



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

2 Pine Tree Drive, Suite 380, Arden Hills, MN 55112 • 612-430-7750 • www.amsd.org

Legislative Committee Meeting

Friday, July 28, 2023, 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Hybrid meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present:	Tim Anderson (alt.) Marcus Hill Bev Petrie	Crystal Brakke Mary Kreger Lisa Sayles-Adams	Zuki Ellis Lucy Payne Stacie Stanley
Staff Present:	Scott Croonquist	Kimberly Jansa	Troy Melhus
Guests Present:	Kris Amundson	Lori Grivna	

I. Approval of Minutes of June 9 Meeting

AMSD Chair Crystal Brakke called the meeting to order at 7:41 a.m. Brakke asked members to review the minutes from the June 9 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

II. Executive Director's Report

Chair Brakke asked Executive Director Scott Croonquist to share his report. Croonquist provided members with an update on the KnowledgeWorks project. The goal of the project is to identify barriers to student-centered learning. There was a comprehensive survey sent to AMSD members and other stakeholders across the state, with 88 responses. Croonquist noted that there are two virtual workshops planned and that the August 4 AMSD Board of Directors meeting will also include a workshop facilitated by KnowledgeWorks.

Croonquist asked committee members to mark their calendars for the November 9 annual conference. AMSD will again be partnering with BrightWorks (formerly Metro ECSU) and the conference will focus on student-centered learning and artificial intelligence. Croonquist reported that planning is in the early stages, with an RFP being sent out today for districts to submit proposals to host a breakout session. An overview of the KnowledgeWorks survey and workshops will also be presented at the conference.

Croonquist noted that the transition to hybrid Board of Directors meetings is likely a permanent change. Due to this new format, Croonquist asked the committee to consider a few logistical changes that could save money and reduce staff preparation time. The committee discussed possible menu changes and discontinuing the use of the magnetic name tags. Committee members supported implementing some changes on a trial basis. Office Manager Kimberly Jansa is going to try a few changes at the August Board meeting and the committee will revisit at next month's meeting.

Croonquist shared that 2024 will be the 50th anniversary of AMSD. The committee agreed that this warrants a celebration! Croonquist noted that the 40th anniversary included inviting all past AMSD chairs, sharing highlights from over the years, and gifting coffee mugs to all attendees. The committee

discussed a few preliminary ideas for the 50th anniversary celebration. Croonquist suggested a smaller group be convened to plan the event.

Croonquist shared the recent results from the AMSD surveys on 2023 summer programming, budgets, and fall referendums. This information is for internal AMSD use only.

Croonquist provided an update on MDE's Corrective Action Plan in response to a finding of noncompliance by the federal Office of Special Education Programs. The finding of noncompliance is related to Minnesota's tiered teacher licensure system and the lack of a hard limit on tier 1 renewals.

III. Discussion of Friend of Public Education Award

Chair Brakke asked Executive Director Croonquist to update the committee on the award. Croonquist reported that he had discussed the future of the award with Chair Brakke, Vice Chair Marcus Hill as well as AMSD Consultants Kris Amundson and Lori Grivna and weighed the pros and cons of recognizing legislators. He noted that it has become increasingly challenging to identify recipients in recent years, likely due, at least in part, to the polarized political environment. As a result of those discussions, Croonquist is recommending that we discontinue the award for now. The committee agreed to a pause on presenting the Friend of Public Education Award with the possibility of revisiting the issue at a later date.

IV. Discussion of Legislative Platform Development

Executive Director Croonquist shared that a platform survey will be sent out in a few weeks as work begins to plan for the 2024 legislative session.

V. Adjournment

There being no other business, Chair Brakke adjourned the executive committee meeting at 9:11 a.m.