

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

**February 11, 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 February 11, 2008 in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Jim Sorum, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Maureen Peterson.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Debra Fincham, Pat Geraghty, Rod Zivkovich, 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, Chuck Walter seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the proclamation declaring February as Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month. Motion carried unanimously.

*Bloomington  
Loves Its Kids  
Proclamation*

***Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month  
February 2008***

*WHEREAS, all of the children of Bloomington—of all ages, every race, religion, economic and ethnic background—deserve the recognition and support of the people of Bloomington; and*

*WHEREAS, adults in Bloomington recognize their duty to protect children by reporting suspected child abuse or neglect, the selling of alcohol to minors, or the dealing of drugs by or for children; and*

*WHEREAS, the people of Bloomington can help raise the self-esteem of all children, especially those who have hurt and hardship in their lives; and*

*WHEREAS, children who commit their time and energy to serving their community deserve recognition; and*

*WHEREAS, children who are achieving success in their schools and community should be acknowledged and encouraged by adults; and*

*WHEREAS, adults and organizations in Bloomington can collaborate in providing the developmental assets that will help our children and youth grow up successfully;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, we, Gene Winstead, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, and Maureen Bartolotta, Chair of the Bloomington Board of Education, do hereby proclaim February 2008 as the 20th Annual Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month and call upon the people of Bloomington to observe this special month by showing love and appreciation to children, recognizing organizations that support and encourage children of Bloomington, and, as a community, celebrating our kids.*

The proclamation was accepted by Michael Riebel and Andy Ohrt, representatives from Bloomington United for Youth. February 2008 marks the 20th annual Bloomington Loves Its Kids celebration by joint proclamation of the Bloomington City Council and Bloomington School Board. Along with the City and the School District, the celebration also is sponsored by Northwestern Health Sciences University and Bloomington United for Youth. A week of activities is scheduled for February 16-23. There will be a recognition ceremony on Friday, February 22, at 6:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Civic Plaza in Council Chambers. The Bloomington Loves Its Kids Carnival will take place on Saturday, February 23, 12:30-3:00 p.m. at Northwestern Health Sciences University.

Bloomington United for Youth will sponsor a Box City Vigil on the lawn of the State Capitol on April 18. There will be a Youth Job Fair on April 12 at Civic Plaza.

Spelling Bee

The Bloomington Spelling Bee was held at Valley View Middle School on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Jesse Loi won the Spelling Bee by spelling the word "cholesterol" correctly. Jesse Loi, is a 7th grade student at Oak Grove Middle School. Second place was Casey Ritchie, 7th grade, Olson Middle School and third place was Kevin O'Connor, 8th grade, Valley View Middle School

Julie Donaldson, Middle School Gifted and Talented Specialist, provides the leadership for the District Spelling Bee.

Patriot's Pen  
Voice of Democracy

Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy scholarship contests were sponsored by the U.S. Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary.

Kate Raxon, an eighth grade student at Bloomington's Olson Middle School, won the Minnesota Patriot's Pen Essay Contest with a written piece titled, *Why I am an American Patriot*. She received a \$500 savings bond and will compete in the national competition for a chance at a \$10,000 savings bond and a trip to Washington, DC.

Kelly Raxon, a sophomore at Jefferson High School, was this year's Seventh District winner in the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition. Kelly will compete at the state level later this year. Her audio essay focused on *My Role in Honoring America's Veterans*.

Bloomington's Everett McClay VFW Post 296 and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsored both girls in the district and state competitions. VFW Post 1296 Commander Jim Lilledahl and Phyllis Berg from the Ladies Auxiliary highlighted the competition. Kate and Kelly presented their speeches. Olson Middle School Principal Tom Lee and Jefferson Assistant Principal Deborah Holman congratulated the students, who are sisters.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on January 28, 2008.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status. Classified Personnel: Termination, Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident

c. Non Resident Student Agreements:

2007-2008 Students Entering Bloomington = 21

2007-2008 Students Leaving Bloomington = 12

2008-2009 Students Entering Bloomington = 45

2008-2009 Students Leaving Bloomington = 4

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

Student Teaching

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 71 approves the Student Teaching Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato. This agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2008—June 30, 2011.

3. *Finance*

Receipts/Disbursements

a. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Maureen Peterson moved, Chuck Walter 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

Athletic Event

Workers Pay

Increase

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the wage schedule for athletic event workers, effective July 1, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

The Bloomington Public Schools hires workers to perform various duties at school athletic events. During negotiations for the 2007-2009 teachers contract, the School District and the Bloomington Federation of Teachers agreed that the wage schedule for event workers would be removed from Schedule C of the teacher contract. Administration recommends that the wage schedule (on file) for the 2007-2008 school year be retroactive to July 1, 2007. The wage schedule represents a 2% increase over the 2006-2007 schedule, which is consistent with other schedule increases in the teacher contract. It is the goal of the Bloomington Federation of Teachers and the School District that the wage schedule be examined and simplified before the 2008-2009 school year. The pay rate increases are a result of recommendations by the Departments of Human Resources, Athletics, and Finance.

Naming Auditor  
for 2007-2008

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 appoints Kern, DeWenter, Viere, Ltd. to perform a general financial audit for 2007-2008 conforming to State and Federal guidelines. The audit fee for school district records will be \$37,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Year 2008 will have changes in auditing standards that will have a significant impact on the District and auditors. Kern, DeWenter, Viere, Ltd. has been the District's auditor since 1995-1996. The proposed audit fee for 2007-2008 represents a 3.5% increase over the 2006-2007 audit fee.

Policy Review

Jim Sorum moved, Chuck Walter seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the deletion of policies that are determined to be obsolete.

- Policy 802 Disposition of Surplus, Obsolete and Salvage Supplies, Equipment and Material
- Policy 3262 Instructional Materials Center—Sale of District Publications and Services
- Policy 3272 Sale of Food Items in the Schools
- Policy 3326 Authorization for Payments
- Policy 3440 Fixed Assets Inventory
- Policy 3531 Personal Injury Reporting of Students and Visitors
- Policy 3532.2 Loss Reports and Submission of Claims
- Policy 3610 Criteria for Closing Schools
- Policy 4217 Personnel Evaluations
- Policy 7132 New Facility Construction Renovation and Repairs

On roll call vote, all directors voted aye, except for Tim Culver, who voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.

As part of an ongoing review process, the aforementioned policies have been reviewed and determined to be obsolete for a variety of reasons. While new or revised policies have two readings, deletions need only one School Board action. Attached is the rationale for deleting the policies listed above. District Counsel has reviewed the policies recommended for deletion and concurs with the action recommended by Administration.

Director Culver expressed his concern for the policy review process and the lack of participation on the part of the School Board, the policy-making body of the District.

Regulations are deleted by Administration and the School Board is so notified.

The following regulations pertain to the list of policies being deleted. These regulations have been reviewed and determined to be obsolete and, therefore, will be deleted.

<i>Regulation</i>	<i>Title</i>
802	Disposition of Surplus, Obsolete and Salvage Supplies, Equipment and Material
3262	Instructional Materials Center—Sale of District Publications and Services
3272	Sale of Food Items in the Schools
3326	Authorization for Payments
3531	Personal Injury Reporting of Students and Visitors
3532.2	Loss Reports and Submission of Claims
3610	Criteria for Closing Schools
4217	Personnel Evaluations
7132	New Facility Construction Renovation and Repairs

The regulation listed below does not have a related policy. The organizational chart is updated annually, or more frequently, if necessary. There is no reason for it being a regulation. Therefore, the regulation will be deleted.

301.1            Organizational Chart 2007-2008

The regulations listed below do not have a related policy. The subject matter is addressed through Human Resource functions and/or employee contract provisions.

4117a            Probation and Evaluation  
4152.1           Leaves and Sabbatical  
4152.2           Leaves (Professional, Health and Hardship, Personal, Peace Corps, Travel)

**VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chuck Walter reported on meetings of the Community Financial Advisory Committee and the Board's Legislative Action Committee that met with Bloomington legislators on January 30. The Bloomington Band Festival was held on January 31. On behalf of Bloomington United for Youth, Maureen Bartolotta invited the community to attend the Bloomington Loves Its Kids awards celebration on Friday, February 22 at 6 p.m. at Civic Plaza.

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. The School Board will meet with middle school representatives of its Youth Advisory Council on Tuesday, February 19 at 5:30 p.m. at ESC in the Community Room. Representatives from VEAP and Bridging will be in attendance.

Following the Youth Advisory Council meeting, there is a School Board Workshop, which begins at 7 pm. Agenda topics include 2008-2009 staffing, School Board goals and process for the Superintendent's review.

Focus Groups were conducted last week for the Communication Audit. Superintendent Fujitake expressed appreciation to staff, parents and community members for their participation. Focus groups were well attended and provided valuable feedback. Lew Armistead will be submitting his findings by April.

The 2008 legislative session begins tomorrow.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk