



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, May 3, 2024, 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-eight members attended the meeting in person and 58 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 April 5 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the April 5 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Guest Speakers

Chair Hill introduced the guest speakers from BrightWorks, Executive Director John Schultz, Professional Development Strategist Christ Streiff Oji, and Success Beyond the Classroom Director Colleen Feller. The speakers provided an overview of BrightWorks and its role in the implementation of the Read Act and took questions from board members.

IV. Guest Speaker

Chair Hill introduced the next guest speaker, Secretary of State Steve Simon. Simon gave an engaging overview of the vital role that schools play in Minnesota's election system, polling place security, and engaging high school students in the electoral process. Following his presentation, Secretary Simon fielded questions from board members.

V. Executive Director's Report

Chair Hill invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist began by asking if there were any introductions from the group. A few introductions were made.

Croonquist reported that there is just over two weeks to go in the legislative session, with the mandatory adjournment date coming up on May 20. Croonquist noted that the arrest of Sen. Nicole Mitchell threw the Senate into turmoil this week with the cancellation of some committee hearings and scheduled floor business. He noted that the end of session negotiations have become considerably more complicated with this development.

Croonquist reported that the Omnibus Education Policy Bill conference committee has reconciled the differences between the House and Senate bills. However, the conference committee has

not yet adopted the final report so there could be changes. Croonquist also noted that the House and Senate Omnibus Education Finance Bills are working their way through the legislative process. The House bill passed off the floor earlier this week, and the Senate bill will likely come up on the floor early next week. Once the Senate bill is approved, a conference committee will be appointed to iron out the differences.

Croonquist shared that the bulk of the funding in both bills is tied to the Read Act. Croonquist highlighted some of the items from the omnibus bills including a required cell phone policy, Read Act amendments, a student attendance pilot program, and a student teacher stipend pilot program.

VI. Adjourn

Chair Hill reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Hill adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.