

**S.A.D. #44 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008
7:00 PM – CRESCENT PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MINUTES**

I CALL TO ORDER:

Directors Absent: Ms. Chaisson, Ms. Thurston, Mr. Korhonen

Others Present: Mr. Davis, Mrs. Sabin, Mr. Sabin, Mr. Raymond, Ms. Littlehale, Dr. Murphy, Mr. Rice, Ms. Waite, Ms. Aloisio, Ms. Tancrelle

Pledge of Allegiance

II ACTION ON MINUTES:

Ms. Cross motioned to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2008 meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Brown VOTE: Unanimous

III CITIZEN COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

None

IV BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

The Telstar High School Basketball game will be carried live on Channel 2. If the team wins they will be playing for the championship in Augusta.

Chairman's Report

None

V COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS:

SAD #44 Board Meeting: Monday, March 10, 2008 – THS Library – 7:00 PM

Executive Committee: TBD

Education Committee: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 – 4:30 PM - EBS

Personnel Committee: Monday, February 11, 2008 – 6:30 PM - CPS

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Monday, February 11, 2008 – 6:30 PM - CPS

Negotiations Committee: Thursday, February 28, 2008 – 12:00 PM - EBS

Finance Committee: Monday, February 11, 2008 – 6:30 PM – CPS/Wednesday, February 13, 2008 – 4:00 PM - EBS

Policy Committee: Monday, February 25, 2008 – 5:00 PM – EBS (suggested date)

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Tuesday, February 12, 2008

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VI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Ms. Arizzi – No report

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Ms. Cross – Committee toured Crescent Park.

Finance Committee: Mr. Pew - No report

Negotiations Committee: Mr. Pew –No report

Personnel Committee: Ms. Brown – No report

Policy Committee: Ms. Largess – Committee has an agenda item

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Mr. Farrington – No report

VII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Lego League Presentation – Ms. Keane introduced the Lego Robotics 2007 team of Matthew Keane, Avery Rossow, Aiden Clarke, Walker Alford, Kiersten Drapeau, Justin Stearns, Rose Goldberg, Rachael Goldberg, Gabi Stone and Max Southam. The team explained to the Board how computer programs are used to move the robots and perform various tasks. The students then put on a brief demonstration.
- Appointments and Resignations – Dr. Murphy announced the appointment of Teresa Urban as a substitute bus driver.
- Drop-out Prevention Committee Update – Mr. Davis reported that each school unit must have a Drop-Out Prevention Committee and an annual report must be filed. SAD #44 Policy JFC states that an annual plan needs to be presented to, and approved by the Board. The Committee is responsible for studying the drop-out problem, including truancy, and the need for alternative programs for at-risk students. Mr. Davis stated that some of the reasons for students dropping out of school include low self-esteem, feeling that they cannot succeed in school, the rigidity of the current system and poor choices such as drugs, alcohol and tobacco use. Mr. Davis stated that more people are needed to serve on the Committee. He also stated that SAD #44 policy states that a Board member must be appointed to serve on the Committee. The committee must also include a student from the HS, a community member and a student who has previously dropped out of school. Mr. Davis stated that the committee will provide a report to the Board before the end of the school year.
- School Consolidation Update – Dr. Murphy reported that he still has not received any additional information from the state. He stated that the consolidation issue has not come to the floor of the legislature since they returned from recess. They are expected to look at cost sharing plans and possibly dropping the number of students necessary to stand alone from 1200 to 1000. The budget validation process that had been built into the law assumed that districts would be regionalized. Dr. Murphy stated that he has not received direction from the state as to how the budget validation process will proceed.
- FY '09 State Funding/ED 281 – Dr. Murphy reported that he was waiting to receive preliminary numbers from state which had been promised for the end of January. He reported that the Finance Committee will begin meeting to work on the FY '08-'09 budget on February 13th. Dr. Murphy stated that although final funding figures are not yet available, the district is facing a decrease in funding for administration,

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Special Education, and transportation. SAD #44 is also facing increased costs for such things as fuel and contractual payroll increases. Due to the projected state budget deficit, it is also likely that we may not receive the 55% percent state funding and may not receive approximately \$100,000 in Medicaid funding.

VIII OLD BUSINESS:

None

IX NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion – Board discussion regarding the scope and structure of administrative leadership at the Telstar Complex. Dr. Murphy stated that it is important to recognize the difference between the middle school and the high school. Dr. Murphy noted that there have been a lot of administrative changes at the complex in the last few years. Dr. Murphy stated that the two most important issues are what would be best for the students and what the financial impact will be. SAD #44 has advertised for two principal positions.

A Board member commented that they need to gauge the benefits of having two principals at the complex. The question of enrollment figures was raised. A Board member requested the figures for the past few years and future figures from the elementary level. Dr. Murphy will have the figures for the next meeting.

Dr. Murphy requested that Board members send any questions and comments to him via e-mail.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda – Ms. Cummings motioned to approve the addition of #6 to the agenda: To see what action the Board wishes to take regarding the appointment of a Board member to the Drop-Out Prevention Committee.

MOTION: Ms. Cummings SECOND: Mr. Pew VOTE: Unanimous

3. Ms. Taylor motioned to approve the hiring of Katina Colombotos as a K-12 School Social Worker to a first year probationary contract.

MOTION: Ms. Taylor SECOND: Ms. Cross VOTE: Unanimous

4. Ms. Largess motioned to approve the SECOND and FINAL READING of Policy JL District Wellness.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: Ms. Cross VOTE: Unanimous

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5. Ms. Cross motioned to table the approval of the 2008-2009 School Calendar.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Taylor VOTE: Unanimous

6. Ms. Cross motioned to appoint Mr. Pew to the Drop-Out Prevention Committee.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Mr. Farrington: VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 PM

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Mr. Farrington VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

David W. Murphy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools