



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, November 3, 2023, 7:30 – 9 a.m.
Quora Education Center, 70 West County B2, Little Canada, MN
Hybrid Meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present: Twenty-six members attended the meeting in person and 56 participated virtually.

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Marcus Hill called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. Hill welcomed everyone in person and online.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of October 6 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the October 6 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Executive Committee Report

A. Overview of AMSD FY 2023 Audit

Chair Hill reported that the AMSD audit for fiscal year 2023 was recently completed with a clean opinion and presented by the auditor at the last executive committee meeting. Hill noted that the final audit report and management letters are posted on the AMSD website for review.

IV. Legislative Committee Report

A. Review and Discussion of DRAFT 2024 Legislative Platform

Executive Director Scott Croonquist shared an overview of the draft 2024 legislative platform. He reminded members that the platform development process started in August with a survey sent to board members and district staff. The legislative committee used the survey results to develop the draft platform over the last two months. Croonquist reminded board members that 2024 is a non-budget year, but recent state revenue updates indicate there could be an opportunity for supplemental funding. Board members shared thoughts, comments, and suggestions for consideration. Croonquist thanked members for their feedback and invited board members to contact him or any member of the legislative committee with further feedback. A revised draft will be brought to the board in December for final approval.

V. Guest Speakers

Chair Hill introduced Dr. Katie Pekel, executive director of educational leadership in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota, and West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Superintendent Dr. Peter Olson-Skog. Dr. Pekel and Dr. Olson-Skog presented a thorough and informative overview of the results of the Minnesota Principals Survey

and Dr. Olson-Skog's related research about how to support, help and lead principals. Following their presentation, they answered questions from board members.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Chair Hill invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist shared that he and AMSD Consultants Kris Amundson and Lori Grivna have been meeting with legislators and MDE staff to share concerns with some of the new requirements adopted in the 2023 legislative session and discuss potential legislation for 2024. The House and Senate education chairs have indicated that they are planning early hearings on school resource officers and staff shortages.

Croonquist reminded board members that today is the last day to register for the Nov. 9 conference.

Croonquist reported that enough requests to hold a hearing on the proposed Social Studies Standards have been received. The hearing is scheduled for Nov. 8-9, with Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman presiding.

Croonquist wished good luck to districts with referendums on the ballot next week, as well as to the school board members running for reelection.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Hill reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Hill adjourned the meeting at 9 a.m.