

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271  
Bloomington, Minnesota**

**October 14, 2013**

- I. ROLL CALL Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the Board of Education of Independent School District 271, was called to order by Chair Tim Culver at 7:00 p.m. on October 14, 2013, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Tim Culver, Chair; Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair; Dick Bergstrom, Clerk; Nelly Korman, Treasurer; Lyle Abeln, Maureen Bartolotta and Arlene Bush.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Chris Lennox, Dave Heistad, Bruce Pappas and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present David Holman.  
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, approval of the agenda. Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, removing item number 4 in the Part B agenda— Proposal from Wipfli LLP for Organizational Development. On roll call vote, Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom and Arlene Bush voted aye. Lyle Abeln, Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Nelly Korman voted nay. Motion failed 3-4. Chair Culver called for the vote to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes the attached proclamation (on file) declaring the week of October 14, 2013, as “Lights On After School” week, the 14<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of after school programs. Motion carried unanimously.
- Lights On After School Proclamation Kristie Christiansen, Youth and Family Coordinator at Washburn Elementary School, accepted the proclamation. There will be a celebration on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Elementary School. The Bloomington Crime Prevention Association will help to fund the event. Ms. Christiansen also noted that this year, Kids’ SAFARI will be celebrating its 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Kids’ SAFARI serves 920 students in ten elementary schools.
- Public School nurses and others addressed the School Board regarding negotiations.

Laurel Kuplic, Jackie Johns, Robin Rolloff (parent), Denise Schneider, Kris Trenary (teacher/parent), Chris Tollefson (teacher), and Nancy Schaaf (teacher/ resident), expressed their frustrations of being under appreciated and overworked, wanted the School Board to know their jobs are complex with an increasing number of services provided by nurses, and their frustration with negotiations that have left them without a contract for 836 days. Speakers who were not nurses/health associates indicated their support.

Chair Tim Culver responded on behalf of the District. In part, the response indicated that the District has proposed numerous financial offers and has not received any financial counter offer since negotiations began. As a follow up to a meeting of the Superintendent and the Health Services group, a comprehensive review of the Health Service Delivery Model is to be conducted by an outside expert. District efforts are focused on reaching an agreement with the Health Services bargaining unit that addresses concerns of its members, and is within the District's negotiation parameters; the same parameters other employee groups have used to reach agreement.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on September 23, 2013.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Employments, Change of Status. Independent Personnel: Employments, Change of Status, Position Elimination. Classified Personnel: Termination, Retirements, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident

Student Agreements

c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2013-2014: Seven (7) students entering Bloomington Public Schools and sixteen (16) students leaving.

2. *Field Trips Approval*

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the field trips per the attached list (on file).

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

Fairview Health Services

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Amendment of Letter of Agreement and License Agreement with Fairview Health Services to provide professional health services within Independent School District 271.

MnSCU/HTC

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District approves the renewal of five Occupancy Agreements between the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on behalf of Hennepin Technical College and Independent School District 271. The Occupancy Agreements are effective from September 9, 2013 through December 19, 2013.

MN Opportunity Corps

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves an agreement between Minnesota Opportunity Corps and Independent School District 271 with respect to the assignment of one (1) Minnesota Opportunity Corps Employment Navigator member to perform services to help program participants gain more economic self-sufficiency.

Student Teaching Bethel University

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Bethel University. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

Student Teaching Metropolitan State University

e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Metropolitan State University. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

Student Teaching Minnesota State University, Moorhead

f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Minnesota State University, Moorhead. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

4. *Finance*  
Election Judges

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 confirms the appointment of election judges for the School Board Directors election on November 5, 2013 (list on file).

Arlene Bush moved, Mark Hibbs 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

MSHSL Foundation Funds

Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the application to the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Foundation for grant funds to be used to pay athletic and activity fees for students who qualify. Motion carried unanimously.

The Minnesota State High School League Foundation was formed to provide support for Minnesota's high school youth to participate in athletics and activities. The MSHSL Foundation offers grants and funding to assist school districts in recognizing, promoting and funding extracurricular participation by high school students. Recognizing the value of students' participation in extra curricular activities, the District is applying for funds from the Foundation for various uses, including supplemental funding for students who qualify for free and reduced lunches and, thus, have fees waived. This resolution is submitted annually for School Board approval.

Beating the Odds Instruction Second Grade Literacy

Dr. Dave Heistad, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, reported on value added, a kind of growth model that measured the contribution of schooling to student performance on standardized assessments. It uses statistical techniques to separate the impact of schooling from other factors that may influence growth.

Value added focuses on how much students improve on the assessment from one year to the next as measured in scale score points. Dr. Heistad used the oak tree analogy to explain the concept of value added. Value added separates the factors teachers cannot control with those of the impact of the teacher. Achievement plus the value added will help prepare students on their Pathway to Graduation. Next week there will be a full report on the recent results of the Multiple Measures Ratings. Bloomington schools had the highest overall improvement—the highest increase for Math and Reading tests for similar districts. Dr. Heistad also talked about common core concerns. The State has set the standards bar high with new norms. MCA results coming out next week. Results for students who were proficient in the past may only be partially proficient. To be proficient students needs to be reading above grade level.

Amber Geehan, second grade Reading teacher at Valley View Elementary, highlighted the strategies used for the academic improvement of her students and how she and her team identify a growth model to meet the needs of a student's learning. Poverty and mobility are outside factors affecting student learning. She indicated that she holds her students accountable for their academic growth and their behavior. The example given was Ms. Geehan's use of a story that focuses on vocabulary instruction. Ms. Geehan and her team have mapped out curriculum for each subject area with concepts of the CALT test that are correlated throughout the year. The curriculum needs to be comprehensive; areas are being focused on for longer periods of time and offered in different formats. She is one of the teachers whose instruction is beating the odds.

Superintendent Fujitake focused on valuing and recognizing teammates and a variety of District accomplishments. He highlighted why Bloomington Public Schools is being successful—we are educational leaders. Mr. Fujitake referenced recent technology reports presented to the School Board. The District is fulfilling its mission by providing students a pathway to graduation; this takes a shared vision. He stated that this has been a banner year for Bloomington Public Schools—the city and school district community surveys gave high praise to the Bloomington Public Schools; there were visits from national leaders—Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, and Dennis Van Roekel, President of National Education Association—wanting to see our early childhood programs. Mr. Fujitake complimented staff for the great work they are doing and the community for being supportive partners.

Annual Report  
2012-2013

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Annual Report for the 2012-2013 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations, presented the report to the School Board. Each year, the District publishes an annual report detailing the accomplishments of the District for the previous school year. State law mandates many of the items contained in the report.

The 2012-2013 Annual Report will be produced as an online publication for the sixth consecutive year. A link to the report will be provided on the District's website 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 communication channels, including the Winter Edition of *School Pages*, mailed to each Bloomington resident and notification included in the secondary schools' online newsletters. Non-English language families will have access to a summarized translation in Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali. The summarized version is based on recommendations provided by the cultural liaisons and are posted online with the full English version, and made available through the Office of Educational Equity. The District Curriculum Advisory 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 as required.

In discussion, Chair Culver inquired as to the process for review of this report and the role of the School Board indicating that a final copy was delivered to the Board members at the meeting. Mr. Kaufman indicated that the report was sent to Board members for review a week in advance of the meeting.

#### Wipfli Proposal

Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to table (to some time in the future) the resolution accepting the proposal from Wipfli LLP to provide Board development and strategic planning advisory services to Bloomington Public Schools and its leadership and governance groups.

On roll call vote, Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom and Arlene Bush voted aye. Lyle Abeln, Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Nelly Korman voted nay. Motion to table failed 3-4.

Wipfli representatives Seth Finestack and Sophie Kelley presented the proposal to the School Board and responded to questions from Board members. The proposal sets forth the accomplishment of the following objectives: Create agreement on organizational development opportunities for the District. Help identify and facilitate the most appropriate and constructive long-term planning process for the District, in order to come to a consensus on common priorities and initiatives. Articulate and communicate measurable strategy goals that the Board, the community of Bloomington, and District staff can rely on for direction and accountability. It is estimated that the entire process as outlined will take approximately 16-20 weeks (four to five months) to complete.

- I. Board of Education Development & Facilitation Plan \$7,500
- II. Board/Superintendent Goal-Setting \$4,500
- III. Community Engagement and Coalition Building \$7,500
- IV. Building the District's Scorecard \$4,500

Each component stage can be completed independent of the others. A specific timeline and events schedule will be developed. The total estimated investment for this engagement is \$24,000. If the services and information are accepted, a formal engagement letter will be prepared for signature. It will address the specific scope, responsibilities and criteria relative to this engagement.

There was discussion by Board members and the Superintendent as to pros and cons of the proposal, the timing of undertaking this process, and the desire for references.

Lyle Ablen moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to table the resolution until the October 28 School Board meeting. On roll call vote, Lyle Ablen, Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom, Arlene Bush, Tim Culver, and Nelly Korman voted aye. Mark Hibbs voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.

Board Meeting  
Agendas

Dick Bergstrom requested that Board members provide a 48 hour notice to move items from Part A (consent agenda) to Part B (action items) suggesting that this would be a courtesy to other Board members. Board members shared their opinion. Not all were in support of the request.

VII. BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS

Maureen Bartolotta attended the TIES Annual meeting, the District Curriculum Advisory Council meeting and participated as a community reader in the Olson Elementary School Read-A-Thon. Dick Bergstrom highlighted the Olson Elementary Read-A-Thon, Normandale PTSA Council meeting and homecoming games for Jefferson and Kennedy. Mark Hibbs attended the Labor Management Committee meeting and was a speaker at Valley View Middle School AVID classes regarding his career. He was very impressed with all of staff at Valley View Middle School. Arlene Bush attended various school and community events.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake announced that eight Bloomington high school students have been named semifinalists in the 59<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program and three students have earned National Merit Commended Student status, which recognizes exceptional academic promise demonstrated by students' performance on the qualifying test. Students will be invited to a School Board meeting for recognition.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Adjournment was at 10:28 p.m.

Dick Bergstrom, Clerk