



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

Board of Directors Meeting, Association of Metropolitan School Districts
Friday, December 7, 2018, 7:00 am – 9:00 am
Quora Education Center, 70 County B2W, Little Canada, MN

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Stephanie Levine called the meeting to order at 7:33 am. Levine welcomed the members to the new meeting location and asked if there were any introductions to be made. Several introductions were made. Chair Levine noted that there was a table in the hallway with attendance sheets– one to record attendance at the meeting and one to earn CEU hours. Chair Levine then introduced Connie Hayes, superintendent of NE Metro 916, who gave a brief welcome and overview of the Quora Education Center, AMSD's new board meeting location.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of November 2 Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the November 2nd meeting. The motion was approved.

III. Legislative Committee Report

The next order of business was to review the proposed 2019 AMSD Legislative Platform. Chair Levine reminded members that the board had reviewed a draft of the platform at the November meeting. Chair Levine noted a few minor changes to the platform that had been incorporated since the November meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the 2019 legislative platform. The motion was approved.

Chair Levine next asked members to review the updated AMSD position papers on Guns on School Property, Mandate Reduction and Local Control, Taxpayer Subsidies for K-12 Private Education, Compensatory Revenue, Early Childhood Education, and Assessment. Levine reminded members that the position papers had all been approved by the board in previous years and that the changes were to reflect updated demographic data, new research and/or legislative changes enacted in 2018. Chair Levine asked if board members had any feedback or comments. Chair Levine asked for a motion to approve the slate of position papers. A motion was made and seconded to approve the updated position papers. The motion was approved.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Chair Levine asked Executive Director Croonquist to offer his report. Croonquist began by congratulating those AMSD districts that had successful referendum questions on the ballot last month. Croonquist also gave an overview of the state election results, noting that Tim Walz had been elected Governor, while the Democrats took control of the House and Republican maintained control of the Senate. Croonquist thanked members for attending the AMSD conference on November 28 and noted that all of the presentations are available on the AMSD website. Croonquist reported that the November state budget forecast had been released yesterday showing a projected surplus. Croonquist indicated while this was good news, the surplus does not include projected inflation on the expenditure side of the ledger so the projected surplus is somewhat illusory. Croonquist also informed members that AMSD will move its office location on December 17 into the Anderson Center at Bethel University. Croonquist

noted that AMSD board meetings will continue to be held at the Quora Education Center for at least the remainder of the year. Croonquist also noted that AMSD's Legislative Preview will be held on January 4 at the Quora Education Center and encouraged members to invite their local legislators. Governor-elect Walz has been invited, as well as the chairs and minority leads of the education finance committees to serve on a legislative panel.

V. Guest Speaker

Executive Director Scott Croonquist introduced the first guest speakers, Kris Amundson and Lori Grivna, AMSD government affairs consultants. Ms. Amundson and Ms. Grivna gave a presentation on effective legislative advocacy. Ms. Amundson and Ms. Grivna concluded their presentation by taking a few questions from AMSD members. The next guest speaker was AMSD Director of Communications & Advocacy Troy Melhus. Mr. Melhus shared a presentation on effective social media advocacy. Mr. Melhus concluded his presentation by answering a few questions from AMSD board members.

VI. Recognition of Outgoing AMSD Board Members

AMSD Chair Stephane Levine recognized St. Cloud School Board Member Bruce Hentges for his service on the AMSD Legislative Committee for the past two years and presented him with a gift in appreciation of his service. Mr. Hentges did not seek re-election to the school board this year and is retiring. Mr. Hentges thanked AMSD for the recognition and the work of the organization.

VII. 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 noted the upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 9:02 AM.

Attendance:

Al Ickler and Corey McIntyre from Anoka-Hennepin; Nelly Korman from Bloomington; Carly Baker and Cheryl Jechorek from Brooklyn Center; Kathy Kelly from Columbia Heights; Holly Link and Stacie Stanley from Eden Prairie; Sarah Patzloff and Ellen Jones from Edina; Jean Lubke from Equity Alliance MN; Kim Hiel from Fridley; Steve Adams from Hopkins; Mark Zuzek from Intermediate 917; Sue Gliva and Dave Bernhardson from Inver Grove Heights; Michael Bauman, Dee Dee Currier and Bob Erickson from Lakeville; Barb Duffrin and Mike Chevalier from Mahtomedi; Bob Walser from Minneapolis; Dennis Peterson from Minnetonka; Amy Jones, Colin Sokolowski and Chris Lennox from Mounds View; Marilyn Forsberg and Connie Hayes from NE Metro 916; Mike Ostaffe and Jim Bauck from Osseo; Teri Staloch from Prior Lake Savage; Steve Unowsky and Peter Toensing from Richfield; Kristine Wehrkamp and Carlton Jenkins from Robbinsdale; Paul Durand and Chuck Tryon from Rockford; Aldo Sicoli, Todd Anderson and Karen Schaub from Roseville; Leah Slye, Andrea Scamehorn and Renee Corneille from St. Anthony; Bruce Hentges from St. Cloud; Anne Casey from St. Louis Park; Lois Pantoja, Mary Venderwert and Joe Gothard from St Paul; Keith Jacobus and Michelle Witte from South Washington County; Chris Walker from South St. Paul; Darren Kermes from SW Metro; Jeff Ronneberg, John Strobel and Bob Noyed from Spring Lake Park; Mike Ptacek, Isabella Portelli, Grace McDonough, Khuluc Young, Abdulaziz Mohamed, Emanuel Kassie, Josiah Hill, Sarah Stivland and Denise Pontrelli from Stillwater; Andrea Cuene, Andrew Hagen, Monica Dawson and Cheryl Polzin from Wayzata; Stephanie Levine from West St. Paul; Sara Paul, Wayne Kazmierczak and Marissa Vette from White Bear Lake; Kris Amundson, Lori Grivna, Scott Croonquist, Troy Melhus and Sara O'Rourke from AMSD.