



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, October 7, 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 Crystal Brakke called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m. Brakke welcomed everyone and asked if there were any introductions. A few introductions were made.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of September 9 Meeting

Chair Brakke asked members to review the minutes from the September 9 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Guest Speaker

Chair Brakke introduced Dr. James Densley, professor and department chair of the School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice at Metro State University and co-founder and president of The Violence Project. Dr. Densley gave a compelling talk on holistic violence prevention in our schools. Following his presentation, Dr. Densley responded to questions from board members.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Chair Brakke announced that the Legislative Committee Report planned for this morning would be carried over until next month. Brakke invited Executive Director Croonquist to share his report.

Croonquist provided an update on a decision in the Cruz-Guzman lawsuit that was issued last week. The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that a racially imbalanced school system does not, by itself, violate the state constitution. The plaintiffs in the lawsuit had filed a motion for a partial summary judgment finding that school segregation violates the state constitution regardless of if it is intentional. The attorney for the plaintiffs plan to appeal the decision to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Croonquist shared that the Together We Make a Difference initiative has completed seven regional World Café sessions, which were attended by approximately 1,500 students, athletic directors, principals and other school leaders. The sessions were successful and included great discussions. A statewide student conference is being planned for November or December.

Croonquist noted that the 2023 Legislative Platform Outline is posted on the website and encouraged members to review. Croonquist explained that the outline is based on the results of the survey of AMSD board members and is the starting point for developing the platform. He

asked that any thoughts or feedback be shared with him, Chair Brakke or any of the members of the legislative committee.

V. Adjourn

Chair Brakke reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Brakke adjourned the meeting at 8:54 a.m.