

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

October 12, 2009

- 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 October 12, 2009, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Jim Sorum, Vice Chair; Maureen Peterson, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Chuck Walter.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Pat Geraghty, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman, Stacy Colebrook-Robjent and Joan Bernard.
- Attorney Present David Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC Jim Sorum moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring the week of October 19, 2009 as "Lights On After School Week," a national celebration of after school programs. Motion carried unanimously.
- Lights on
After School
Proclamation

Lights On After School Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Board of Education stands firmly committed to quality out-of-school time programs and opportunities because they:

Provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills.

Support working families by ensuring that children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends.

Build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults.

Engage families, schools and diverse community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

WHEREAS, the Youth and Family Department has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in education and well being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality out-of-school time programs are key to helping our children become successful adults.

WHEREAS, Lights On After School, a national celebration of out-of school time programs held in October 2009, promotes the critical importance of quality before and after school programs in the lives of children, their families and communities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bloomington Board of Education declares the week of October 19, 2009, Lights On After School Week; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bloomington Board of Education enthusiastically endorses Lights on After School and is committed to innovative out-of-school time programs and activities that ensure that the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children before and after school.

The proclamation was accepted by Russ Purdy, Youth and Family Coordinator, who highlighted Kids' SAFARI and Galaxy Programs as opportunities for students. The "Lights On After School" event is a national celebration of after school programs that promotes the critical importance of quality after school programs in the lives of youth, their families and their communities. Funds from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association will help to fund this effort. In recognition of this celebration, Kids' SAFARI at Valley View Elementary School will host a family night event on Tuesday, October 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Friends

The School Board recognizes the contributions made by organizations and business partners.

VEAP

*VEAP –Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People—*Mission: neighbors serving neighbors in need. Vision: Improving the lives of people in the community. VEAP founders believed that helping a neighbor in need ultimately strengthens the community. VEAP has been operating under this principle for 35 years, providing a range of services to help low-income people meet immediate needs and reach their long-term goal of stability. Today, VEAP serves the residents of Bloomington, Richfield, Edina and South Minneapolis utilizing a unique mix of professional and volunteer services. VEAP programs can help alleviate the financial stress low-income individuals and families face as the result of unexpected expenses or lapses in income. Programs are designed to address a particular need and when used together can help avoid a financial crisis such as loss of housing, transportation or employment.

Karin Meier, Director of Development, provided highlights about VEAP activities and how it has a direct impact on our Bloomington community. In 2008, there were 6,300 individuals in Bloomington who used the VEAP food shelf. This fall, the VEAP Back to School program served 1,595 Bloomington students. Last year, the PTSA Council and the Youth Advisory Council collaborated on a food drive project. That drive, in conjunction with additional food drives at our high schools, generated 20,305 pounds of donated food and \$9,386 for VEAP. Plans are to continue this collaborative effort.

PTSA Council

The mission of Bloomington Public Schools PTSA is to promote the welfare of the children and youth in home, school and community; secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth; bring into closer relation the home and the school, so that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth;

develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental and social education. PTSA Presidents from the various schools comprise the PTSA Council. Plans for the Council include strengthening a communications network, engaging more families by being more inclusive, increasing the synergy and collaboration of the site PTSAs and helping secure legislation to ensure a quality education system.

Judy Gruggen, President, and Past Co-Presidents Chip Groth and Sheri Brezinka, presented highlights of the direct impact this organization has on our staff, students and community. The PTSA Council will host a School Board Candidate Forum on October 21 at 7 p.m. Bloomington legislators will visit social studies classes at Oak Grove Middle School on October 21, followed by lunch with students and parents and the PTSA Council meeting. New this year is the sharing of carnival games by the elementary schools. The games will be built by students in the Tech Ed classes. Plans for this year include outreach effort for representation from the Latino, African American and Asian communities. Plans are being made for the second annual food drive—May 3-7. Last year's drive generated 3,149 pounds of food. The PTSA Council plans to collaborate again with the Youth Advisory Council to the School Board.

Public

Bill Loyd addressed the School Board on two issues related to President Obama's speech on the first day of school—complaint against the Executive Director of Community Relations and what is the policy on who speaks for the School Board.

Larry Frost, School Board candidate, inquired as to where to find quantifiable measures for School Board goals and encouraged the School Board to change Policy 903 (Notice to Visitors), which currently does not allow parents to visit classrooms.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on September 28, 2009.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Leave of Absence, Employment.
Independent Personnel: Employment.
Classified Personnel: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident
Student Agreements

c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010:
Students entering Bloomington total 25 and 1 students leaving.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*
BIG

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the agreement between the City of Bloomington and Independent School District No. 271 for the use of the Bloomington Community Ice Garden for the 2009-2010 hockey season for Jefferson High School and Kennedy High School.

SHIP

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the agreement with the City of Bloomington for Sate Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) School Leadership Services. The term of this agreement is September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2010.

3. *Finance*

Appointment of
Election Judges

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 confirms the appointment of election judges for the School Board Directors election on November 3, 2009.

Gifts/Donations

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts gifts and donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount of \$20,900.46.

Receipts/Disbursements

c. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Jim Sorum 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

Special Education
Community Advisory
Council Report
2008-2009

The Special Education Community Advisory Council (SECAC) provides parental and community input into the decision-making process of the Student Services Department. The council membership includes parents, community members and school district staff. Presenting the report were Dawn Steigauf, SECAC Chairperson, and Scott Stevens, Past Chairperson. Pat Geraghty, Executive Director of Student Services, is the Administrative Liaison.

SECAC Activities for 2008-2009—Developed a Parent Handbook to support the active participation of parents in their child's special education programming and planning, collaborated with an elementary building regarding inclusion practices, reviewed parental perceptions of the effectiveness of birth through age two early intervention services through survey findings, recognized excellence of 38 staff members working with students with disabilities through SECAC awards process and banquet, promoted a unified educational system through participation on the District PER and Community Education Advisory Councils, participated in the District's implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) Practices, reviewed and endorsed the District's ongoing efforts to increase special education programming capacity to serve students previously referred to other districts/programs, reviewed and provided input for the District special education child count, budget, staffing and status on State Performance Plan Indicators, reviewed data related to dismissal rates of students with disabilities and developed strategies to address, and evaluated and made recommendations to enhance the SECAC website.

New Goals for 2009-2010—Collaborate with Kennedy High School on strategies to reduce the dismissal rate of students with disabilities, participate in the Minnesota Department of Education review of District special education programs, and investigate the feasibility of a mentorship program for parents of newly identified students, provide input to the Minnesota Board of Teaching regarding new special education licensure and continue to monitor and advise the District on the implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Ongoing Goals for 2009-2010 —Continue to review and provide input into ongoing District initiatives to enhance special education programming capacity, continue to recognize excellence of staff and continue to enhance the SECAC website.

Facilities Planning
for Success Update

Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent, updated the School Board on the Facilities Planning for Success process, which was used for the purpose of updating the District's Facilities Master Plan, and presented the final report of the committee.

The District's previous Master Facilities Plan was prepared in March 1999. A supplemental Community Education Facilities plan was prepared in May 2001. The committee, comprised of 33 individuals representing parents, teachers, administrators and program directors, met 13 times from May through October. Their task was to examine the overall facilities needs of the District over the next five years and make recommendations to the School Board for future planning. Committee recommendations were to align with the District's Strategic Plan while being mindful of fiscal limitations as well as potential opportunities. Preliminary recommendations were presented to the School Board in September. In September and October, school principals presented recommendations to staff and three community meetings were held. Based on feedback collected at the meetings, recommendations were finalized and prepared for presentation to the School Board.

The recommendations include developing space at Hubert Olson Middle School to house special education students currently served by Intermediate District 287 in locations around the metropolitan area. This includes some students served in several locations in the District as well. This recommendation requires renovating space at Olson Middle. Renovation maximizes the utility of the space to be dedicated to Special Education programming and also maintains the capacity of Olson to continue its current middle school programming.

Community Services space needs were a second area addressed. Recommendations include seeking lease space for adult education programs and moving administrative offices to space vacated by special education programs at the Pond Center.

The committee also examined athletic field and stadium issues. Recommendations include installing turf at each of the high school sites, and over time, creating small school-site stadiums. The committee recommends selling Bloomington Stadium to help offset costs.

In terms of the K-12 school sites, the facilities committee recommends an examination of school boundaries to determine whether adjustments/ changes could help balance building enrollments, create space at all elementary buildings for early childhood programming, reduce concentrations of poverty, and reduce racial isolation. This recommendation, if approved would be conducted in a Phase II study at the direction of the School Board.

School Board discussions focused on turf at the fields of each high school; the issue of the stadium not being addressed; and racially imbalanced schools and possible opportunities to offer magnet schools or reorganize, etc.

The School Board maintains final authority in rejecting or accepting all or parts of the recommendations. The recommendations from the Committee will be discussed in detail with the School Board at its October 19 workshop. A copy of the final report is on the District web site.

MSHSL
Foundation Funds

Maureen Peterson moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the request for funds from the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) to be used to pay athletic fees for student athletes who qualify. Motion carried unanimously.

The state Legislature has allowed sales tax money from Section and State tournaments to be returned to the MSHSL to establish a foundation to support athletic programming in area schools. The league has instructed area schools to provide a copy of a School Board resolution requesting funds from the foundation for various uses, including supplemental funding for athletes who qualify for free and reduced lunches and, thus, have their athletic fees waived. This resolution is submitted annually for School Board approval.

Grant Application/
Hennepin Youth
Sports Program

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the submission of the Hennepin Youth Sport Program application for Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools.

Hennepin County is seeking local units of government interested in developing facilities for amateur sports or recreation. Legislation authorizing the building of the new Twins stadium allows Hennepin County to grant up to \$2 million dollars each grant cycle to Hennepin County communities to assist with developing these facilities. These grants will be made through the Hennepin Youth Sports Program.

The purpose of these grants will be to allow municipalities, park districts or school districts to create, expand or improve sport or recreational facilities to enhance opportunities for athletics and recreation. No grant awards may be used for ongoing expenses, such as programming services or operating and maintaining the facilities.

The Hennepin Youth Sports Program is intended to encourage cooperation between the local unit of government applicants and non-profit youth organizations. The program seeks to create partnerships between the end-users and the owners of facilities in order to maintain high quality facilities for the future. Awards will range from \$10,000 up to \$400,000. Respondents are encouraged to provide matching funds or in-kind contributions. Matching amounts will be a factor considered in grant awards.

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners will make the grant awards to respondents. The Board has contracted with the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission to administer the application process. All proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2009.

*Hennepin Youth Sports Program Application
Bloomington Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools
Independent School District 271 Board of Education Resolution*

WHEREAS, Hennepin County, via its Youth Sports Grant Program, provides for capital funds to assist local government units of Hennepin County for the development of sport or recreation facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Independent School District (local government unit, hereinafter LGU) desires to develop a Turf Development Project at Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools (name of project, hereinafter PROJECT) for the purpose of expanding and enhancing the opportunities for youth, middle school students, high school students, and curricular subject areas in a response to the growing trends in high school and youth activities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education (authorizing board) of the Independent School District 271 (LGU):

- I. The estimate of the total cost of developing PROJECT shall be \$ 2.1 million and LGU is requesting \$ 400,000.00 from the Hennepin County Legacy Grant program and will assume responsibility for a match requirement of \$ 1.6 million.
- II. LGU agrees to own, assume one hundred (100) percent of operation costs for PROJECT, and will operate PROJECT for its intended purpose for the functional life of the facility, which is estimated to be 15 years.
- III. LGU agrees to enter into necessary and required agreements with Hennepin County for the specific purpose of constructing a sport or recreational facility and long-term program direction.
- IV. That the Activities Director, Ted Schultz, (authorized representative) and/or Independent School District 271 (LGU) is authorized and directed to execute said application and serve as official liaison with Hennepin County or its authorized representative.

Directors Tim Culver, Maureen Peterson and Mark Hibbs expressed concern about moving forward with approval of the application without seeing a specific plan/details for the fields, resources from the District for the matching funds needed, and granting approval prior to acting upon recommendations from the Facilities Planning for Success Committee.

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, to convene a Special Meeting of the School Board on Monday, October 19, prior to the Board Workshop, to discuss only this topic. On roll call vote, Tim Culver, Maureen Peterson and Mark Hibbs voted aye. Chuck Walter, Jim Sorum, Arlene Bush and Maureen Bartolotta voted nay. Motion failed 3-4.

Chairperson called for the vote on the original motion (approving submission of the grant application). On roll call vote, Chuck Walter, Jim Sorum, Arlene Bush and Maureen Bartolotta voted aye. Tim Culver, Maureen Peterson and Mark Hibbs voted nay. Motion passed 4-3.

Annual Report
2008-2009

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the Annual Report for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations, and Jaclyn Swords, Communications Specialist, presented the report to the School Board. Each fall, the District publishes an annual report that details the accomplishments of the District for the previous school year. State law mandates many of the items contained in the report. The 2008-09 Annual Report will be produced as an online publication for the second consecutive year. A link to the report will be provided on the Bloomington Public Schools' home page and each individual school home page.

Following the Board's approval, the public will receive specific and required notification of the report's availability through several different means including the Winter Edition of *School Pages*, which will be mailed in November to each home in Bloomington, fliers sent home with elementary school students, along with notification included in the secondary schools' online newsletters. English language learners will have access to a one-page translation in Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali. These will be posted online with the full English version and made available to the Office of Educational Equity.

On September 14, 2009, the PER Committee reviewed and approved the curriculum content that appears in the publication. Copies of the report will be sent to the Minnesota Department of Education and posted on the District's web site.

Policy 407

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of Policy 407, Environmental Health and Safety Standards. Motion carried unanimously.

The purpose of this policy is to update the policy and comply with the statutory requirement of having an environmental health and safety policy. Policy 407 was reviewed by the School Board at its September 14, 2009, workshop and the first reading adopted on September 28th. District legal counsel has reviewed the policy.

Metropolitan Learning
Alliance

Arlene Bush moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the amendments to the Joint Powers Agreement for the Metropolitan Learning Alliance (MLA). Motion carried unanimously.

The Metropolitan Learning Alliance (MLA) has been a Joint Powers Agreement between five school districts—Bloomington, Richfield, St. Paul, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis.

The St. Louis Park school district has withdrawn from the Joint Powers consortium, thus creating the need to amend the current agreement. The Holman Law Office was retained by the MLA to write the amendments to the current Joint Powers Agreement. Each of the four remaining school districts will obtain Board of Education approval. The withdrawal of St. Louis Park is a cost-neutral action.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chuck Walter reported that the School Calendar Committee met twice. The Citizens Financial Advisory Committee will meet on October 21. Chuck Walter and Arlene Bush represent the School Board on CFAC. Jim Sorum reported on the TIES Annual Meeting. Joan Bernard, Director of Technology and Information, and Superintendent Les Fujitake also attended. Bloomington was highlighted as a model for a number of initiatives. Maureen Peterson reported on the Labor Management Committee meeting. Discussion items included H1N1 protocols for staff, a review of the first two months of the District on self-insurance, and Wellness Committee initiatives. Maureen Peterson and Maureen Bartolotta attended the thinkPINKkids Day at the Mall of America.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The School Board meets with its Youth Advisory Council. These meetings are scheduled prior to a Board Workshop.

Jim Sorum moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that for 2009-2010, the dates for the Youth Advisory Council meetings are as scheduled as follows: November 16, 2009; February 16, 2010; and April 19, 2010. Meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at Oak Grove Middle School in the Media Center, followed by a Board Workshop beginning at 7 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Les Fujitake announced that Washburn Elementary has been awarded a \$100,000 one-year grant for the Minnesota Reading First Statewide Model for Scaling Up K-3 Reading Instruction. Congratulations to Assistant Superintendent Nancy Allen-Mastro and her team— Lisa Grundstrom, Beth Flottmeier and Beth Anderson—for writing and receiving this grant.

The Bloomington Sports Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Bloomington Athletic Association, City of Bloomington and the Bloomington Public Schools. The annual banquet was held last week at which Jim Sorum was among the honorees.

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, to established a Closed Session of the School Board on Monday, October 19, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Maureen Peterson, Clerk