

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

November 14, 2011

- 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 Chuck Walter at 7:00 p.m. on November 14, 2011, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Chuck Walter, Chair; Melissa Halvorson Wiklund, Vice Chair; Tim Culver, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Maureen Bartolotta and Mark Hibbs.
- Member Absent Jim Sorum.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Rod Zivkovich, Eric Melbye, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present David Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Arlene Bush moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. CANVASS OF ELECTION RESULTS Melissa Halvorson Wiklund moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 has canvassed the election returns, therefore, be it resolved, that the School Board hereby declares the following candidates elected to four year terms, beginning January 2, 2012: Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom, and Nelly Korman, and Clerk of said Board is instructed to so notify the candidates according to law.

VOTE RECAP

Maureen Bartolotta	5,243
Dick Bergstrom	4,628
Judy Gruggen	4,314
Nelly Korman	5,440
Ricardo Oliva	4,256
Write Ins	113
Undervotes	9,294
Overvotes	15

Motion carried unanimously.

- V. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC
- Citizenship/Voting
- The Bloomington Public Schools, Bloomington Daymakers Rotary and the City of Bloomington work cooperatively to provide the Take Your Child to Vote project to promote citizenship with students. The project connects Character Education studies in the classroom with Election Day. This is the twelfth year of the project. Elementary and middle school students learned about citizenship, rights and responsibilities and the power of freedom to vote. On Election Day, November 8, parents brought their children to the polls to see actual precinct locations and witness the voting process. There was a special voting box at each polling place for students to deposit their own Message of Citizenship and they received a citizenship sticker. The Rotary Club paid for teacher resource packets, voting boxes and stickers. Rotary members compiled the Citizenship Messages, with the entire project being facilitated by the school district and the City Clerk's office. In attendance at the School Board meeting were Olson Middle School students who read Messages of Citizenship collected from the special voting boxes at the polling places. Debbie Belfry, Career Development Coordinator, provides the leadership for this project.
- National Merit Scholars
- National Merit 2012 Scholarship Program Semifinalists**
- Seven Bloomington high school students have been named semifinalists in the 57th annual National Merit Scholarship Program for 2012. Jefferson's Alison Abrams, Bryan Duerfeldt, Arthur Harris, Jan Ketterson, Ellen Norby, Joseph Norby and Abigail Trevor. These students will be in the running for one of the merit scholarship awards that will be offered next spring. More than 1.5 million high school juniors entered the 2011 National Merit Program by taking the preliminary PSAT/National Merit scholarship qualifying test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. These students placed among the top one-half of one percent of their national Class of 2012.
- National Merit 2012 Scholarship Program Commended Students**
- National Merit Commended Student status recognizes exceptional academic promise demonstrated by performance on the qualifying test used for program entry. Commended students are Jefferson's Miriam Harries, Brooke Hendricks, Kevin O'Connor and Rutger Van Huber. These students place among the top five percent of their national Class of 2012 on the PSAT.
- Friends
- The District is fortunate to have businesses and organizations support our learners and the community of Bloomington. In appreciation of these collaborations efforts, the School Board recognizes "Friends" of education.
- Bloomington Young Life**
- Young Life has been present in Bloomington for over 25 years and recently has re-engaged with the school district the past six years, since fall 2006. The Club is open to all middle school and high school students in Bloomington whether they attend public school, private school or are home-schooled in Bloomington. Young Life believes every student deserves to have adults investing in them during their adolescent years, no matter their beliefs, abilities, friend group, etc. The goal is to create a healthy, safe space for students to come and simply be themselves.

Currently, Young Life serves Jefferson High School, Olson Middle School and hopes to include Oak Grove Middle School this year. The intention is to grow this program and expand to other schools as resources are developed to support expansion. Examples were given of how Young Life is present in students' lives both during and outside of the school day. In attendance were Young Life Regional Directors Katya Morrell and Brad Pierce.

American Education Week

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached (on file) proclamation proclaiming November 14-18, 2011, as American Education Week in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent, highlighted American Education Week as an annual observance emphasizing the essential role of public schools in developing democracy, integrating diverse groups around shared civic values, developing skills and knowledge and fostering the nation's future leaders. She accepted the proclamation on behalf of teachers and all staff members who are a part of a child's educational experience.

Chemical Health Week

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 proclaims the week of November 14-18, 2011, Minnesota Chemical Health Week in Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

Denise Reese, Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, accepted the proclamation. Chemical Health Week is set aside to create an awareness of substance abuse and encourage a commitment to prevention. Students highlighted a variety of activities that will be going on in the middle schools and high schools during this week, including the wearing of the color red on November 16. Ms. Reese emphasized that although this is a special week of observing chemical health awareness, safe and drug free schools are a year round focus in the Bloomington Public Schools.

Human Rights Day

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached (on file) proclamation recognizing December 10, 2011 as Human Rights Day. Motion carried unanimously.

Bloomington Human Rights Commissioners Sanu Patel-Zellinger and Noah Nieting accepted the proclamation. Noah Nieting is a Jefferson student and the youth representative to the Human Rights Commission.

Hillcrest Artful Learning

Principal Paul Schullo and Music Teacher Janet Cruse were joined by Beth Anderson, Director of Elementary Curriculum, and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro to provide an update to the School Board on the artful learning implementation at Hillcrest Community School. Artful Learning is a school model that allows educators to use the arts and the artistic process to teach content. It is a framework that can be applied to existing curricula by incorporating the arts across any academic discipline.

Staff development and training for teachers began this summer and will continue in the fall and winter. Teachers in each grade level develop Units of Study by mapping current curriculum and organizing common themes into a Concept. The Concept is used to select a Masterwork. The Masterwork can be any human achievement that exerted influence over time; it can be a painting, song, photograph, sculpture, book, building, invention, idea, poem, document film, etc. The Unit of Study is then built around the Masterwork. Hillcrest is the only elementary artful learning school in Minnesota. Recently, Hillcrest Community School celebrated its 20th Anniversary.

Art Display The new art display is provided by Oak Grove Middle School students. Art Specialists are Michelle Jurewicz-Gruenheid and Gabrielle Erickson.

Public Annette Krohg, Bloomington Community Music Board, addressed the School Board regarding a proposal that was before the School Board for consideration—that the fifth grade instrumental music program be cut and replaced with a fee-based summer or after school program. She presented points illustrating the long-term negative impacts if the proposed were to be implemented and asked that the School Board to reject the proposal.

VI. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the School Board and City Council on September 8, Minutes of the Special Meeting of the School Board on September 26, 2011, and Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on October 10, 2011.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status. Independent Personnel: Retirement, Changes of Status. Classified Personnel: Terminations, Resignations, Retirement, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2011-2012: Students coming into Bloomington total 18 and students leaving Bloomington total 24. For 2012-2013: students entering Bloomington total 9.

Personnel Items

Non-Resident
Student Agreements

2. *Field Trip Approval*

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

3. *Grants/Grant Application*
BCPA

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 Accepts grants totaling \$22,250 from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association (BCPA) for school district violence prevention activities during the 2011-2012 calendar year.

MDE English
Literacy/Civics
SHAPE

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts two grant awards from the Minnesota Department of Education. SHAPE was awarded an EL/Civics grant for two sites. The Mall of America site and the Community Services Campus site each were awarded a \$40,000 grant. The grants are for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Nine Mile Creek
Watershed

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the acceptance of a cost share grant agreement for \$23,893 from the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District to support water resource protection.

4. *Contracts/Agreements*

- NWHSU Volunteer Connection E-12 Programs a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the agreement between Northwestern Health Sciences University and Independent School District 271, Volunteer Connection, E-12 Programs.
- Prom Contracts b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Jefferson and Kennedy Prom Contracts for 2013, 2014, and 2015 on the following dates: Friday, May 10, 2013; Friday, May 16, 2014; and Friday, May 15, 2015.
- Merchant Processing TIES Fee Pay c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Merchant Processing Agreement for credit card processing of various student and school fees for payments to schools via TIES.
- Normandale College Shuttle Bus Service Amendment d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves an amended agreement with the State of Minnesota, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MSCU), for shuttle bus service for Normandale Community College for 2011-2012.
- Blackboard Connect e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Services Agreement with Blackboard Connect, Inc. The Service Fee is \$25,750 (\$2.50/student) for a one-year renewal agreement, and includes an annual support charge of \$1,000. The new contract is effective upon the Board's approval.

5. *Finance*

- Gifts/Donations a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts gifts and donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount of \$15,607.05.
- Finance Reports b. Statements of Revenues and Statements of Expenditures for the months July through August 2011 and September 2011.
- Receipts/Disbursements c. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

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

VII. PART B

- Course Fees 2012-2013 Mark Hibbs moved, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund moved, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves middle school and high school course fees for the 2012-2013 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 123B.35 and 123B.36, school districts have the right to establish fees in areas considered extracurricular, noncurricular or supplemental to the requirements for the successful completion of a class or educational program. By approving fees at this time, the fees can be included in the school registration guides for 2012-2013. After consultation with middle and high school principals, Administration recommends some changes to the current fees. The changes reflect adjustments in the selection of curriculum materials that enhance classroom instruction or are items students take home upon completion.

Q-Comp
Application
Update

Wendy Marczak, President of the Bloomington Federation of Teachers, along with Bruce Pappas, Executive Director of Human Resources, provided the School Board with an update on the Q-Comp application and timeline. The application was submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education on November 11. Plans will be shared with teachers this week, the School Board will receive another update at the November 28 study session, BFT membership will vote on the plan the week of December 5, the Board will vote on the property tax levy on December 12. Backup plans include the BFT voting the week of December 12 with the Board vote on the levy and plan December 19 at a special meeting, if necessary. The MDE review/approval of the application will determine the need for adjustments to the timeline.

Success Measures
2010-2011 Update

The Strategic Plan and Success Measures Report is provided to the School Board annually. The report for 2010-2011 was presented by Rick Kaufman, Jim Angermeyr, Tim Anderson, Tom Holton and Rod Zivkovich, which covered specific measures achieved for each of the five directions of the District's Strategic Plan—Strategic Direction A: *Maximize student achievement and eliminate the achievement gap.* Strategic Direction B: *Develop educational programs in response to research, best practices and market conditions.* Strategic Direction C: *Provide meaningful staff development for ALL staff, including competency with diverse populations.* Strategic Direction D: *Strengthen partnerships that expand learning opportunities and enhance our image.* Strategic Direction E: *Increase funding base and maximize use of existing resources.* Tonight's update includes changes to the Success Measures format and metrics focusing on the ethnic and economic gaps and other suggestions made by the Board at a study session in February 2010. School Board members discussed and made suggestions for additional information for the next report, such as metrics for the CALT/MCA proficiency showing where improvements should be made, trends over time for the various metrics such as CALT/MCA, add a retention metric for enrollment, how is selection criteria determined for the percentage defined in a metric, staff development results in the area of cultural competency, family engagement, parent satisfaction on the use of parent portal, school view etc. Success Measures will be brought back to the Board in February or March 2012. The summary report of these Success Measures will be included in the 2010-2011 Annual Report.

Board Chair
Report of
Closed Session

The School Board Chair reported that on Monday, October 17, 2011, the School Board of Independent School District 271 met in Closed Session. The purpose was to discuss strategies relating to current and future negotiations between the District and the Bloomington Federation of Teachers.

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Arlene Bush attended meetings of the Intermediate District 917 Board. Chuck Walter joined the Superintendent for a meeting with the Mayor, City Human Services staff and Blue Cross Blue Shield representatives regarding the do.town initiative. Mr. Walter reported that the Mayor expressed his gratitude for willingness of the school district to further collaborate efforts this last year.

- IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Administration requests a Board Study Session on November 21 at 6 p.m. for the following topics: Audit Report 2010-2011, Property Tax Levy Update, Community Financial Advisory Committee Report, Budget Adjustments 2012-2013, Graduation Requirements Update and MCAII Testing/AYP Update. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Tim Culver seconded, to establish a Board Study Session on November 21 at 6 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

There is a regularly scheduled (4th Monday of the month) Study Session on November 28 at 6 p.m. Preliminary agenda planning includes the School Calendar 2012-2013 and Program Plans for Academic Services, Student Services and Community Services.

The Works is a new community asset “hands-on, minds-on” museum that makes learning about science and engineering interesting, understandable and fun. *The Works* opened this past weekend—located at 9740 Grand Avenue South. Debbie Belfry is working with them for a successful start.

Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro is working with the Community Relations office to conduct a survey regarding world language immersion programs. We have reached out (Blackboard Connect email message and a postcard) to all early childhood families enrolled in District preschool programs inviting their opinion. The message asked them to complete a brief online survey sharing their thoughts on world language immersion programs. Dr. Allen-Mastro also is connecting with parent groups such as the Early Childhood Advisory Council and Latino parents. She has been meeting with a team of 15 staff/administrators on this topic. A report will be given to the School Board at a January study session.

Bloomington families are forming a new parent organization for Latino parents and families of the District. The Superintendent is meeting with the co-presidents of that parent group.

The District is working with the Bloomington Athletic Association to help build better connections and opportunities for our Somali families.

- X. OTHER None.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the School Board, Maureen Bartolotta moved, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Tim Culver, Clerk