

***Independent School District 592***  
**PO Box 67**  
**111 East Broadway**  
**Climax, Minnesota 56523-2325**

**MICHAEL UNDERWOOD, Superintendent**  
**KATE NESVIG, Bookkeeper**  
**218-857-2385**  
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**ART MEYER, K-12 Principal**  
**ASHLEY BRAATEN, Secretary**  
**218-857-2395**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Climax-Shelly ISD #592 - Climax, MN 56523**

The Board of Education of Independent School District #592, Climax, Minnesota held a special meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 6:00 pm via a Google Meet virtual meeting.

Board Chair Brad Erickson called the meeting to order. The following was read at the beginning of the meeting.

Due to the current federal and state emergency declarations, the Minnesota directive to residents to stay at home, and guidance about limiting person-to-person contact due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, this meeting of the Climax-Shelly School Board is being conducted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 13D.021— Meetings by Telephone or Other Electronic Means.

Due to the health pandemic, the school board has determined that it is not feasible for at least one board member, the superintendent, or the school district's legal counsel to be physically present at the regular meeting location and that it is not feasible for the public to attend this meeting at the regular meeting location due to the health pandemic.

Persons may monitor this meeting from a remote location by accessing the Climax-Shelly YouTube channel.

School board members are reminded to mute their microphone or phone when they are not speaking.

School board members wishing to speak should use the chat feature via the Google Meet platform, then wait to be recognized by the Chair.

The chair will determine the order in which board members wishing to speak will be recognized. When recognized, the board member should unmute the microphone or phone, speak, and then mute their device.

All votes will be conducted by roll call. Each school board member should wait until their name is called before voting.

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Persons monitoring this meeting from a remote location may submit a comment by sending the question via email to: [schoolboardquestions@isd592.org](mailto:schoolboardquestions@isd592.org)

This meeting is being recorded. Access to the recording will be made available on the district's website ([www.isd592.org](http://www.isd592.org)) as soon as is reasonably possible.

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Brad Erickson, Toscha Larson, Vance Thoreson, Jayne Nesvig, Beth Rarick, and Molly Paulsrud were present. Superintendent Michael Underwood and K-12 Principal Art Meyer were present. Teachers Karen Thoreson, Deb Dale, and Mr. Maeng were present.

Mr. Underwood indicated that Joe Hyde, Technical Coordinator, had an emergency and wouldn't be able to record and live stream the meeting on the Youtube channel. Mr. Underwood recorded the meeting for posting to the Youtube channel after the meeting. School board members Toscha and Jayne, received text messages during the meeting from community members disappointed in not being able to view the meeting live and submit questions.

Beth moved, Molly seconded the following motion: BE IT RESOLVED that the Agenda be approved as presented. A roll call vote was taken and all board members were in favor. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - Superintendent Underwood brought up the following for discussion.

- **Maeng Sponsorship**

Mr. Underwood indicated that he had spoken with Mr. Goldfarb, the attorney the district hired to assist in the sponsorship process of Mr. Maeng. He shared that he received an email from Mr. Goldfarb that was forwarded to the board with answers to questions the board had brought forward at the last special meeting.

School Board Chair Brad asked Clerk Toscha to add to the discussion. Clerk Toscha had requested the special meeting be called to make a final decision on the support for Mr. Maeng's sponsorship.

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Mr. Underwood discussed the minimal requirements needed for posting Mr. Maeng's position as required to complete the first step of the immigration process. Clarification was made by Mr. Maeng and Mrs. Thoreson as to the minimal requirements. The minimal requirements are as follows.

Master's degree in education; three years of teaching experience, including teaching college-level algebra; demonstrated classroom management ability with special education students; and Minnesota math secondary teaching license or eligibility for license.

Discussion also included the previous vote in September 2019 to fully financially support Mr. Maeng with the immigration sponsorship for the 2019-2020 school year. There was a lot of discussion and questions related to the financial expense to the district.

Many letters were received from teachers supporting Mr. Maeng, indicating what an asset he is to the district and students. Karen Johnson read a few of the letters received. Teachers Deb Dale and Karen Thoreson spoke on Mr. Maeng's behalf, echoing the support in the teacher letters that were read.

Toscha moved, Jayne seconded, BE IT RESOLVED to fully financially support Mr. Maeng in the immigration sponsorship process until he receives his green card. There was continued discussion. A roll call vote was taken.

Toscha - for

Jayne - for

Vance - for

Molly - for

Beth - for

Brad - against

Molly moved, seconded by Beth the following motion: BE IT RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm. A roll call vote was taken and all board members were in favor. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Climax-Shelly School Board is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toscha Larson, Clerk