

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

March 10, 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 March 10, 2008 in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Jim Sorum, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Mark Hibbs and Maureen Peterson.
- Member Absent Tim Culver.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Debra Fincham, Pat Geraghty, Rod Zivkovich, Tom Holton and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that at the conclusion of the regular meeting, the School Board establish a workshop for a legislative update. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Arlene Bush moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC The School Board recognized and presented a Certificate of Achievement to Brian Finks, a junior at Jefferson High School, who is a recipient of the ExCEL Award sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League. Brian was 1 of 40 students chosen from the State of Minnesota to receive the Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership (ExCEL) Award. ExCEL is a unique recognition program designed exclusively for Minnesota high school juniors. Students who are active in fine arts and/or athletic activities, who show leadership qualities, and who are model citizens in their community are eligible for the award. ExCEL Award recipients are selected through a multi-level process that involves MSHSL member schools and an independent panel of judges from schools throughout Minnesota. Jefferson Principal Steve Hill highlighted the many activities and accomplishments of Brian Finks.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

Personnel Items

Non-Resident

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on February 25, 2008.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Retirement, Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments. Non-Unit Personnel: Employment. Classified Personnel: Terminations, Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. Non Resident Student Agreements:
 - 2007-2008 Students Entering Bloomington = 13
 - 2007-2008 Students Leaving Bloomington = 14
 - 2008-2009 Students Entering Bloomington = 8
 - 2008-2009 Students Leaving Bloomington = 4

2. *Finance*

Graduation Parties

Receipts/Disbursements

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 authorizes senior class graduation parties as follows: Jefferson High School on June 5, 2008, and Kennedy High School on June 4, 2008. FURTHER RESOLVED, that a licensed school employee will be designated as supervisor of each event and that all school employees and volunteers shall act within the scope of their duties in the planning and conduct of these events.
- 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

Bid Award/
Hillcrest
Re-roofing

Bid Award/
Jefferson Electrical
Switchgear
Replacement

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the McPhillips Bros. Roofing Company, St. Paul, MN bid of \$350,000 to re-roof Hillcrest Community School; and authorizes Administration to enter into a contract with McPhillips Bros. Roofing Company to accomplish this work. Motion carried unanimously.

This project is identified in our State approved Alternative Facilities Plan and in our five-year roof assessment needs plan. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. The District's counsel and insurance agent reviewed the bid specifications. The project should not create interruptions in operations. Work is scheduled to be completed in August.

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the Premier Electrical Corporation, Brooklyn Park, MN bid of \$413,175 to replace the electrical switchgear at Jefferson High School, and authorizes Administration to enter into a contract with Premier Electrical Corporation to accomplish this work. Motion carried unanimously.

This project is identified in our State approved Alternative Facilities Plan. The electrical equipment being replaced also was identified in our five-year assessment needs plan and involves replacing feeder cables, transformers and the main switch. The equipment has exceeded its intended lifespan and this work will reduce the chances of an unplanned power outage due to equipment failure. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. Our District attorney and insurance agent reviewed the bid specifications. The work will be completed the week of July 7. Some interruptions may occur at the site.

Policy Review

513 and 513.1

Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of the following policies. Policy 513 – Student Promotion Acceleration and Retention. (New) Policy 513.1 – Granting of Credits, Grades 9-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Richard Cash, Director of Gifted and Talented Programs, has provided the leadership for credit-related policies being presented for action.

Policies 513 and 513.1 were originally one policy (513). The division into two distinct policies is for clarity of purpose and ease of navigating the policies.

New policy 513 is designed to provide guidance to schools on the promotion, acceleration and retention of students, including:

- Clarity on acceleration both in subject and grade as per new State Rule [2007 Omnibus E-12 Education Act Chapter 146, Article 2, Section 8 (c)].
- Removed language on granting grade and credit in grades 9-12.

New policy 513.1 is designed to provide the high school guidance on granting credits both to current students and those transferring into the Bloomington Public Schools, including:

- Clarity of definitions.
- Clarity of granting credits from accredited and non-accredited schools.
- Credit for learning process.
- Online Learning Options (OLL).

Policy 513.1 addresses Post-Secondary Options.

601.1

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of Policy 601.1 Graduation Requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

Changes to Policy 601.1 include the following:

- Change of language from “requirement” to “rule.”
- Delete Profile of Learning language and insert Graduation Rule language.
- Current graduation requirements.

Dr. Richard Cash has reviewed policies relating to graduation requirements and granting of credits for students in grades 9-12 as well as student promotion, acceleration and retention.

Prior to actions taken on the aforementioned policies, the policies and accompanying regulations were discussed in detail with the School Board at its February 19th workshop.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jim Sorum congratulated Superintendent Les Fujitake. The Minnesota Board of School Administrators confirmed the recommendation of the licensure interview panel to grant a Superintendent’s license to Les Fujitake.

Arlene Bush attended a District 287 Board meeting and visited Olson Elementary School.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. There is a School Board Workshop on March 17 at 7 pm. The agenda topics include insurance and the integration budget.

Connect Ed—Rapid Response Notification is the new high-tech communication system being used by the District. The system will allow our principals and District staff to send periodic and personalized messages to parents. Parents will receive messages notifying them about important school events, such as parent-teacher conferences, PTSA meetings, and early release days, etc. With this new service, we will be able to deliver important school information in a timely manner. It also supports our ability to reach families and staff immediately in the event of an emergency. Last Friday, the Superintendent sent a community outreach message to families in the school district introducing the new communication service. An introductory message will be sent to staff members this evening.

Commissioner Alice Seagren visited our School District on March 5. Information was shared about our Science, Technology, Math, & Science (STEM) initiative, Early Childhood programming and high school reform.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk