

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

February 9, 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 February 9, 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 and Chuck Walter.
- Member Absent Mark Hibbs.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Rod Zivkovich, 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 Chuck Walter moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC
- The District Spelling Bee was held on January 29th at Olson Middle School.
- Emily Fischer, Oak Grove Middle School, grade 8, is the champion. Kyle Johnson, Oak Grove Middle School, grade 7, placed third. Placing second was Ben Hanson, Bloomington Lutheran school, grade 8. Julie Donaldson, District Spelling Bee Coordinator, and Oak Grove Principal Brian Ingemann highlighted the accomplishments of the students. Emily will compete in the Twin Cities Metro Spelling Bee on March 14 at the Minnesota History Center.
- Poplar Bridge students have provided the new art display. Ryan Watt is the Art Specialist.
- V. PART A
1. *Board Business*
- Minutes
- Personnel Items
- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on January 26, 2009.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignation, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Change of Status.
Independent Personnel: Change of Status.
Classified Personnel: Resignation, Employments, Changes of Status.

- Non-Resident
 - c. Non Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2008-2009: Students entering Bloomington total 26 and 9 students leaving.
Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010: Students entering Bloomington total 21 and 1 student leaving.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

- LCTS Financing Framework and Interagency Agreements
 - a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 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 2009.

3. *Grants*

- Bloomington Crime Prevention Association
 - a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts grants totaling \$3,900 from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association (BCPA) for school district violence prevention activities during the 2009 calendar year.

4. *Finance*

- Finance Reports
 - a. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month ended December 31, 2008.
- Receipts/Disbursements
 - b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Chuck Walter moved, Jim Sorum 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

Valley View Middle School Social Action Day

Valley View Middle School Social Action is a powerful force for a positive change. Principal Andy Kubas, Assistant Principal Ben Magras, eighth grade teacher Adam Haisman and sixth grade teacher Cori Beecham Thompson. Valley View Middle School staff is working on rebuilding and changing the school culture for students and staff. Key indicators show that the efforts are on track. Families are coming to and staying at Valley View Middle School. With the change in school culture, academia can be the concentrated effort.

Five teacher-led initiatives are being focused upon for 2008-2009. Presenters highlighted the initiatives, which include *Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)* for which the goal is to improve the overall climate and culture of the school by implementing positive strategies. The goal was to complete 100 positive message phone calls to parents and families in a three-week period. The *New Student Program* has a goal of ensuring that the students who come to Valley View are successful academically and socially. There are about 90 students who are leaders/ambassadors.

The *Bullying Prevention Program* focuses on providing a comprehensive approach to the issue of bullying. *Falcon Focus* provides the “vehicle” to deliver the five initiatives. *Citizenship* ensures that students understand their role in society and how to be good citizens.

Although coordinating a Social Action Day for students and staff had its challenges, one of the achievements was that almost all of the 750 students were involved in giving back to their community through a service activity. Students served at many sites for Social Action Day. The cooperative effort was through the help of United Way to such places at Feed My Starving Children, Sharing and Caring Hands, ARC, Good Will and other organizations. Students helped out at Valley View Elementary and engaged with activities at Oxboro Library. Parents and Galaxy staff also participated in the day. In reflection on the event and a staff survey, 90% of the staff indicated support for conducting another Social Action Day.

The next steps include focusing on “the science of teaching” through offerings to students to help them succeed and achieve -- Math training, Team Up Grant for ESL students, extra Math and Reading classes, a focused ALC, parent involvement through PTA, guided study mentoring programs for students who are struggling and the “safety net” approach to keeping track of students and their needs.

Early Learners
Academy Rates

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the rate increase for Early Learners Academy. The suggested effective date would be August 31, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

Effective August 31, 2009, the proposed childcare rates reflect a \$7.00 per week increase. The full year program rate will be \$205/week and the ten-month program rate will be \$217/week. This amounts to a 3% increase. The additional revenue is necessary in order to balance the budget due to increased costs for staffing, food, supplies (including field trips and busing), and benefits (medical). Early Learners Academy rates are comparable with other school district preschool programs and lower than other preschool options in the Bloomington community.

Drivers Ed
Fees

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a rate increase for Drivers Education classroom instruction, effective September 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

The current rate for the Drivers Education classroom training course (30 hours of classroom instruction) is \$85. The new rate will be \$100. The purpose of the rate increase is to continue to make the Drivers Education Program self-sufficient and to prepare for increases in instructor salaries, insurance costs, car repairs and gas prices. The current fee for the six (6) hours of Behind the Wheel instruction is \$320. There is no increase for Drivers Education Behind the Wheel. These rates reflect current market value and are within the same range as our neighboring communities.

Policy 610

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the first reading of Policy 610, Field Trips of School-Related Groups. Motion carried unanimously.

This policy and its accompanying regulation were reviewed at the January 20, 2009, Board workshop. The proposed policy and regulation presented for first reading reflect suggestions discussed at the workshop. The policy and regulation have been reviewed with Principals and the District's legal counsel.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Maureen Peterson reported that the Long Term Financial Planning Group continues to meet weekly. Updates can be found on the District website. Jim Sorum reported that many of our students from Jefferson and Kennedy attended the Youth/Young Adult Leadership Workshop presented by Naomi Tutu. Athletic competitions continue. There will be a Bloomington Loves Its Kids recognition event on Thursday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. at Bloomington Civic Plaza in the Council Chambers and many family-friendly activities are planned for the month of February. Chuck Walter highlighted winter performances. Chuck Walter and Maureen Bartolotta attended the Kinderprep event at Washburn Elementary. Arlene Bush reported on meetings of the Metropolitan Learning Alliance, the Community Financial Advisory Committee and the District 287 Board.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. There is a meeting of the Board with its Youth Advisory Council on Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the Oak Grove Middle School Media Center. Following the Youth Advisory Council meeting, there is a Board Workshop at 7:00 p.m.

Budgeting for Success is a process that has been implemented as the District seeks and plans for stability during financially challenging times. The District has received 590 responses to our request for input from staff, students and public. The timeline for public engagement has changed. Opportunities for public engagement with School Board members regarding the Budgeting for Success process are scheduled for Monday, April 13, at Oak Grove Middle School, 6:00-7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, April 14, at Valley View Middle School, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Representative Ann Lenczewski will be hosting a public hearing to gather input on the Governor's proposed budget and what the state should be doing about the deficit for the biennium. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, at 7 p.m. at Civic Plaza. School Board Chair Maureen Bartolotta will be speak to effects on the school district.

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.

Maureen Peterson, Clerk