

**MINNETONKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #276**  
**District Service Center**  
**5621 County Road 101**  
**Minnetonka, Minnesota**

**Minutes of January 7, 2021 Regular Board Meeting**

The School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District #276 met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 7, 2021 in the Community Room at the District Service Center, 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota. The meeting was conducted virtually. 2020 Chairperson Katie Becker and 2021 Chairperson Chris Vitale presided. Present in the room were: Chairperson Vitale and Superintendent Dennis Peterson, ex officio. Joining the meeting virtually were: Board members Mark Ambrosen, Katie Becker, John Holcomb, Mike LeSage, Christine Ritchie and Lisa Wagner. The meeting was also livestreamed on the District's YouTube channel.

Prior to the meeting, Board members recognized, via a video, AP Scholars with Honor; DSC Honored Artists from MHS; the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) "Best Communities for Music Education" Award recipients; and Prudential Spirit of Community Award winners and runners up.

Chairperson Becker then called the meeting to order and asked that everyone stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**1. AGENDA**

Wagner moved, Ambrosen seconded, that the School Board approve the agenda, as presented. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

**2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Superintendent Peterson announced that each year at the organizational meeting of the School Board, Board members were asked to elect from their membership, by majority vote, persons to fill the positions of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Clerk.

**Chairperson**

Holcomb moved, Wagner seconded, that Chris Vitale's name be placed in nomination to be Chairperson of the Minnetonka School Board for 2021. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Vitale abstaining from the vote. Chairperson Vitale thanked Board members for their vote of confidence.

### Vice-Chairperson

LeSage moved, Wagner seconded, that Mark Ambrosen's name be placed in nomination to be Vice-Chairperson of the Minnetonka School Board for 2021. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Ambrosen abstaining from the vote.

### Treasurer

Ambrosen moved, Holcomb seconded, that Lisa Wagner's name be placed in nomination to serve as Treasurer of the Minnetonka School Board for 2021. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously, with Ms. Wagner abstaining from the vote.

### Clerk

Wagner moved, LeSage seconded, that John Holcomb's name be placed in nomination to serve as Clerk of the Minnetonka School Board for 2021. Upon roll vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Holcomb abstaining from the vote.

### Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer

Wagner moved, Becker seconded, that the School Board appoint Executive Director of Finance & Operations Paul Bourgeois as Deputy Clerk to act on the Clerk's behalf on normal and routine business matters, and as Deputy Treasurer to carry out duties as described in law and in his job description. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

## 3. **SCHOOL REPORT: GROVELAND**

Groveland Elementary Principal Andrew Gilbertson presented an overview of the school year thus far for Groveland students, teachers and staff. He updated the Board on the efforts his school has made in supporting School Board Goals #1 and #2. He also shared information on improvements to the building, successful PTO fundraising efforts and this year's Kindergarten enrollment events. Board members thanked Mr. Gilbertson for his efforts.

## 4. **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Chairperson Vitale noted that this opportunity for comment was available to community members who wished to address the Board on any item on that night's agenda who had submitted their comments via email in advance.

Executive Assistant Carrie Voeltz then read comments from the following individuals:

- Minnetonka resident Kirby Crow – regarding Policies 514 and 604
- Plymouth resident Lisa Dornacker – regarding Policies 504, 514, 604 and 606
- Minnetonka resident Eleanora Papp – regarding Policies 514, 604 and 606
- Excelsior resident Sarah Swarts Browne – regarding Agenda Item XV. k

- Minnetonka resident Lena Pak – regarding Policies 514, 604 and 606

**5. ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD**

Superintendent Peterson said the following agenda items covered the annual organizational duties of the Board.

Day, Time and Place of Board Meetings:

Superintendent Peterson said that traditionally the Board had met on the first Thursday of the month and that this was being proposed for 2021, except in April when the second Thursday has been chosen to avoid a conflict. There will be no meeting in July.

Wagner moved, Becker seconded, that the School Board meetings be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota on the following dates during 2021:

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday, January 7, 2021  | Thursday, August 5, 2021    |
| Thursday, February 4, 2021 | Thursday, September 2, 2021 |
| Thursday, March 4, 2021    | Thursday, October 7, 2021   |
| Thursday, April 8, 2021    | Thursday, November 4, 2021  |
| Thursday, May 6, 2021      | Thursday, December 2, 2021  |
| Thursday, June 3, 2021     |                             |

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Day, Time and Place of Study Sessions

Superintendent Peterson said that traditionally the Board had met in Study Session on the third Thursday of the month and that this was being proposed for 2021, except in April, September and October when other dates have been chosen to avoid conflicts. There will be no Study Session in July.

Ambrosen moved, LeSage seconded, that Study Sessions be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota on the following dates during 2021:

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Thursday, January 21, 2021  | Thursday, August 19, 2021    |
| Thursday, February 18, 2021 | Thursday, September 23, 2021 |
| Thursday, March 18, 2021    | Thursday, October 28, 2021   |
| Thursday, April 22, 2021    | Thursday, November 18, 2021  |
| Thursday, May 20, 2021      | Thursday, December 16, 2021  |
| Thursday, June 17, 2021     |                              |

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Setting of Salaries:

Wagner moved, Ritchie seconded, that the School Board establish salaries for each School Board position as follows:

- An annual salary of \$375.00 per month in 2021 for each Board Member.
- An additional annual salary of \$1500.00 in 2021 for the Chairperson.
- An additional annual salary of \$750.00 in 2021 for the Vice-Chairperson.
- No extra amount in 2021 for the Clerk.
- No extra amount in 2021 for the Treasurer.
- A stipend of \$50.00 per meeting in 2021 for up to four standing committee meetings per month.

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Designation of Depositories:

LeSage moved, Wagner seconded, that the School Board adopt the following resolution:

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT:*

1. *US Bank, Minneapolis, MN*
2. *Wells Fargo, Minneapolis, MN*
3. *Alerus Financial, NA, Grand Forks, ND*
4. *MN Trust Investment Fund (PMA Financial Network), Albertville, MN*
5. *Chase Manhattan Bank (Smith Barney, Inc.), New York, NY*
6. *MN School District Liquid Asset Fund (PFM Asset Management), Minneapolis, MN*
7. *Northland Trust Services, Minneapolis, MN*
8. *Bank of New York Mellon, New York, NY*

*be designated as depositories for the funds of this District, and any designated representatives of this District hereby authorized to open or cause to be opened an account or accounts with said institutions of such terms, conditions and agreements as shall be required by said institutions, to endorse or cause to be endorsed, in the name of the District or to negotiate or to deposit or cause to be deposited in such account or accounts any money, checks, drafts, orders, notes and other instruments for the payment of money and to make any other agreements deemed advisable in regard thereto. The designated representatives are the Executive Director of Finance & Operations Paul Bourgeois or Coordinator of Accounting Bridget Merrill-Myhre.*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that checks or other withdrawal orders issued against the funds of this District on deposit with said institutions may be signed by the regular facsimile signature as follows:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

2. \_\_\_\_\_, *Chairperson*
3. \_\_\_\_\_, *Treasurer*

*and said institutions are hereby fully authorized to pay and charge to the account of this District any checks, drafts or other withdrawal orders, so signed, including those payable to the individual order of the person signing the same and including also checks or other withdrawal orders payable to said institutions or to any other person or corporation, which are applied in payment or any indebtedness owing to said institutions from the person or persons who signed such checks or other withdrawal orders. Upon telephone request of the designated representatives, transfer of funds between designated depositories is authorized.*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that the resolution shall continue in force until express written notice of its recession or modification has been furnished to and received by said institutions.*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that any and all resolutions heretofore adopted by the School Board of the District and certified to:*

1. *US Bank, Minneapolis, MN*
2. *Wells Fargo, Minneapolis, MN*
3. *Alerus Financial, NA, Grand Forks, ND*
4. *MN Trust Investment Fund (PMA Financial Network), Albertville, MN*
5. *Chase Manhattan Bank (Smith Barney, Inc.), New York, NY*
6. *MN School District Liquid Asset Fund (PFM Asset Management), Minneapolis, MN*
7. *Northland Trust Services, Minneapolis, MN*
8. *Bank of New York Mellon, New York, NY*

*as governing the operation of this District's account(s) with them be and are hereby continued in full force and effect, except as the same may be supplemented or modified by the foregoing.*

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

School Attorneys:

Becker moved, Holcomb seconded, that the School Board appoint as legal counsel for 2021 the law firms of Kennedy & Graven; Dorsey & Whitney; Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney; Hitesman & Wold; and Mr. Dennis O'Brien from Engelmeier & Umanah, P.A.; and authorize administrative staff and Board leadership to seek legal counsel from these firms and individuals as dictated by the circumstance. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Official Newspaper:

Ambrosen moved, Becker seconded, that the School Board authorize the *Sun-Sailor* as the official newspaper for 2021 for legal publications such as the Clerk's Minutes of Proceedings, the Policy Statement on Free and Reduced School Lunch Program and Bids for District

Purposes, and additionally, that the School Board authorize the use of the District website as an alternative means of dissemination for District bids, quotes, and requests for proposals as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 331A.03 Subd. 3(b). Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Official Radio Station:

Wagner moved, LeSage seconded, that the School Board designate radio station WCCO-AM as the official station during 2021 for emergency school announcements, such as the closing of school due to inclement weather. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Auditor:

Ambrosen moved, Wagner seconded, that the School Board appoint the firm of CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP to conduct the annual audit. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Setting of Superintendent Evaluation Dates:

LeSage moved, Becker seconded, that the School Board adopt the following schedule to conduct their evaluation of the Superintendent for the 2020-21 school year:

- Thursday, February 18 at 4:00 p.m. – mid-year evaluation on performance and progress on goals
- Thursday, June 17 at 4:00 p.m. – self-evaluation report with the Superintendent and Board
- Monday, June 21 at 6:00 p.m. – Board development of its evaluation of the Superintendent
- Thursday, June 24 at 6:00 p.m. – Board review of the evaluation with the Superintendent

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Mileage Allowance:

Wagner moved, Holcomb seconded, that the School Board authorize the IRS-approved rate of 56 cents per mile for 2021 for personal automobile usage for school business purposes when an employee or School Board member is not thereby covered under a formally negotiated agreement. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Committee Assignments:

Becker moved, Ambrosen seconded, that the School Board approve the following representatives for 2021 to District committees:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>2021 Representatives</b>
AMSD (Association of Metropolitan School Districts)	Katie Becker/Lisa Wagner
MTA Liaisons	Chris Vitale/Mark Ambrosen
Finance Advisory Committee	Lisa Wagner
Materials Review Committee	Christine Ritchie
Teaching and Learning Advisory	Mark Ambrosen
Minnetonka Foundation	John Holcomb
PTO/PTA Leaders	John Holcomb
Special Education Advisory	Christine Ritchie
Tonka CARES	Mike LeSage
Mental Health Advisory	Mark Ambrosen
CASE	Lisa Wagner/Mike LeSage
Community Education Advisory	Katie Becker
Preschool/ECFE Advisory	Katie Becker
OPEB Advisory	Lisa Wagner

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

**6. SEVENTH READING OF POLICY #504: STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE**

Superintendent Peterson began the discussion by saying that this policy had been reviewed by the Board several times, and the draft had gone through several changes in the past few months. He said that principals had reviewed the latest draft, at the request of the Board, and had asked that the illustration in Section V. be removed.

Wagner moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve Policy 504. In the discussion that followed, Board members agreed to remove the illustration in Section V. and also the reference to the illustration in Section III. A.

Wagner moved, Becker seconded, via a friendly amendment, that the Board approve the policy with the recommended changes. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously. Board member Wagner thanked Board members Ambrosen and Ritchie for their work on revising the policy over the past few months.

**7. FIFTH READING OF GOAL 2-RELATED POLICIES**

Superintendent Peterson presented on each of the five policies that were being presented for a fifth reading. The Board took the following action:

Policy #514: Bullying Prohibition

Ambrosen moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve Policy 514 as presented. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Policy #534: Equal Educational Opportunity

LeSage moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve Policy 534 as presented. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Policy #604: Inclusive Education Program

Wagner moved, Holcomb seconded, that the Board approve Policy 604 as presented. After discussion, it was agreed to table this policy and bring it back to the January Study Session for further review. Wagner then moved, LeSage seconded, that the Board table the policy. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Policy #606: Instructional Material Review, Selection and Use

Ambrosen moved, LeSage seconded, that the Board approve Policy 606 as presented. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Policy #607: Controversial Topics and Materials

Becker moved, Holcomb seconded, that the Board approve Policy 607 as presented. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

**8. ADOPTION OF LEARNING MODEL**

Superintendent Dennis Peterson presented the school reopening plan to the Board. The presentation included some important changes to the plan presented in December. He explained that a team of administrators from our District met with Minnesota's transition team to get approval for our proposed re-opening plan for Minnetonka Schools in January of 2021 and that the state approved the initial steps of the District's plan, which include the move to in-person learning for elementary school by February 1 and the move of middle school and



high school students to hybrid by the final week in January. He said the state will need more data on COVID19 incidence in late February before the District can get full approval to move secondary students to the in-person model on March 15. Face coverings will still be required for all students and staff.

Ambrosen moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve the Learning Model as presented. After discussion, upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

*Note: the following message from Superintendent Peterson was sent to all District parents and students on Friday, January 8. It is being included here for clarity.*

*Dear Parents and Students,*

*I am pleased to send you an update regarding Minnetonka Schools' transition to full in-person learning for many elementary students and hybrid learning for many secondary students. E-learning will also continue for students who choose that model. I know this has been a very challenging year for all of you, and we are going into another important phase toward getting back to normal. These steps will not be normal yet, but they will get us closer to the way we do school so well.*

*We have made some important changes to the plan that I described to you on December 18. This week, a team of administrators from our District met with Minnesota's transition team to get approval for our proposed re-opening plan for Minnetonka Schools in January of 2021. I am pleased to share that the state approved the initial steps of our plan, which include the move to in-person learning for elementary school by February 1 and the move of middle school and high school students to hybrid by the final week in January. It is also important to know that they will need more data on COVID19 incidence in late February before we can get full approval to move secondary students to the in-person model on March 15.*

*As I described in my last communication to you, the District has used Governor Walz's recent decision to fully open elementary schools in our state to move Minnetonka elementary students into that model on February 1 and to open our High School to high school students January 28. The Governor is allowing "in-person" learning with a modified requirement for social distancing and without the limitations of using 50% or less of classroom capacities for elementary-age students. However, those alterations in requirements are replaced with more detailed expectations to keep teachers safe. This change is the level of flexibility that Minnetonka has needed all along in order to get all of our students in school this year.*

*Here is our State-approved plan:*

### **Elementary Schools**

*Grades K, 1 and 2 will return to hybrid briefly, from January 19 through the end of January and will move to full in-person learning on February 1. The Governor is allowing districts to just bring three grades in a school back as the first step. Since Grades 4 and 5 are in a*

*separate building, they can also come back on January 19 and will move to full in-person learning back in their elementary schools on February 1.*

*Unfortunately, we had to have one grade wait two weeks to get back to school, and Grade 3 will remain in full e-learning through January 27 and will move to full in-person learning with all other elementary grades on February 1. We will continue to provide childcare for Third Graders requiring such care during those two weeks in January that they are on e-learning only.*

*We have made some slight changes in the plan for Grades 4-5. They will return to hybrid in the High School building for all four days of the week from January 19 through January 22. They will then have e-learning days on January 26 and 27, and they will move to full in-person learning in their respective elementary schools on February 1.*

*Throughout January, elementary students participating in hybrid will be in their pods (based on 50% capacity of classroom), and six feet of social distancing will be required, as will be face coverings for all students and staff. In February, although the social distancing requirement will alter to a recommended three feet (not required) for elementary students, face covering guidelines will continue to be required. There will be more COVID19 testing of teachers and paras during the in-person phase of the re-opening. We will be getting vaccinations for staff as soon as possible.*

*On January 25, 28 and 29, there will be no school for Grades K-5, as those will be planning days for elementary teachers, including e-learning teachers. We are working on the plans for childcare on those days, and more information will be forthcoming.*

*The elementary in-person model will be implemented with class sizes about the same size as we would have had this year without the pandemic accommodations, and we are needing to hire a few teachers to assure that class sizes will be at those levels. There will no longer be social distancing required on buses for elementary students.*

### **Middle Schools**

*Our middle school students will remain in e-learning through January 22. They will return to the hybrid model on Tuesday, January 26. Social distancing of six feet and face coverings will be required in our middle schools. January 25 is a scheduled grading and planning day for middle school teachers. Social distancing will continue to be required on buses during the hybrid model's implementation.*

*It is intended that the middle schools will move to in-person instruction on March 15, if allowed by the Governor at that time. We may not get the final approval for that part of our plan until late February or early March.*

## **High School**

*Grades 9-12 will remain in e-learning through January 22. High school teachers will have access to their rooms at the high school beginning January 25, and they will be planning for the opening of the hybrid model on January 26-27. High school students will start attending two days at the High School on January 28 and 29. About 80-83% of the students have chosen the hybrid model. Half of the students choosing hybrid will be coming to school on January 28 and the other half of those students on January 29. Starting February 1, half of the students will be attending school two days per week, half will be attending two other days and there will be one day for specialized instruction and MAST. Specific assignments will be sent to students by the High School Principal. Social distancing of six feet and face coverings will be required in the High School.*

*High school students on e-learning only will receive streamed instruction along with the hybrid students who are not in school on their designated days. About 20-23% of high school students will be on e-learning. The social distancing on buses will continue to be required.*

*On January 25, 26 and 27, there will be no school for Grades 9-12, as those will be planning days for high school teachers.*

*I do want to give you one more detail that is not settled because the state has not authorized the District to implement it yet, and that is the expectation to bring all four grades in at the same time. The state is limiting elementary schools to just three grades at a time, but they have not determined if that expectation will exist for high schools. We will provide that detail as soon as we receive direction.*

*As noted above regarding middle schools, we will not get approval to implement the full return to school on March 15 until we get closer to that time.*

### **Additional Details**

*Students in all grades will be provided e-learning-only opportunities as long as they or their parents choose the option this year.*

*I hope this provides you with enough details to make plans for the next several weeks.*

*I do want to thank all principals, administrators and additional staff who contributed to the planning efforts and to the Board for its support. I thank our great teachers for their flexibility and commitment to students. They have made every plan work. And, I really thank parents and students for all you have done to make this year work. It has not been easy for anyone. We truly have the best employees, students and parents, and I am grateful to all for the incredible support throughout this year.*

**9. APPROVAL OF MOMENTUM BUILDING PROJECT**

MOMENTUM, the High School's design and skilled trades program is growing, and as the student interest and enrollment in the program rises, so, too, do the needs for a new facility to support the program. MHS Principal Jeff Erickson presented to the School Board, outlining the classes that are being offered and that will be in the future, the research into other skilled trade programs throughout the state, and the relationships that are being forged with community businesses and organizations in support of the program. In particular, there is a high need for an automotive and makers space at MHS. At the December 2020 School Board meeting, the Board heard a presentation from ATS&R that provided a mock-up of what a MOMENTUM Design and Skilled Trades facility would entail and how it could be built as an addition to the Pagel Center.

Principal Erickson provided additional information at this meeting, explaining how each space would be used, how the program works and how students would benefit from the new facility as the program evolves. He asked the Board to approve construction of the MOMENTUM facility.

Holcomb moved, LeSage seconded, that the Board approve the construction of the MOMENTUM Design and Skilled Trades addition to the Pagel Center for completion by December 31, 2021 for use in the second semester of Fiscal Year 2022. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

**10. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF BUILDING FOR MINNETONKA TRANSITION PROGRAM (TRANSITION PLUS)**

Currently, Transition Plus is a joint program among the Minnetonka, Hopkins and St. Louis Park school districts, working with young adults with disabilities ages 18-21. The program specializes in the areas of transition that prepare students for independent life; jobs and job training; recreation and leisure; community participation; independent living; and post-secondary/post-school planning. Students achieve their goals by receiving specialized instruction, training and support. As Executive Director of Special Education, Christine Breen, presented, while this program has been a strong partnership for the past 17 years, it has become increasingly evident the collaborative programming is no longer meeting the needs of our students and families to the extent we desire. Access to resources and implementation of programming has been a discrepancy between the three partner school districts, and this has made the program more difficult. Minnetonka Schools continues to prioritize individualized, direct instruction on skill development and subsequent opportunities to demonstrate and practice these skills in the community. The current programming of Transition Plus does not offer much in the area of individualized programming. There is an added challenge of location, as the current site is in St. Louis Park, making it more difficult for our students to form connections with organizations and employers in our area.

As Minnetonka continues to grow its robust academic and experiential opportunities for all students in the District, it is an opportune time to create our own outstanding transition program to meet the needs of our students with disabilities ages 18-21. Ms. Breen explained

all of the benefits and opportunities of the District having its own transition program and location. She and Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, recommended to the School Board that the Board approve the purchase of the Shorewood Professional Building, located at 19695 Highway 7 in Shorewood for \$1,700,000 and authorize administration to execute all closing documents for the acquisition of the Shorewood Professional Building for a new Transition to Adult Program for Minnetonka students with disabilities, ages 18-21.

Wagner moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve the following motion:

*WHEREAS, the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 has determined that acquisition of the Shorewood Professional Building located at 19685 Highway 7 in Shorewood, MN would be in the best interests of students and parents of students enrolled in the Transition to Adult Program, and would be in the best financial interests of Minnetonka Independent School District 276;*

*BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 does hereby approve the purchase of the Shorewood Professional Building located at 19695 Highway 7 in Shorewood Minnesota for \$1,700,000 and authorize Administration to execute all closing documents for the acquisition of the Shorewood Professional Building.*

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously. Board members thanked Ms. Breen and Mr. Bourgeois for their work in bringing this project to the Board.

**11. APPROVAL OF SALE OF 2021A TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION OPEB REFUNDING BONDS**

Mr. Bourgeois presented this item to the Board. He noted that at the School Board Meeting of August 6, 2020, the Board had authorized the sale of up to \$19,935,000 2021A Taxable General Obligation OPEB Refunding Bonds to refund outstanding principal of the 2013E General Obligation OPEB Refunding Bonds to lower interest rates and accrue savings.

Initial estimates for the bonds included lowering the interest rate from 3.09% down to an estimated 1.99% with an estimated net present value savings of \$411,226. Sale of the 2021A Taxable General Obligation OPEB Refunding Bonds started at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. There was great demand for the bonds – over \$140,000,000 in orders were received to buy the \$19,855,000 in par value principal being sold. The bonds were sold at a true interest cost of 1.64% with net present value savings of \$973,055.93.

Mr. Bourgeois recommended that the Board approve the sale resolution as prepared by the District's bond counsel, Dorsey & Whitney.

Wagner moved, Ambrosen seconded, that the Board approve the resolution. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

12. **ACCEPTANCE OF BID FOR RETAINING WALL REPLACEMENT AT EINER ANDERSON STADIUM**

Mr. Bourgeois presented this item to the Board. He began by saying that as part of the rolling Long-Term Facility Maintenance 10 Year Plan, the replacement of the deteriorating retaining wall at Einer Anderson Stadium has been scheduled for summer 2021. The retaining wall is severely deteriorated, with many blocks crumbling after only fifteen years of installation and portions of the wall bowing out.

The retaining wall will be replaced with a “big block” retaining wall system that should have a 50-year-or-more expected lifespan.

A total of \$600,000 is available in the FY22 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance budget to cover this replacement. It is important to note that the big block system cannot be placed exactly on the current footprint of the existing deteriorating retaining wall. It is necessary to install the big block several feet outside of the existing wall location and to use more sweeping curves because of the size of the longer-lived big blocks. Part of the project entails infilling behind the big-block system to ensure the area adjacent to the big-block wall is at the same elevation as the surrounding areas.

Bids were opened for the replacement of the retaining wall at 1:00 PM on Thursday, January 7, 2021. Nine bids were received as follows:

<i>Rosti Construction</i>	<i>\$539,500</i>
<i>Morcon Construction</i>	<i>\$606,780</i>
<i>Martins Brenny Construction</i>	<i>\$612,000</i>
<i>Peterson Companies</i>	<i>\$622,500</i>
<i>J L Theis Company</i>	<i>\$627,935</i>
<i>Frattalone Construction</i>	<i>\$629,900</i>
<i>Veit Company</i>	<i>\$647,000</i>
<i>Urban Companies</i>	<i>\$706,000</i>
<i>Blackstone Construction</i>	<i>\$769,000</i>

Mr. Bourgeois recommended that the Board approve the low bid.

Holcomb moved, LeSage seconded, that the Board approve the following motion:

*BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 does hereby accept the low bid of Rosti Construction in the amount of \$539,500 for replacement of the retaining wall at Einer Anderson Stadium in Summer 2021.*

Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

### 13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Becker moved, LeSage seconded, that the School Board approve the following recommendations included within the following Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of December 3, 2020 Regular Meeting
- Study Session Summary of December 17, 2020
- Payment of Bills – in the sum of \$6,753,370.53.
- Recommended Personnel Items – as shown in Addendum A.
- Gifts and Donations for December 2020: \$440.00 from Dianne Shimek and Margarit Edstrom, \$30.00 from Kate Wagner, \$25.00 from Emily Cowing, \$300.00 from Daniel and Molly Steffen, \$100.00 from Angela Marko and David Rode, \$50.00 from Mitchell Baker, \$30.00 from Derek Allmendinger, \$100.00 from Paul and Laura Horner, \$50.00 from Jessamine Bowman, \$120.00 from Anonymous, \$814.77 from Anonymous, \$347.47 from Anonymous, and \$50.00 from Anonymous; all to be placed in the MCEC Holiday Family Giving Fund. \$1,000.00 from the Endeavor Foundation to be placed in the MHS Social Worker Account. \$120.00 and \$440.00 from Stephanie Yang to be placed in the MHS General Gifts and Donations Account. \$1,000.00 from the Endeavor Foundation to be placed in the MMW-Social Worker Enrichment Fund. \$100.00 from Nicole Campion to be placed in the Clear Springs Elementary Principal Discretionary Fund. \$500.00 from the Endeavor Foundation to be placed in the Excelsior Elementary School Social Worker Enrichment Fund. \$500.00 from Anonymous to be placed in the Scenic Heights Elementary “Support the Media Center” Fund. \$50.00 from Tao Jiang and \$101.88 from Daniel Gittsovich, both to be placed in the Scenic Heights Elementary Principal Discretionary Fund. Total Gifts and Donations thus far for 2020-21: \$91,411.85.
- Electronic Fund Transfers - as shown in Addendum B.
- Approval of Finance Advisory Committee Members for 2021
- Adoption of Enrollment Limits by School and Grade
- Approval of Addendums 2 and 3 to Veterans Field and Legacy Fields Operating Agreement
- Approval of ESports
- Approval of Revised Community Comments and Citizen Input Expectations

Upon roll call vote being taken on the foregoing Consent Agenda items, the motion carried unanimously.

### 14. **BOARD REPORTS**

There were no Board reports this evening.

15. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Peterson noted that the Legislature is in session and while COVID19 has added some challenges with the community not being able to engage with legislators as much as in the past, the lawmakers are committed to doing their jobs well for the communities they serve.

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements this evening.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

LeSage moved, Holcomb seconded, adjournment at 10:25 p.m. Upon roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

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John Holcomb, Clerk