



Approved October 3, 2020

Education Minnesota Governing Board Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes of July 31, 2020

Members present: Amy Aho, Jamie Alsleben, Todd Andrix, Shelli Arneson, Heather Bakke, Jerome Bellefeuille, Bernie Burnham, Monica Byron, Greta Callahan, Joe Cerar, Annette Davis, Michelle Dennard, Geneva Dorsey, Wendy Drugge, Nick Faber, Michelle Farnum, Ryan Fiereck, Marty Fridgen, Jana Hedlund, Al Helgerson, Jessie Holm, Linda Howe-Wensel, Julie Jagusch, Cindy Kluempke, Tammy Knapper, Maureen Morrow, Yasmin Muridi, Ellen Olsen, Bety Rios-Christensen, Rodney Rowe, Rob Simonich, Jared Simpson, Denise Specht, Mark Swenson, Stacey Vanderport, Matthew Wilmes, Kelly Wilson.

Members absent: Megan Bartel, Jodi Hansen, Valerie Holthus, Brenda Johnson, Joan Lancour, Ryan Roseen, Tammy Roth, Scott Schaefer, Kate Schmidt, Ben Schwanke

Staff present: David Aron, Lisa Enwright, Rob Gardner, Sara Gjerdrum, Allison LaBree, Carrie Lucking, Shelley MacDonald, Kathi Micheletti, Bridget Moore, Shane Patrick, Dan Rivera, Mike Roehl.

Guests: Marty Scofield

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

Call to order: President Denise Specht called the meeting of the Education Minnesota Governing Board to order at 9:02 a.m.

Roll call: Recorded by Secretary-Treasurer Rodney Rowe as noted above.

Approval of Agenda:

M-1 Moved, using unanimous consent, without objection, to approve the agenda as presented, with flexibility, with the modification to move the Officer Compensation Committee report to the October meeting.

Board Priorities and Goal Setting:

COVID-19, Reopening Schools and Campuses: Interim Director of Policy and Public Affairs Carrie Lucking presented on the Executive Order issued yesterday, "What we know". Key points included:

- Safety + epidemiology = model (distance, hybrid, in-person)
 - Data used is at county-level, goal is to make it school based eventually
- \$250M for safety, additional support staff, mental health, PD, etc.; negotiations language; incident response teams that include exclusive rep; testing

General Counsel David Aron presented more detailed guidance and legal components of the Executive Order and then engaged the board in Q & A. Key points included:

- Nothing precludes a district from choosing a distance learning option, even if they qualify for other models
- Districts must bargain in good faith over certain items with the exclusive rep

- Districts must utilize available staff; prohibits districts from laying off staff available to work right now though there is ambiguity around ABE teachers in a distance learning scenario.
- Guidelines for social distancing for total in-person learning are not as strict as we would like

President Specht shared a rough draft of a re-opening statement by Education Minnesota. The board supported the statement which will be refined and sent out later in the day.

Board members suggested members may look for additional resources and support in the coming weeks in the form of:

- MOUs
- Guidance on rules and protections when not returning to work
- Time off flowchart
- Advice and support around equity for our most impacted students and families
- Clarity and more specifics around the Executive Order and how it will be implemented
- Heads up on potential controversial pieces of the Executive Order, i.e. building square footage interpretation, etc.

Racial Justice: Interim Manager of Policy, Allison LaBree, presented on the Racial and Social Justice Goal the board set last year. Key points included:

- Prioritized professional development through a racial and social justice lens
- Developing additional online courses with equity focus
- Cohort 3 of Early Career Education Seminar launches this fall with an incredibly strong equity focus
- EMAC has been actively engaging with members throughout the state including holding listening sessions and meeting with PA around SROs and bills sponsored by the POCI caucus
- Ethnic forums have picked up and are reorganizing with new leaders
- REA Cohort 4 will kick off this fall
- Cohort 4 of Early Career and ESP Leadership Fellowship will begin this fall
- Looking for opportunities to examine systems including a Social Justice RRT and a new hire with focus on internal work around racial and social justice

Campaign: Interim Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Carrie Lucking, presented on the Campaign Goal the board set last year. Key points included:

- The focus on safety and learning equity is appropriate right now
- September action United to Vote for Education, a vote by mail car parade/mailbox action, was planned for September 18, but given the last 48 hours we may move an action around voting to early October
 - Vote by mail ballot chase
- We will partner with parent and community allies and will do recruitment and organizing for November 2 drive/walk-ins

Personnel Committee Report:

At 10:54 a.m., using unanimous consent without objection, the board moved into executive session. It was requested that Director of Human Resources, Shane Patrick, and Lisa Enwright remain.

At 11:11 a.m., using unanimous consent without objection, the board moved to rise and report.

Chair of the Personnel Committee, Marty Fridgen presented a recommendation from the Personnel Committee.

M-2 Marty Fridgen moved with a committee second to approve an internal transfer/promotion to Carrie Lucking as the full-time regular Policy & Public Affairs Director to oversee the Professional Practice & Research department, the Government Relations & Communications department, and the 2020-21 Campaign. Ms. Lucking will remain placed at Executive Salary Schedule lane 2, Step 5, with an annualized salary of \$157,277, with a scheduled start date of August 3, 2020.

Motion carried.

M-3 Marty Fridgen moved with a committee second to approve an internal transfer/promotion to Rob Gardner as the full-time regular Director of Field to oversee the Field Department. Mr. Gardner will be placed at Executive Salary Schedule lane 2, Step 3, with an annualized salary of \$150,704, with a scheduled start date of August 3, 2020.

Motion carried.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.