

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 271
Bloomington, Minnesota**

January 28, 2008

- I. ROLL CALL Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 271, was called to order by Chair Maureen Bartolotta at 7:00 p.m. on January 28, 2008 in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Jim Sorum, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver and Maureen Peterson.
- Member Absent Mark Hibbs.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Debra Fincham, Pat Geraghty, Rod Zivkovich, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Tim Culver moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC Jefferson High School has been selected as a recipient of the 2007 Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation's School Spotlight Award. The award identifies schools that demonstrate academic excellence through significant gains in student achievement. Ten Minnesota schools were selected for this award. On January 22, 2008, School Board Director Arlene Bush, a member of the MAEF Board, presented the award to Jefferson High School paying tribute to the work of all staff and students at Jefferson High School. Principal Steve Hill and three Jefferson students spoke to the meaning of receiving this award.
- Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring February 2008 as Black History Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

*Black History Month
Proclamation*

Black History Month

WHEREAS, the history of people of African heritage goes back thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative societies in the history of human existence; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played a significant role in the history of the State of Minnesota, from the early days of the pioneers to our present day leaders in education, agriculture, government, the arts, finance and international trade; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, all Americans are encouraged to reflect on the rich history and teachings of African Americans and bear witness to the progress, beauty, and achievements they have made throughout our region;

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience; and

WHEREAS, the history of African Americans and that of Americans from all of the world's cultures are reflected in the curriculum, learning materials, activities and celebrations throughout the year in the Bloomington Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Bloomington Board of Education, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2008 to be Black History Month in the Bloomington School District. We encourage all staff, students and residents to join in celebrating the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultures and traditions of African Americans and to continue honoring the contributions of Black Americans throughout the year.

The observance focuses attention on the contributions of African Americans throughout American history and across all sectors of society. The proclamation emphasized the Bloomington Public Schools' commitment to recognizing the contributions of all Americans throughout the year.

The proclamation was accepted by Donna Wilson, African American Cultural Liaison, and Marcus Page, a Kennedy High School student who is the President of the Junior Class and President of the Affinity Club.

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring February 2008 as Career and Technical Education Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

*Career & Technical
Education Month
Proclamation*

***Career and Technical Education Month
February 2008***

WHEREAS, February 2008 has been designated Career and Technical Education Month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

WHEREAS, profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce, which fosters productivity in business and industry and contributes to America's leadership in the international marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education gives students experience in practical, meaningful applications of basic skills such as Reading, Writing, Science and Mathematics, thus improving the quality of their education. It also provides all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills, which provide them with expanded career choices; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing cooperative efforts of career and technical educators, business and industry stimulate the growth and vitality of our local economy and that of the entire nation by preparing graduates for career fields forecast to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade;

NOW THEREFORE, we, members of the Bloomington Board of Education, proclaim in the Bloomington Public Schools that February 2008 be observed as "Career and Technical Education Month."

Accepting the proclamation was Debbie Belfry, Career Development Coordinator, Kevin Chederquist, Kennedy High School SkillsUSA Advisor and four Kennedy High School students who highlighted opportunities available through the SkillsUSA program.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the School Board on January 14, 2008.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Resignation, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Change of Status. Classified Personnel: Retirements, Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

LCTS Financing Framework and Interagency

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 71 approves the "LCTS Financing Framework Agreement for All Collaboratives in Hennepin County" and the "Interagency Agreement Concerning the Implementation of the Local Collaborative Time Study Among All Family Services and Children's Mental Health Collaboratives in Hennepin County" for calendar year 2008.

Caregivers Network

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract for Caregivers Network to provide a personal care provider for a student in Bloomington Public Schools who is determined to be eligible for such services.

3. *Grants*

Bloomington Crime Prevention Association

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts grants totaling \$12,000 from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association (BCPA) for school district violence prevention projects during the 2008 school year.

4. *Finance*

Gifts & Donations

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts gifts and donations as indicated in the background in the amount of \$20,094.92.

Finance Reports

b. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month ended December 31, 2007.

Receipts/Disbursements

c. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Tim Culver moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve Part A items in accordance with all of the written material submitted to the School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PART B

2007-2008 Budget
Mid Year Adjustments

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the 2007-2008 revenue budget adjustments for all funds of \$601,576.00 and the expenditure budget adjustment for all funds of \$594,957.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Annually, Administration proposes adjustments to update current year budgets. Rod Zivkovich, Executive Director of Finance and Support Services, provided an overview of adjustments to the 2007-2008 budget. There are four major categories for budget adjustments: Prior Year Carry Over Adjustment, Updated Information, Grants/Gifts/Revenue and Other. The rationale and justification for the proposed budget adjustments were discussed in detail with the School Board at its workshop on January 22.

School Calendar
2008-2009

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the calendar for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Calendar Committee, comprised of staff members, administrators, and a parent/ community member, developed the school calendar for 2008-2009. The Administrative Cabinet, Principals, Labor Management Committee, and Staff Development Advisory Committee have reviewed the calendar concepts developed by the Calendar Committee. The Administration recommends approval of the calendar.

Details for 2008-2009

First Day of School – September 2

Teacher Conventions – October 16, 17

Fall Conferences – November 6, 7

Winter Break – December 22 – January 2

Spring Conferences – April 2, 3

Spring Break – at the end of 3rd quarter, April 6-10

Last Instructional Day – June 9

Extended Field
Trip— Valley View
Middle

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Extended Field Trip Application for the 8th Grade Science students from Valley View Middle School to participate in a trip to YMCA Camp Widjiwagan in Ely, Minnesota. Motion carried unanimously.

Adam Haisman at Valley View Middle School has submitted the Extended Field Trip Application for 8th Grade students to travel to Ely, Minnesota, from February 19-22, 2008. Students will be absent from school four days. The purpose of the trip is to provide a wilderness experience, group building and environmental education.

2008-2009
Student Fees

Athletics

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a \$15 per sport increase in participation fees for middle school and high school athletics, increase the student maximum from \$310 to \$355, and increase the family maximum from \$590 to \$635, effective July 1, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

The Bloomington Public Schools value student participation in extracurricular athletics as a crucial piece of the overall educational experience. Extracurricular activities provide many benefits to our schools, including a stronger sense of community, better academic performance by student-athletes, and an opportunity to learn both intrinsic and extrinsic core ethical values. The fee increases are a result of the District's mandated budget cuts for the 2008-2009 school year.

Non Athletic
Co-Curricular
Activity

Arlene Bush moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Non-Athletic Co-Curricular Activity Fee increase for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The fee increase is necessary to offset increasing program expenses and to address the impact of the \$900,000 budget reduction beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.

Parking

Chuck Walter moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School 271 approves increasing student parking fees for Kennedy High School and Jefferson High School beginning with the 2008-09 school year.

Current Fees: Kennedy - \$100/semester
 Jefferson - \$100/semester

Proposed: Kennedy - \$125/semester
 Jefferson - \$125/semester

Motion carried unanimously.

Bloomington high school students are charged a semester fee to park their vehicles on school parking lots. Parking fees offset the cost of security personnel.

KinderPlus

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves increasing KinderPlus fees for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

KinderPlus is an option for parents seeking all-day school for their child. KinderPlus blends half-day kindergarten with an enriched half-day childcare. KinderPlus offers the same curriculum as traditional half-day sessions, yet it provides more time for enrichment activities. The State of Minnesota funds only half-day kindergarten therefore parents pay a monthly fee for the KinderPlus program. This enhanced half-day day care option offers the same licensed teacher in the same classroom both morning and afternoon.

To offset rising program expenses, the proposal is for a \$15.00 monthly fee increase for the 2008-2009 school year. With this increase, the monthly fee is within the range of neighboring districts. The Kindergarten Oversight Committee and Assistant Superintendent have reviewed the fee rates. The current rate of \$325/month will increase to \$340/month for the 2008-2009 school year.

Community Education
Fees

Jim Sorum moved, Chuck Walter seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the rate increase for Kids' SAFARI. The suggested effective date would be September 2, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Kids' SAFARI

Effective September 2, 2008, the proposed childcare rates reflect a 50-cent increase per session for morning (before school) care or afternoon (after school) care for families with a consistent weekly schedule. Rates for the varied monthly schedule would increase \$1.00 per session and drop-in care would increase \$1.50 per session. Full day rates (summer and release day) would increase \$2.00 per day effective September 2, 2008. The additional revenue is necessary in order to balance the budget due to increased costs for staffing, supplies (including field trips and busing) and benefits (medical). Kids' SAFARI rates are comparable with other school district care programs and lower than other school-age care options in the Bloomington community. Before and after school rates were last increased in the fall of 2006. Full day rates were increased June 2006.

Facility Use

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approve the Facility Use rates effective July 1, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

The proposed gym fee rates have increased (schedule on file). All other facility spaces are being held at current rates due to excellent retention of current customers along with the continual addition of new customers. Fees for gym courts have been researched to comparable space in neighboring communities and other facility renters. Proposed rates are comparable and are extremely competitive to neighboring communities. Auditoriums, classrooms, lunchrooms, etc. also have been compared and continue to be competitive.

Due to the complexity of rental rates, at times it is not possible to accurately compare similar spaces. Another complexity is how school districts assign categories to rental customers and it is often difficult to compare facility quality. This proposal also continues to incorporate the off-peak rental rates for the Activity Center gym courts during the months of May – September. The off-peak rates have proved successful in generating additional revenue during a time when court activity was traditionally slow.

Policy Review

As part of the policy and regulation review process, the following policies have been reviewed and no changes have been made to the wording. In accordance with the new numbering system, the following numbers have been assigned.

- 208 Formulation of Policies (formerly 8310)
- 208.1 Formulation of Administrative Regulations (formerly 8330)
- 213 Citizens' Advisory Committees and Task Forces (formerly 1220)
- 428 Physical Examination Requested by the Superintendent (formerly 4114a)
- 429 Job Descriptions (formerly 4116/4216)
- 451 Evaluation (formerly 4117)
- 452 Jury Duty (formerly 4241.4)

Regulations are deleted by Administration and the School Board is so notified. The following regulations do have an existing governing policy, which has been reviewed by the Superintendent and assigned a new number. However, the regulations have been reviewed and determined to be obsolete and, therefore, will be deleted.

- 4116/4216 Job Descriptions
- 4117 Evaluation
- 4241.4 Jury Duty
- 8330 Formulation of Administrative Regulations

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chuck Walter and Arlene Bush attended the MSBA Leadership Conference. Chuck Walter highlighted the Band Festival on January 31 and upcoming activities of the Board's Legislative Action Committee. CFAC will reconvene on February 11th. Arlene Bush attended an AMSD sponsored conference on Integration, School Choice and Student Achievement. Arlene Bush and Tim Culver highlighted District 287 meetings and activities including an upcoming legislative forum at the Bren Road site and an opportunity for a presentation on the South Education Center. Maureen Peterson reported on MELF activities. Maureen Bartolotta participated in District 287 Strategic Planning.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. The School Board will be one of the communication audit focus groups being conducted on Monday, February 4th at 7 pm. Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations for the Bloomington Public Schools, is providing the leadership for conducting the communication audit, which will provide an analysis of the District's community relations program. Lew Armistead from the National School Public Relations Association will facilitate the focus groups. A site visit is scheduled for February 4-5. There will be 8-10 focus groups comprised of a broad representation of staff and community residents.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk