Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, May 27, 2022, 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.
Quora Education Center, 70 West County B2, Little Canada, MN
Hybrid Meeting – In person and via Zoom

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Kelsey Dawson Walton called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Dawson Walton welcomed everyone and asked if there were any introductions. A few introductions were made.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of May 6 Meeting

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

III. Executive Committee Report

A. Approval of 2022-2023 AMSD Budget and Membership Fees

Executive Director Scott Croonquist noted that the proposed AMSD budget for 2022-23 includes increased dues revenue due to three new AMSD members (Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose, Centennial, and Duluth) which were under a discounted trial membership in 2021-22 but will transition to full dues paying members under the new budget. Membership dues are relatively flat for next year, with some slight variation due to resident student counts. Croonquist reminded board members that the dues structure has two components – a fixed fee and a variable fee based on the resident student count.

Croonquist reported that the AMSD Executive Committee has approved a $10,000 expenditure in the Reimagine Minnesota line item for the initiative around addressing racial harm incidents. The proposed budget includes a two percent cost of living adjustment and two percent performance pool for AMSD staff.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed 2022-2023 budget and membership dues. The motion was approved.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Chair Dawson Walton asked Executive Director Croonquist to present his report. Croonquist noted that a lot has happened since our last meeting on May 6. The joint Day of Advocacy and press conference held on May 9 was successful and certainly had an impact. The Governor and legislative leaders reached a budget agreement that included a $1 billion increase for E-12 Education. Unfortunately, most of the conference committees did not reach an agreement by the deadline and the session adjourned without passage of the major

supplemental budget bills. AMSD joined other education associations in issuing a press release on May 25 urging the Governor and legislative leaders to convene a special so they can finish their job and pass an E-12 supplemental budget bill.

V. Recognition of Departing Superintendents

Executive Director Croonquist noted that we have seven AMSD superintendents who are either retiring or moving on to other opportunities. We want to recognize and thank them for their support and service to AMSD, their school district and public education. Croonquist invited any superintendents present to share any comments or thoughts. The AMSD superintendents who are departing: Michael Baumann (Lakeville Area Public Schools), Ed Graff (Minneapolis Public Schools), Willie Jett (St. Cloud Area School District 742), Malinda Landsfeldt (Stillwater Area Public Schools), Sandy Lewandowski (Intermediate District 287), Dennis Peterson (Minnetonka Public Schools) and Teri Staloch (Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools).

VI. Guest Speakers

Chair Dawson Walton introduced the guest speakers from MDE: Adosh Unni, director of government relations, and Terri Yetter, director of school finance. Unni and Yetter shared an informative summary of the end of session negotiations on the E-12 Education Bill as well as a summary of the few education-related pieces of legislation that did pass during the legislative session.

VII. Adjourn

AMSD Chair Kelsey Dawson Walton invited anyone with comments or suggestions on the AMSD fall conference to share them with Scott Croonquist or John Schultz, executive director of Metro ECSU. Dawson Walton thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 9:06 a.m.