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Doug Leisenring, Superintendent

**Board of Education - Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Delta-Schoolcraft ISD - Large Conference Room
Escanaba, Michigan 49829 - Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 4:00p.m.**

The DSISD regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp, president, at 4:00p.m.

Roll call showed the following Board Members present: Shanna Hammond, Michelle Denkins, Dave Bosilovatz, Bob Chaillier and Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp.

Absent: Mary Simonsen and Joan Ecclesine.

Also present: JJ Johnson Reeves, Tim Racicot, Trent Bellinger, Kristy Alimenti, Mallory Clickner, Holly Faust, Kristie Latsch, Beau Miller, Andrea Tourangeau and Doug Leisenring.

Motion by Bob Chaillier, with support by Michelle Denkins, to approve the consent agenda with the addition of D2. Administrative Reports and moving Superintendent's Report to D3., and including the approval of the minutes of the February 27, 2025 special School Board meeting and the approval of the invoices as presented: General Fund- \$409,218.18, Clear Lake Fund- \$2,835.26, Special Education Fund- \$123,976.57 and Career Tech Fund- \$119,612.35 for a total of \$655,642.36. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

No public comment. And no board reports.

Trent Bellinger, CTE director, gave updates on the student organization competitions and noted the SME Prime grant spreadsheet is up to date.

Holly Faust, special education director, highlighted some figures from the Strand report, notably the DSISD staff was part of 1,280 IEP's last year. 1,280 meetings, many hours and much planning, so well done to staff on meeting those timelines and getting the work done. There is also a push by MAASE to define roles between ISD's and the State, to move enforcement of special education law back to the State.

Tim Racicot, Learning Center supervisor, shared that the first communication survey has been completed and that there is a fundraiser for a Learning Center bus driver that fell ill on March 16, from 2-5 at the Northtown Crown. He also shared that the MEA will be giving out OPIE awards on April 24 at the Highland Golf Course, School Board members should please let Andrea know if you would like to attend that.

Kristie Latsch, general education director, wanted to acknowledge Trent Bellinger for his efforts in recommending bringing the SAT training to our local districts, it was a great training. She shared there are more exciting trainings coming including Adaptive Schools and Safe and Civil Schools. A MTSS survey is going out to leader teams at the local districts to evaluate if they are meeting the targets of the mission and vision.

GENERAL, SPECIAL AND CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Kristy Alimenti, mental health services and systems coordinator, shared there has been lots of interest in vendors for the Connect Well 2025 wellness fair.

Mallory Clickner, early childhood contact, shared the careers in education students helped put together the kindergarten readiness bags that are currently going out and noted that Rapid River is opening a GSRP classroom in the fall. She also shared that 62 student applications came in for preschool on the first day of enrollment, highest to date, so it seems the Pre-K for All message is getting out.

A written report was shared for technology and Doug Leisenring gave an update on the status of the application process for the technology director position, noting they will be interviewing 5 of the 12 candidates that applied. The goal is a June start date, for the new hire to get some work time with Mark Christoff. He also shared there is an E-rate issue heading to supreme court and could be real costly for schools, as E-rate currently pays large percentages of the technology bills through rebates.

Doug Leisenring, superintendent, shared that the Delta-Schoolcraft Association of School Boards (DSASB) will be holding a meeting on April 16 and will include DSISD updates from the departments and a legislative overview and Q&A with Jennifer Smith from MASB. Negotiations are moving along with the professional staff of MEA. He notified the Board there will be a closed session at the April meeting to review negotiations. He also shared there has been issues popping up with McKnight Transportation, and without much favorable improvement and it may be time to find alternative transportation options. He recognized two staff members for achievement in their respective positions by completing certifications with MSBO. Michelle Grassel earned the pupil accounting specialist certificate and Lindsey Pepin earned the certified human resources specialist certificate. Both certificates require many hours of professional development learning, so thank you and congratulations go out to Michelle and Lindsey for dedicating time to enhance their skill set in service of the DSISD.

The construction project is winding down and everything has been submitted for the Congressional grant; it is just a matter of the request for funds going through. A dedication of the new Daniel J. Kobasic Welding Center will take place on Friday, March 28th at 10am and everyone is invited to attend.

Timelines for the upcoming School Board election were reviewed.

D. Leisenring also reviewed the bidding thresholds for the upcoming house construction projects, noting anything over \$30,512 has to go out through a competitive bid process. The goal is to sell the first house during the summer of 2026.

Meeting adjourned by Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp at 4:46 p.m.

Mary Simonsen, Secretary
DSISD Board of Education

Please note the next regular School Board meeting will be on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 4:00p.m at the DSISD main campus.