

Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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

Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, April 26, 2024, 7:30 – 9 a.m. Hybrid meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present: Crystal Brakke

Laura Oksnevad

Stacie Stanley

Marcus Hill Mary Kreger Lucy Payne

Bev Petrie

Staff Present:

Scott Croonquist

Kimberly Jansa

Troy Melhus

Guests Present:

Kris Amundson

Lori Grivna

Josh Downham

Jim Grathwol

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Marcus Hill called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes of March 22 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the March 22 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Approval of April Disbursements

Chair Hill asked members to review the monthly disbursements. A motion was made and seconded to approve the April disbursements. The disbursements were approved.

IV. Approval of Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Chair Hill asked members to review the quarterly treasurer's report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The quarterly treasurer's report was approved.

V. Review of Upcoming Executive/Legislative Committee Openings

Chair Hill asked members to review the committee history document. Executive Director Scott Croonquist noted that the terms of some committee members will be ending following the July committee meeting. The executive committee will need to nominate candidates to fill the openings and the nominations are forwarded to the board of directors for election at the August board meeting to serve three-year terms. There will be four openings on the executive committee – two school board members to replace Crystal Brakke and Lucy Payne and two superintendents to replace Mary Kreger and Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed. There will also be an opening on the legislative committee – a school board member to replace Jill Lofald. Committee members identified a few potential candidates to fill the openings. Croonquist asked members to think about other potential candidates. The executive committee will need to nominate a slate of candidates at the July 26 meeting.

VI. Review and Discussion of DRAFT 2024-2025 AMSD Budget

Executive Director Scott Croonquist provided an overview of a draft of the 2024-2025 AMSD budget. He noted that the proposed membership dues would remain relatively flat with some districts seeing a small increase and others a small decrease depending on the change in the resident student count. He reminded committee members that the dues structure has two components – a fixed fee and a variable fee based on the resident student count.

Croonquist noted that AMSD's auditor raised the possibility of conducting a financial statement review, versus an audit, which is not quite as rigorous and is less costly. Croonquist noted that the AMSD bylaws require an audit so a change would be necessary to move to a less rigorous review. Committee members discussed the idea and suggested getting additional information from the auditor before making a determination.

Chair Hill reported that a personnel subcommittee (Himself, Vice Chair Laura Oksnevad, and Past Chair Crystal Brakke) reviewed AMSD staff salaries and recommends a four percent cost of living salary increase for AMSD staff. Chair Hill noted that four percent would be consistent with the increase in the basic formula and the revenue received by school districts. Committee members discussed whether this should be the metric that is used to determine salary increases. Chair Hill said the subcommittee will meet again to discuss this and report back at the next meeting.

Croonquist noted that approval of the budget is not needed today. He asked committee members to share any feedback with him. The budget will be brought back to the committee next month for approval, and then presented to the Board of Directors for final approval on May 24.

VII. Adjournment

There being no other business, Chair Hill adjourned the executive committee meeting at 8:13 a.m.