



## **Association of Metropolitan School Districts**

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Board of Directors Meeting, Association of Metropolitan School Districts  
Friday, November 2, 2018, 7:00 am – 9:00 am  
Grand Hall, TIES Conference Center, St. Paul, MN

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Stephanie Levine called the meeting to order at 7:37 am. Levine welcomed the members and asked if there were any introductions to be made. Several introductions were made. Chair Levine called members attention to the two attendance sheets on the tables – one to record attendance at the meeting and one to earn CEU hours.

### **II. Routine Business**

#### **A. Approval of Minutes of October 5 Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was approved.

### **III. Executive Committee Report**

Chair Levine called members' attention to the FY 2018 AMSD audit report which was available at each table and had been emailed to board members prior to the meeting. Chair Levine noted that AMSD had contracted with Olsen Thielen & Co, LTD to perform the FY 2018 audit. Chair Levine noted that the audit had a clean opinion, that the organization was in a good financial position, and the organization was consistent year to year in its financial income and expenditures. Chair Levine also noted that the audit is required to report that AMSD does not strictly adhere to the segregation of duties principle but that this is a common finding for small organizations like AMSD. Chair Levine also noted that Olsen Thielen will be preparing the financial statements which is also common for small associations. Chair Levine reported that AMSD had implemented the recommendations from the previous year's audit and adopted the recommended policies for capitalization of fixed assets and a policy related to financial reserves. A motion was made and seconded to accept the FY2018 audit report. The motion was approved.

Chair Levine asked Executive Director Croonquist to provide an update regarding the AMSD Office relocation due to the pending sale of the TIES Building. Executive Director Croonquist informed members that the current TIES tenants met with officials from Sourcewell and that it is apparent that AMSD needs to secure new office space. Croonquist reported that AMSD staff had established some parameters in the search for a new office location including trying to stay in the same general vicinity, space for committee and, if possible, board of director meetings, sufficient parking and a safe environment for employees and guests. Croonquist reported that he and staff had visited several potential office locations and had identified space at the Anderson Center owned by Bethel University. The location is 4.5 miles north of the current TIES Building. Croonquist noted that the MN Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) is interested in sharing an office suite with AMSD and that the location identified at the Anderson Center would work very well for both organizations. Croonquist also noted that AMSD had secured meeting space at the Quora Education Center, NE Metro 916's new facility, for board of directors meetings for 2019. Croonquist thanked NE Metro Intermediate District Superintendent Connie Hayes for her assistance in securing the meeting space and Roseville Superintendent Aldo Sicoli for securing parking space at Roseville Middle School.

#### **IV. Guest Speaker**

Chair Stephanie Levine introduced the first guest speakers, Lucy Payne, Professional Educator & Licensing Standards Board (PELSB) and Alex Liuzzi, Executive Director, PELSB. Ms. Payne and Mr. Liuzzi shared a presentation to members that included an overview of PELSB and the new tiered licensure system. Ms. Payne and Mr. Liuzzi concluded their presentation by taking a few questions from AMSD members.

#### **V. Executive Director's Report**

Chair Levine asked Executive Director Croonquist to offer his report. Croonquist began by reporting that yesterday was the final interim hearing of the Senate E-12 Education Policy Committee. Croonquist provided an overview of the testimony at the hearing which related to policy proposals to reduce the special education cross-subsidy. Croonquist also reminded members to register for AMSD's annual conference which is scheduled for November 28. Croonquist shared a brief overview of the conference and noted that the conference will serve as the first of a two-part advocacy training series in preparation for the 2019 legislative session. Further advocacy training will be offered at the December board of directors meeting. Croonquist also called attention to the copies of AMSD's draft legislative platform on the tables and asked members to share their feedback with him or any of the members of the legislative committee. Croonquist noted that the board will need to approve the 2019 platform at the December meeting.

#### **VI. Presentation of 2018 Friend of Public Education Awards**

The next item of business was the presentation of AMSD's Friend of Public Education Award for 2018. Chair Levine reported that Senator Julie Rosen, Senator Sandy Pappas and Representative Tim O'Driscoll had been selected as recipients of the award for their work and leadership in passing the omnibus pension bill during the past legislative session. Chair Levine noted that Representative O'Driscoll would be accepting his award at a later date. Chair Levine introduced Senator Rosen and Senator Pappas and shared an overview of their accomplishments. Senator Pappas and Senator Rosen accepted their awards and thanked AMSD for the recognition. The senators then offered some thoughts on the upcoming legislative session and engaged in a brief question and answer session with AMSD board members.

#### **VII. Guest Speaker**

Chair Stephanie Levine introduced the final guest speaker, Kevin Rupp from the Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger law firm. Mr. Rupp provided a presentation to members regarding the implications of the U.S. Supreme Court's Janus decision & state law changes related to unrequested leaves of absences. Mr. Rupp concluded his presentation by taking a few questions from AMSD members.

#### **VIII. Adjourn**

Chair Levine thanked board members and guests for attending and noted that the handouts from the meeting are on the AMSD website. Chair Levine also encouraged members to register for the AMSD conference. Chair Levine noted the upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 9:01 AM.

#### ***Attendance:***

Les Fujitake and Nelly Korman from Bloomington; Terri Swartout and Holly Link from Eden Prairie; Owen Michaelson from Edina; Kim Hiel f.and Mary Kay Delvo from Fridley; Adams, from Hopkins; Sue Gliva and Dave Bernhardson from Inver Grove Heights; Michael Bauman, Emily McDonald and Bob Erickson from Lakeville; Lucy Payne, Barb Duffrin and Mike Chevalier from Mahtomedi; Ed Graff, Josh Downham and Bob Walser from Minneapolis; Dennis Peterson from

Minnetonka; Jeff Ridlehoover from Mounds View; Marilyn Forsberg and Connie Hayes from NE Metro 916; Martha VandeVen from Orono; Mike Ostaffe and Stephen Flisk from Osseo; Teri Staloch from Prior Lake Savage; Steve Unowsky from Richfield; Kristine Wehrkamp and Stephanie Burrage from Robbinsdale; Paul Durand and Chuck Tryon from Rockford; Sicol, Todd Anderson and Karen Schaub from Roseville; Andrea Scamehorn and Renee Corneille from St. Anthony; Bruce Hentges from St. Cloud; Anne Casey from St. Louis Park; Lois Pantoja from St Paul; Keith Jacobus and Shelly Schafer from South Washington County; Dave Webb from South St. Paul; John Strobel from Spring Lake Park; Mike Ptacek from Stillwater; Andrea Cuene, Chace Anderson and Cheryl Polzin from Wayzata; Stephanie Levine from West St. Paul; Wayne Kazmierczak and Marissa Vette from White Bear Lake; Kris Amundson, Lori Grivna, Scott Croonquist, Troy Melhus and Sara O'Rourke from AMSD.