their titles and schools. It is important to see the percentage of staff in each school and are trained in RP work in order to build a culture for RP to really work.
• Director Foster noted two requests – an update on the school lunch debt figures, and an update on the Home Visit program as we are partnering with community and families.
• Director Vue requested information on the baseline of school safety services at each site, as well as preventative services for students in learning how to mitigate conflict, intervention services during a conflict, and services provided after a conflict, and how we are using that information to support all three phases as a wraparound service.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications
• Director Henderson provided a report from her experience attending NAAPID events at Wellstone.
• Director Foster also provided a report from her experience in attending NAAPID events at Wellstone. She also recapped her experiences in a visit to Johnson Senior High and restorative practices there. She noted it is helpful to see the authenticity in our schools, as we talk about supports for staff and students. She also noted she was able to connect with students in the Black Student Union at Johnson and their events for NAAPID. She also shared her experience at Hazel Park for NAAPID, and was a great opportunity for our families to be celebrated in our district.
• Director Allen shared her experience with the Black Student Union at Highland Park Senior High, and their display of Black excellence, and the stepper group, as well as the students planning to attend an HBCU.
• Director Vue shared details about his meeting with community and the ongoing challenges from the neighborhood around arrivals and dismissals at Como Park Senior High, and Metro Transit has agreed to provide an additional Metro Transit bus eastbound at Maryland and Grotto. He noted we are working with stakeholders to find solutions for our students, families, staff, and neighbors.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Director Vue moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Ellis          Absent
Director Foster         Yes
Director Henderson      Yes
Director Ward           Yes
Director Vue            Yes
Director Allen          Yes
Director Kopp           Yes
The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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

Prepared and submitted by:
Sarah Dahlke
Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education