

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102, and**

**Telephonic Phone and Video Conference
Available Streaming Online at www.spps.org/boe and Saint Paul Cable Channel 16**

**May 18, 2021
6:05 p.m.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Jeanelle Foster, Chair.

II. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: J. Brodrick, J. Vue, C. Allen, J. Kopp, Y. Carrillo, Z. Ellis, J. Foster,

Staff: Superintendent Gothard; Chuck Long, General Counsel; Cedrick Baker, Chief of Staff; Jackie Turner, Chief Operations Officer; Kate Wilcox-Harris, Chief Academic Officer; Stacey Gray Akyea, Director, Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment; Kenyatta McCarty, Executive Director of Human Resources; Kevin Burns, Director of Communications; Kaying Thao, Administrator to the Board; Kalid Ali, SEAB Member; Sarah Dahlke, Secretary to the Board

II. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDAR

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Order of the Main Agenda one change - to move Old Business - Bond Sales to follow the Committee Reports, and be prior to the Superintendent's Report. The motion was seconded by Director Ellis.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

III. RECOGNITIONS

1. The Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA) recognized **Chreese Jones**, Principal of Global Arts Plus School, Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS), and President of MESPA's Saint Paul Division, with the 2021 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award for the Saint Paul Division. The award honors principals whose exemplary leadership and sustained efforts have made noteworthy contributions to the operation of effective school learning programs—improving education, their communities, and their profession. She was recognized by colleagues statewide on April 15, 2021, at the MESPYs, the premier elementary principal celebration of the year.

Chreese has worked in SPPS for more than 25 years serving staff, scholars and their families as a teacher, assistant principal and principal and still loving what she does. She has come full circle as principal at the school where she received her first teaching assignment.

2. **Marcy Doud**, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Services, is the new President-Elect of the Minnesota Administrators for Special Education (MASE).

MASE is organized to promote professional leadership, provide the opportunity for study of problems common to its members, and to communicate, through discussion and publications, information that will develop improved services for exceptional children. Further, its purpose is to foster high-quality programs of professional development for members, to make studies of selected programs that relate to services to children with disabilities, improve the leadership of administrators for special education and to be active in the legislative process.

3. Over the past 10 years, 1,602 SPPS teachers have received **PAR (Peer Assistance & Review)** support as part of their path to tenure. The PAR program is a collaboration between SPPS and SPFE, and involves instructional coaching, observation and feedback, and lesson and assessment planning. The 51 teachers who have been PAR Educators over the past 10 years are Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSAs) who work for up to four years in the program before returning to the classroom or other positions.

In the past year, the 16 current PAR Educators have worked diligently to support 208 teachers in navigating new ways of teaching in distance learning, applying the lens of educational equity to classroom instruction, and planning for successful transitions back to face-to-face teaching.

Quotes from teachers this year:

“My biggest takeaway from a year of PAR is that being a good educator is synonymous with being a reflective educator. There is no perfect lesson. You must continually analyze what is happening in the classroom and adjust to what the students need.”

“I appreciated the consistent feedback and push to grow. Was kind of dreading the amount of extra work that I anticipated going into the program, but it was a great use of time and was integrated with my schedule, so definitely felt worthwhile. I love to get perspective and also have someone see what I'm doing more often than 3x a year.”

“My PAR has helped me analyze and improve my student engagement to find new ways to reach them through distance learning; helped me develop stronger questioning to lead

deeper discussions; and helped me build more qualitative assessment into my rubrics instead of just quantitative goals.”

PAR Educators for 2020-2021 are:

Abby Cullen
Amanda Hagberg
Angela Huckleby
Beth Busey
Charlotte Landreau
Kelly Lang
Leah VanDassor
Lindsay Lowther
Matthew Barron
Meera Patel
Melissa Kubousek
Nick Faber
Paul Ruble
Sam DiVita
Tara Brash
Tasha Sambs
Tatiana Leiva
Virginia Kressin

4. **Maureen Rueber** is celebrating 50 years as a staff member at Harding Senior High School. She has spent her entire career at Harding, which is, as far as anyone knows, the longest any SPPS employee has been at a single school. She has taught as a family consumer science teacher, run the school cafe, been the testing coordinator, facilitated student leadership programs, organized student retreats, served as cheerleading coach, connected school to business and post-secondary institutions, and has been a staff support person and all-around mother of Harding Senior High School since 1971.

Maureen has the answer to every question, she is deeply invested in knowing all the staff and something about each person and their family. She takes the time to stay in touch with past students and staff, remembers important days and reaches out to let you know she is thinking of you.

Her work ethic is like no other. She is usually one of the first ones at school (before 6 a.m.) and the last to leave (6 p.m.). Maureen has helped to support students, families, teachers and administration since day one, and does so many things to help make everyone’s job easier, to make people feel valued and appreciated, and to create a sense of belonging and community.

5. **Ricardo Abbott**, Nutrition Center Manager, received the Minnesota School Nutrition Association (MSNA) Innovation Award. This award recognizes the development of an innovative process or program within a school or district which adds value or streamlines operations.

When schools closed for COVID-19, Chef Ricardo responded quickly to create a bundled meal concept that led to a citywide door-to-door delivery program, making nutritious meals consistently available to every child in Saint Paul. The delivery service minimized virus

exposure by reducing the need for families to leave their homes. The operational innovations allowed meals to be bundled on an assembly line in a way that was efficient enough to produce over 400,000 meals each week. The entire system provided food security for over 32,000 children and helped families who were hit the hardest during this pandemic.

6. **Stacy Koppen**, Director of Nutrition Services, received the Minnesota School Nutrition Association (MSNA) Director of the Year Award and the National School Nutrition Association (SNA) Midwest Regional Director of the Year Award. These awards recognize school nutrition directors for the contributions they have made throughout their school nutrition career.

Stacy created and implemented a plan to provide the financial strength needed to invest in long-term improvements to equipment, food quality and sustainability. Her focus on positive leadership training led to a department-wide culture shift. Stacy is seen as a resource by the public and peers through her work on the SNA Legislative Action Committee. She is a frequent conference speaker and successful advocate for school and child nutrition.

7. The Minnesota School Nutrition Association (MSNA) Excellence Team Award recipients are:

- **Bono Gbolo**, Nutrition Center Operations Coordinator
- **Cole Welhaven**, Nutrition Coordinator
- **Genny Turner**, Nutrition Center Operations Coordinator
- **Tracy Alexander**, Purchasing Analyst
- **Ben Harri**, Distribution Manager
- and the **Nutrition Center Staff**

This award showcases excellence in teamwork, creativity and customer service. The SPPS Nutrition Center team received this award for their hard and dedicated work to creatively change equipment, labor, procurement and inventory management practices. This allowed school meals to be efficiently produced in the quantities needed to supply nutritious and culturally relevant meals to over 32,000 youth throughout Saint Paul. The leadership team emphasized safety, provided clarity of information, developed a mentor training plan to ensure success for new Nutrition Center staff, and sought feedback from family and cultural liaisons for continuous improvement.

Stacy, Ricardo and the Nutrition Center team have championed Nutrition Services' vision, which is: "To eliminate hunger and provide every child with HOPE (Healthy Options Positive Engagement) through exceptional food."

Through this work, Nutrition Services has provided over 17 million meals to the community since the start of school closures in March 2020.

8. In support of SPPS Achieves strategic objective 3C, the Division of Schools established a formal instructional leadership program called **SPPS Leadership Institute** for aspiring assistant principals and principals. Our first cohort began during the school year 2020-21.

The purpose of the **Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) Leadership Institute** is to continue to foster innovation and creative thinking in our future leaders; retain a high potential employee cohort ready to lead SPPS; and to grow a successor pipeline of leaders from within Saint Paul Public Schools.

SPPS Leadership Institute is an 11-month program that includes a week-long foundations training during the first week in August and monthly training throughout the school year.

We would like to recognize those who completed this year's program:

- **Elizabeth Diemer**, Assistant Principal, Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus
- **Elizabeth Earnest**, 5th Grade Teacher, Maxfield Elementary
- **Heidi Dunlap**, Assistant Principal, Humboldt Secondary School
- **Hsajune Dyan**, Assistant Principal, Washington Technology Magnet
- **Kathryn Garvey**, Assistant Principal, Bruce Vento Elementary
- **Matthew Severns**, Assistant Principal, Parkway Montessori Middle School
- **Nicholas Revak**, Teacher - Behavior Specialist, Eastern Heights Elementary
- **Nicole Staab**, Science Teacher, Farnsworth Aerospace Upper
- **Norman Bell**, Assistant Principal, L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion
- **Soraya Folley**, TOSA - Career Curriculum Integration, Office of College and Career Readiness
- **Susan Mondry**, Assistant Principal, Saint Paul Music Academy
- **Susan Providence**, 3rd Grade Teacher, Battle Creek Elementary

IV. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with item C6 - Ramsey County Elections Contract pulled for separate consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Brodrick.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of April 26, 2021
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 8, 2021
- C. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 11, 2021

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of April 26, 2021; Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 8, 2021; and Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 11, 2021. The motion was seconded by Director Brodrick.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Board Meeting of May 4, 2021

At the Committee of the Board Meeting on May 4th, 2021, Superintendent Gothard welcomed everyone, and noted Teacher Appreciation Week. He, along with board members and SEAB, expressed their appreciation of our teachers and staff in SPPS. A brief update on the preliminary budget figures and school and program allocations was also shared.

The SEAB Report included an update on the recruitment of students to join SEAB for the next school year, as well as the continued work with the Board subcommittee about the future of SEAB and a brief update on the work to hire the next SEAB facilitator. Information was also requested on the District's plans for spring events outside of athletics, and further details were provided.

The Board then learned more about the current Legislative Update. Questions from the Board included further information on PreK seats, funding of mandates, additional information on the Cruz-Guzman lawsuit and impacts to SPPS and charter schools, Teacher of Color grants, potential concerns about the omnibus bill and budget bill, and the ability to recruit Teachers of Color to Minnesota.

Next, a Critical Ethnic Studies Update was provided. This presentation sparked robust discussion amongst board members, with topics and questions including communication to students and families about this course, units and themes within the course content, and challenges and how they are or have been addressed. Concerns on the effects of the course on current classes, course content, and the concern that parents need to know what their child is going to be taught in this course, and that not all voices have been heard in the process. Further details on engagement and discussion with stakeholders were also provided. Questions also centered on the example of immigration and emigration unit within the course and the importance of including Black and Native American/Indigenous perspectives as well. Discussion also focused on the interdisciplinary aspect of the course, this course as a required elective and other required electives in SPPS, how this course will present issues being addressed, and further information on the timeline, including the recommendation to bring forth the policy amendment by December 2021. The Critical Ethnic Studies Steering Committee work was also noted, as well as clarity on the interdisciplinary nature of this course and the impacts on other courses.

Within the Work Session, staff provided a brief update on graduation ceremony details, and board members discussed their attendance at the ceremonies for both the greeting message and conferring of diplomas.

A full video of the Committee of the Board Meeting can be found at www.spps.org/boe.

MOTION: Director Vue moved that the Board accept the report on the May 4, 2021 Committee of the Board meeting and approve the recommended motions and minutes of that meeting as published. Director Allen seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
Director Brodrick Yes

Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. SEAB Presentation 2021

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Kaying Thao, Administrator to the Board, to introduce members of the Student Engagement and Advancement Board and provided a brief report on their work this past year. SEAB Members then introduced themselves, and those present at the meeting included Kalid Ali, Anindita Rajamani, and Simon Mulrooney. Other SEAB members include Diamond Thlang, Jordanna Marshall, Marianna Xiong, and Tochi Onuegbu.

SEAB Members then presented on topics such as the history of the group; origins and values; Fall 2019 - events and thoughts/feelings; work in 2020; values of justice and knowledge, ethnic studies, and SEAB manual, facilitator role and recruitment forward; videos of testimony from current SEAB members; voices from the Board/SEAB subcommittee; a summary that history matters, student voice matters, and future matter; and what was learned and created, including information on the SEAB facilitator role.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Chief Baker provided further information on the SEAB facilitator role and the effects of the role, and complexity of the system. SEAB members noted they felt there was a lack of communication, a sense of being excluded from the decision making process, and feel the facilitator role will be helpful in onboarding for new SEAB members, and should be a priority.
- Director Vue thanked SEAB for their work and will continue to work with the group moving forward.
- He also noted questions on the criteria for the facilitator. Response: One of the strongest areas is to be able to navigate the SPPS system. SEAB members can facilitate their meetings, but it would be more about the connections between SEAB and various SPPS areas. It will also be important for them to communicate with board members, Administration, and SEAB.
- Director Allen thanked the group for their insight, and appreciated the report and hearing their voices and perspectives from the past year.
- She requested information to clarify that this was their last meeting as seniors. Response: Yes, that is correct. Members are still open to helping new SEAB members over the summer, and with the new facilitator, but this will be their last board meeting.
- She also requested further clarification on the responsibility to train the new facilitator. Response: We don't know, and it's not clear of the role of the facilitator yet. The history of SEAB facilitators was also reviewed. They also noted the sustainability of the position to ensure it is carrying the mission of the students.
 - Director Allen also noted her wishes for a 10th and 9th grade mentor program, as a feeder program for SEAB, with different roles, including data-gathering and voice to the Board in thinking about how to expand student voice with committees. She also noted her concerns that SEAB students are only on SEAB for a maximum of 3 years, because in that time, work is just starting. She encouraged continued conversations about sustainability and long-term ideals.

- She also requested information on the facilitator role and to whom they have an obligation. SEAB members noted they were not aware there was going to be a new facilitator, and there was little transparency in the change and process. SEAB members also noted that for training, SEAB needs to be involved as it is a collaborative process, as well as the importance of the time of the new facilitator in the role to work together.
- Director Allen also noted the role of the SEAB facilitator as a youth advocate, and is proud that SEAB students will be staying close and hope to see them in the future and thanked them for their work.
- Director Kopp thanked SEAB members for the invitation to be in community with them, and appreciation of their work, and communication to do better and relationships to be better. She noted the role of the facilitator and understanding what we need from each other and the ability to deliver that. She is committed, as a board member, to help them navigate their roles and obstacles. Since it is their last meeting, she thanked all members, as well as Kurt RuKim and Becky McCammon for their work and navigation to preserve the relationship and in hopes to build a stronger one.
- Director Carrillo thanked SEAB members for their time perspective that this has not been easy - and also to make a commitment to them. He noted the bylaws and policy that may need to change or be updated to reflect current changes, and all need to bring what they want SEAB to be like and feel like with SEAB as a co-participant.
- Director Ellis noted that as SEAB members states, this has not been easy, even prior to the pandemic, and we own that. As SEAB changes, the Board also changes. She acknowledged their pain, and it is the role of adults to support students. She hopes to move forward and a concerted effort for SEAB and the Board to build upon their relationship and collaboration. She appreciated the presentation, and noted the history behind us, and the wanting to be better for the next group, and appreciated the foresight and insight and willingness to do better even when current SEAB members are graduating.
- Director Foster thanked members for their presentation and sharing their concerns. This Board believes in full support and relationship building, and encouraged all to consider their role and take onus and miscommunication. She wanted SEAB members to know they have done great work and does not want them to feel like they didn't do enough - this conversation speaks to their work, their engagement, and commitment to elevating student voice.
- SEAB Members then provided additional feedback, including their work on the facilitator role and timeline, and space held with board members, their due diligence in the in their work, and passion for this work. Members also noted their voice that has developed as a result of SEAB.
- Superintendent Gothard congratulated SEAB members who are seniors and graduating. We are all proud of them and know they will go on to do great work, reflect the community, their families, and community as a whole. There is work remaining, and distribution of autonomy and sense of connectedness, and to think difference about the different iterations of SEAB. He also wants to ensure there are deliberate onramps to have connections to the District. He also noted the complexity in navigating administration and district items, and to provide a roadmap as a guide to allow SEAB members to efficiently and effectively work together and with staff, in collaboration with a facilitator.

B. Human Resource Transactions

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the HR Transactions for the period April 1 through April 30, 2021. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of all items within the consent agenda withholding item C6 - Ramsey County Elections Contract, which was pulled for separate consideration. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

A. Gifts

BF 32399 Acceptance of Gift from Ecolab to Cherokee Heights

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (or Designee) to accept the gifts from Ecolab to support Cherokee Heights Elementary School's SCIP goals.

BF 32400 Gift Acceptance for Improvements to Health Start Clinics

That the Board of Education, authorize the Superintendent (or Designee) to accept a gift of \$26,197 in capital improvements to Health Start Clinics at various sites.

B. Grants

BF 32401 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Assistance League of Minneapolis/Saint Paul

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from Assistance League to; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32402 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the Assistance League of Minneapolis/St. Paul Operation School Bell Links to Learning

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the Assistance League of Minneapolis/St. Paul for the Operation School Bell Links to Learning funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32403 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant to the Change to Chill School Partnership with Allina Health

The Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant to the Change to Chill School Partnership with Allina Health for the funds of Chill Zone; to accept funds, and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32404 Ratification of Grants Accepted from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education's Get Ready/GEAR UP Program

That the Board of Education ratify the administration's action to accept to funds from Minnesota Office of Higher Education's Get Ready/GEAR UP to fund college and career readiness programs in SPPS; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32405 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from the National Geographic Society

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from the National Geographic Society to develop a 15-lesson unit on social justice; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32406 Request for Permission to Submit Two Grant Applications to the FrenchAmerican Cultural Exchange (FACE) Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit two grant applications to the FACE Foundation for funds to support the French Immersion program at Central Senior High School; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32407 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to Allina Health

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to Allina Health for funds to support the district Wellness Initiatives; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32408 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Best Buy Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Best Buy Foundation for funds to provide paid work experience and other opportunities to students in Genius Squad and/or Innovative and Emerging Technologies Career Pathways; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32409 Request for Permission to Submit a Grant to the Minnesota Department of Education

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Education for funds to enhance K-12 students' information literacy skills; to accept funds, if awarded; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 32410 Request for Permission to Accept a Grant from Project Lead the Way

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept a grant from Project Lead the Way to implement PLTW Launch at Crossroads Elementary; to accept grant funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

C. Contracts

BF 32411 RFP #A212562-A | Prime Vendor for Produce

That the Board of Education authorize the award of RFP# A212562-A to Bix Produce Company as a primary vendor and to Russ Davis Wholesale as the secondary vendor for the furnishing and delivery of produce for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for the estimated value of \$1,800,000 and \$1,200,000; respectively.

BF 32412 RFP #A214209-A | Petite Bananas

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP # A214209-A to Russ Davis Wholesale, Inc. for furnishing and delivery of Petite Bananas for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for an estimated value of \$245,000.

BF 32413 RFP #A217128-A | RFP Fresh Bakery Item

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP #A217128-A to Bimbo Bakeries USA for furnishing and delivery of Fresh Bakery Items for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for an estimated value of \$245,000.

BF 32414 RFP #A217036-A | RFP Dairy and Juice

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of RFP #A217036-A to BevSo for the furnishing and delivery of Dairy and Juice for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for an estimated value of \$2,000,000.

BF 32415 Reauthorization of Saint Paul Public School Adult Basic Education to work in conjunction with and to act as fiscal agent for Literacy Minnesota and Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium (SPCLC) and related management contract for the consortium for the 2021-2022 school year. The cost of the management contract is approximately \$178,000.

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Literacy Minnesota for the Management Contract of the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium.

D. Agreements

BF 32416 COVID-19 Lost/Missing Library Materials Replacement Fund

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with Mackin Educational Resources for library materials not to exceed \$500,000 and will be paid from the general fund budget for the 2021-22 school year.

BF 32417 Food Service Agreements with Various Schools and Programs

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent or designee to enter into agreements to provide food service for non-SPPS schools and programs.

E. Administrative Items

BF 32418 Monthly Operating Authority

1. That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and wire transfers for the period March 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021.

(a) General Account	#734684-735767	\$64,219,548.14
	#0004040-0004065	
	#7004006-7004038	
	#0005492-0005588	
(b) Debt Service	-0-	\$0.00
(c) Construction	-0-	<u>\$2,317,650.54</u>
		\$66,537,198.68

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$40,802,406.29 and overtime of \$131,157.23 or 0.32% of payroll.

(d) Collateral Changes

Released:

None

Additions:

None

2. 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 August 31, 2021.

BF 32419 Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative Gifts Supporting Social Emotional Learning

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the acceptance of awards from the Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative to support the ongoing work of Social Emotional Learning in Saint Paul Public Schools.

BF 32420 Reauthorization Of St. Paul Public School Adult Basic Education To Work In Conjunction With And To Act As Fiscal Agent For Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium (Spclc) In Providing Basic Skills, English Literacy Training And Occupational Training Classes Through The Saint Paul Public Schools Adult Basic Education Program And Nine Consortium Members

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Education for re-authorization of funding to provide Adult Basic Education and act as fiscal agent for funding through the SPPS Adult Basic Education program and the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium.

F. Bids

BF 32421 Phase Gate Approval of Bridgeview Roof Replacement Project (Project # 0175-21-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award; Gate #4A – Finance Plan Update

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A20-0747-A Bridgeview Roof Replacement project (Project #s 0175-21-01) to Central Roofing Company for a lump sum base bid plus Alternates 1, 2 and 3 of \$2,848,334.

G. Change Orders - None

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

BF 32422 Ramsey County Elections Contract

Staff then provided more information on this item separately, as it was a late addition to the agenda. There has been a lot of discussion back and forth between the District and Ramsey County Elections on this item. There is an increase in the contract amount for the five years, and discussions focused on ways to pay for our portion for election services. Rationale for the increase includes the increase in absentee voting and the new minimum wage for election judges in Saint Paul.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue requested information on the history of SPPS working with Ramsey County Elections, rationale for the contract, and rationale for its continuation. Response: We contract with Ramsey County Elections as an election bureau due to the economy of scale; they also provide election services for other cities and districts in Ramsey County. They do handle all requirements for the election services, including filing for candidates. The history of our work with Ramsey County Elections was also provided. A couple reasons for the changes are a result of COVID-19 with the historic turnout of 2/3 of voters casting through absentee ballots. There are some additional costs related to the printing, envelopes, postage, and processing of the ballots due to this change, as well

as PPE and other health needs for polling places. The other major increase is due to the City of Saint Paul ordinance for minimum wage, with all election workers at the new rate. There were also some costs associated with moving equipment to polling sites, and the proportional share split between jurisdictions.

- Director Allen noted that she is not in favor of these increases. Voting is a part of our democracy and needs to be prioritized at the very top, and we should not be using General Funds for this expense, which could be used for textbooks or curriculum. This guidance should come from the very top, and the responsibility as well. She noted that she will vote yes, but does not like it, but will continue to look for ways to navigate the situation so we are not tapping into the budget for students across the nation.
- Director Kopp thanked staff for the presentation, and noted it is a powerfully large amount of money.
- Director Carrillo noted that the sum of the contract is considerable, and it is not something that is taken lightly, and it is not good. He agrees that our election process is being taken down to the grassroots level and representation where it is prioritized. We need to think about this as a state and nation about how we prioritize funding for elections and manage them. Ramsey County provides excellent election services, and thanked them and staff for the explanation.
- Director Ellis thanked staff for their work. She noted the increase, and ensuring that General Counsel reviewed the contract, and to know what we are agreeing to and committing the District to, and understanding the importance of that. She agrees that this is not where we want to spend money, but because of the system, this is where we are at. She does appreciate the work of the team in the best way to move this forward and months of work to get us to this place with this contract.
- SEAB Member Ali thanked staff for the presentation.
- Director Foster thanked staff for the simplifying of the language of understanding for this contract, and for the work on it and language.

MOTION: Director Foster moved that the Board of Education approve the election contract for period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2026. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Policy Update

___1. FIRST READING: Policy 812.00 School Emergency Management

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed staff to present the First Reading of the update to Policy 812.00 - School Emergency Management. The rationale for the updates were shared, as well as the proposed updates to the current policy, and links to the current policy and proposed policy were also provided. The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Allen requested clarification that all staff are required to be trained on their specific site? Response: Yes.
- Information was also requested on the five drills, and if that was already happening or new to each building. Response: That is something we have consistently been doing and even before it was mandated; we were doing adequate drills and tracking drills per building.
- Clarification was also requested on the structure of drills during the past year, and changes. Response: We have had to adapt. Normally, a severe weather drill would be where students sit closely in hallways, and instead, this year, we did talk-through drills instead of walk-through drills due to COVID safety requirements. We are still required to complete drills during COVID and buildings are actively conducting those.

2. SECOND READING: Policy 510.01: Students: Retention and Promotion

The rationale for the changes to Policy 510.01 Students: Promotion and Retention were reviewed, as well as proposed updates. The full presentation can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

B. FY2021-22 Priority Based Budget Update

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Chief Financial Officer, Marie Schrul, to present the FY2021-22 Priority-Based Budget Update.

Chief Schrul reviewed the budget process, including that we are committed to an ongoing, priority-based budget process for the 2021-22 budget and steps such as Plan and Prepare, Set Instructional Priorities, Pay for Priorities, Implement Plan, and Ensure Sustainability. A FY22 revenue projection in the General Fund was reviewed. The confirmation of instructional and operational priorities including within SPPS Achieved and COVID-19. Details on the FY22 resource allocations within the General Fund were also provided. FY22 staffing impacts (as of 5/14/21) were reviewed. The FY22 budget timeline was also shared, with a FY22 Budget Update at the June Committee of the Board meeting, and Final FY22 Budget Presentation for adoption at the June 22 Regular Meeting. The overall budget development timeline was also shown. More information was also provided on putting strategies into practice and evaluate results to improve resource allocations through presenting a multi-year financial plan, assessing program effectiveness using transparent metrics, aligning resources with priorities with programs offered and workforce planning.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Director Vue requested more information on the staff vacancies. Response: Typically at this time we are not seeing a large number of vacancies, but we do hire about 150-225 positions for teachers. We do have some upcoming events, including a pop-up teaching event as a way to do hiring for external teachers. Hiring of paraprofessionals may be more challenging, but we are working with the schools to hire now as opposed to waiting to the summer. There will also be hiring in July with placement, and will know numbers, and have the opportunity to go out and do external hiring. There may be vacancies at the beginning of the school year, but will work on those between now and this summer.
- Director Ellis requested further information on “other revenue”. Response: That is a significant amount allocated for student activity. There is some miscellaneous revenue, such as donations of funds, but one-time money. The largest portion is student activity funds and are being conservative right now. If we see an increase for the next school year, we will come back with a budget revision.

- It was noted that with waiting for figures from the legislative session, if there is an increase, it will be added to the budget, but otherwise it will be seen as a budget revision in the Fall in a report to the Board.
- Board members also thanked Jim Engen for his support in delivering the budget information.
- Superintendent Gothard thanked Chief Schrul and her team for this budget cycle, which is a team sport. We are adapting and finding new ways in a virtual environment to do this work in a pandemic. He also noted the workforce demand, and ensuring deadline are posted to ensure we hire the very best folks who are incredibly important to this work, and will continue to be. He noted the positions open to hire, and we will put our best foot forward to do this work quickly for the very best for our students and community.

C. Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$15,000,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2021A, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof

Superintendent Gothard then welcomed Kelly Smith from Baker Tilly to present information on the below three resolutions. A summary document was shared that presented the tax-exempt market rates and taxable market rates for the past five years, the 10-year and 30-year treasury rates for five years, and the sale results.

Competitive proposals for the issues were solicited and five (5) bids were received this morning for the 2021A and 2021B issues and one bid for the 2021D issue. Bids are being awarded based on a true interest cost (TIC) basis to reflect the time value of money. Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. submitted the lowest bid for all three issues. All bids received were below the projected bids provided in April. A comparison of actual results to the April recommendation was provided.

A brief update was also provided on the credit rating. Moody's Investor Service once again assigned an underlying rating of Aa2 and an enhanced rating of Aa2 to the District's current debt issue. The enhanced rating reflects the security by the State of Minnesota's School District Enhancement Program. S & P Global Ratings assigned an underlying rating to this debt issue of AA and an enhanced rating of AAA. The outlook from both rating agencies is stable for the district's underlying rating.

Subject to action by the Board to accept the lowest bid from Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. for the 2021A issue, the 2021B issue and the 2021D issue, Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors will coordinate the closings with District staff and expect proceeds from this issue to be delivered to the district on June 17, 2021.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:

- Board members thanked Kelly Smith, Chief Schrul and the team for their work. They also noted that leadership matters, and everyone strives to be as effective and efficient in our school budgets as possible. The hard work is noticed and appreciated.

BF 32395 Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$15,000,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2021A, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$15,000,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2021A, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof. Director Carrillo seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

- D. Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$28,850,000 General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2021B, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof

BF 32396 Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$28,850,000 General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2021B, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Resolution Accepting Bid On Sale Of \$28,850,000 General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2021B, Providing For Their Issuance And Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

- E. Resolution Authorizing Execution Of Second Amendment To Ground Lease, Second Amendment To Lease Purchase Agreement, And Second Supplemental Declaration Of Trust And Accepting Offer On Sale Of \$8,425,000 Taxable Certificates Of Participation, Series 2021D

BF 32397 Resolution Authorizing Execution Of Second Amendment To Ground Lease, Second Amendment To Lease Purchase Agreement, And Second Supplemental Declaration Of Trust And Accepting Offer On Sale Of \$8,425,000 Taxable Certificates Of Participation, Series 2021D

MOTION: Director Foster moved approval of the Resolution Authorizing Execution Of Second Amendment To Ground Lease, Second Amendment To Lease Purchase Agreement, And Second Supplemental Declaration Of Trust And Accepting Offer On Sale Of \$8,425,000 Taxable Certificates Of Participation, Series 2021D. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes

Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

X. NEW BUSINESS - None

XI. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests & Responses

B. Items for Future Agendas

- Director Vue requested an update on the plan for Hmong Dual Language to merge to one school.
- Director Allen requested information on summer school programming.
- Director Ellis requested information on solar energy within SPPS from the Facilities team.
- SEAB Member Ali noted coaching stipends, especially for soccer coaches, and equity in coaching stipends.
- Director Foster requested information on students in special education, including percentage of students in the program, demographics, and staffing. She also requested information on seniors graduating with honors, going to trades, graduating with college credit, etc.

C. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Vue shared that May is Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and acknowledged the struggles of the past and present. Friday marked a special day, Hmong American Day, and he recounted his recent experience at Hmong Village over the weekend and celebrating with the community and family, and reflecting on the Hall of Heroes, and the work of Hmong officers and soldiers, and service workers. He also reflected on the loss of Eisha Vang, a student at Bridge View and her story of success, as well as sympathy of her passing to her parents. He noted that as a Hmong historian, it is not enough to recall history, but we must make it. He leans into the stories of Marny Xiong, Ilean Her and many other brothers and sisters who left the world in this past year. He then provided a passage of a song for reflection.
- Director Kopp thanked Director Vue for his words
- Director Ellis also noted Director Vue's words and acknowledgment of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. She also noted the Board Retreat held on May 8th, and that the last time board members stood in that space was on March 13, 2020, alongside Marny Xiong, as a team united in moving forward to address the strike. It was the first time the entire Board was together in a space to do work we have been doing separately, and together. She also noted all staff in the recognitions, and was reminded of the reasons she loves this district and is excited about the things we can accomplish together. She also appreciated the thanks of the teams within the recognitions. She also noted it is National Speech Pathologist Day and thanked those staff supporting our students.
- SEAB Member Ali then provided thanks, as this is his last meeting. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in discussion and welcomed him into the space. He thanked the Board for calling on him for questions and recounted his first experience at a board meeting and how he felt proud of the work of the groups in attendance, but also he was a member of the Board. He thanked board members for the rides home after long meetings, opportunities to discuss soccer, leadership and guidance of board members to be a voice in the community, discussing each other's stories as immigrants to the United States and passion of board members for students of SPPS, work together on Ethnic Studies, and meeting new board members and wishing them well. He also thanked

Superintendent Gothard for welcoming him into spaces and meetings with staff. He noted that when he first arrived in this country 8 years ago, he immediately enrolled in SPPS, and has been a part of SPPS ever since. He stayed in the public schools because they are the foundation of the community, and something that a community can build upon. He also thanked Sarah Dahlke, Board Secretary, for her checking-in prior to board meetings with him, and it is amazing to have someone who cares, and is also like a big sister. He thanked everyone for this amazing journey and to be a part of SPPS. Director Foster noted that she and board members and staff are always available for support. Superintendent Gothard thanked SEAB Member Ali for his gifts, and SPPS will be his home forever and looks forward to his continued journey.

XI. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

- E. Motion to Cancel the Special Meeting on Non-Renewals and Committee of the Board Currently Scheduled For Tuesday, June 8, 2021, And Schedule A Special Meeting Of The Board On Non-Renewals And Committee Of The Board For Tuesday, June 15, 2021

MOTION: Director Foster moved to cancel the Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Special Meeting and Committee of the Board, and schedule a Special Meeting beginning at 4:00pm and Committee of the Board Meeting beginning at 4:30pm for Tuesday, June 15, 2021. Director Brodrick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

A. Board of Education Meetings (6:05 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- January 5, 2021 (Annual)
- January 19
- February 23
- March 23
- April 20
- May 18
- June 15 | Non-Renewals (rescheduled from June 8 due to graduation ceremonies)
- June 22
- July 20

B. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- January 5, 2021
- February 9
- March 9
- April 13 (rescheduled from April 6 due to Spring Break)

- May 4
- June 15 (rescheduled from June 8 due to graduation ceremonies)
- August 10

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Foster moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Ellis and Director Allen seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Brodrick	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Kopp	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Ellis	Yes
Director Foster	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

XIII. WORK SESSION

Board members then finalized attendance at the 2021 graduation ceremonies, as previous guidelines have been updated, and up to two board members, as in previous years, are now welcome to attend on stage for the larger ceremonies. They also determined roles at those larger ceremonies, including the provider of the message and the officiant of the conferring of diplomas.

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