

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

**March 8, 2010**

- 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 Jim Sorum at 7:00 p.m. on March 8, 2010, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Jim Sorum, Chair; Maureen Bartolotta, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Mark Hibbs and Melissa Halvorson Wiklund.
- Members Absent Arlene Bush, Treasurer; and Tim Culver.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Pat Geraghty, Stacy Colebrook-Robjent, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman and Joan Bernard.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.  
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Bartolotta moved, Chuck Walter seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC PUBLIC
- Friends ***Bloomington Athletic Association***  
The Bloomington Public Schools and the Bloomington Athletic Association (BAA) have enjoyed a strong relationship over many years, which is a great benefit to the residents and families of Bloomington. BAA is an all volunteer sports organization. Over the past 50 years, BAA has grown to provide opportunities for over 5,800 participants annually in 10 different sports programs. It has been reported that BAA is the largest volunteer youth sports organization in the country. BAA's philosophy has remained the same for over four decades: offer youth organized sports programs to participate in without tryouts, without regard to ability and at a cost affordable to all. The organization has supported our middle school athletics program and works closely with Brad Parker, the District's middle school athletic coordinator.
- Dave Schulze, the new President, highlighted BAA programs and participation, which are possible due to partnerships with the City and the School District along with the many community volunteers to help provide opportunities for our students and families of Bloomington.

OGMS Musical

Oak Grove Middle School will be presenting its annual musical. This year, "Annie" will be presented March 11-13. Cast members performed a musical selection from the production and extended an invitation to the School Board and the entire community to attend one of the performances. Music teacher/musical director Bryan Blessing accompanied the students.

**Jefferson Girls Alpine Ski Team**

The Jefferson Girls Alpine Ski Team placed second at State. Team members are Nisha Ambesh, Ashley Anderson, Danielle Blais, Addison Byrne, Caitlin Fontaine, Erin Hansen, Greta Hanson, Isabelle Iwen, Claire Leitgen, Stephanie Melby, Brenna Murray, Maria Signorell, Erin Spong, Nolin Wagner and Sofia Wallace. The team is coached by Caryn Jones.

**Jefferson Boys Alpine Individual Skiing**

Jefferson's Andrew Bjorklund earned fourth place in state for boys' individual alpine competition. Caryn Jones is his coach.

District Athletic Director Ted Schultz highlighted accomplishments of the ski season.

**Art Display**

The new art display is provided by students from Valley View Elementary School. The Art specialist is Alexandra Neukom.

Marcus Page, student at Normandale Community College, expressed appreciation for participation in the Remembrance March and event at the college on February 22 in celebration of Black History Month. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro was one of the speakers.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on February 8, 2010.

Personnel Items

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

Non-Resident Student Agreements

c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010: Students entering Bloomington total 17 and 20 students leaving.  
Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2010-2011: Students entering Bloomington total 18 and 9 students leaving.

Community Education Advisory Council

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the appointment of Linda Clark to the Community Education Advisory Council for a three-year term, ending fiscal year 2011-2012.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

MnSCU/Normandale/SHAPE

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Professional/Technical Services Contract between MnSCU, on behalf of Normandale Community College and Independent School District No. 271 on behalf of SHAPE for educational services to be provided by SHAPE. The contract will be effective March 17, 2010 until June 30, 2010.

City/Older Adult  
Fitness Programs

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the renewal Agreement Between The City of Bloomington and Independent School District No. 271 for Older Adult Fitness Programs. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011.

HSSC  
Community Ed  
Services

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the agreement between Hennepin South Services Collaborative and Community Education for accounting/bookkeeping services. The term of this agreement is March 9, 2010, through December 31, 2010.

### 3. Finance

Finance Reports

a. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month ended January 31, 2010.

Receipts/Disbursements

b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta 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

South Suburban  
Conference Update

Ted Schultz, Jefferson Activities Director, and Kris Krenz, Kennedy Activities Director, updated the School Board on conference activities. Mr. Schultz provided an overview of what has transpired since the fall of 2008. The Classic Lake Conference dissolved, which moved schools into other conferences and subsequent multiple placements and replacements took place including the formation of the South Suburban Conference (SSC) of which Jefferson and Kennedy high schools are a part along with Rosemount, Apple Valley, Eagan, Eastview, Burnsville, Lakeville South, Lakeville North and Prior Lake. One of the issues was that the new Classic Lake Conference could disband July 1, which would likely place 2-3 more teams in the SSC for winter 2010-2011 and then subsequent withdrawals would occur by the Lakeville schools. A significant event has transpired. A non-conference scheduling agreement was reached by the three conferences—the new Classic Lake, Northwest and South Suburban. The agreement was driven by Superintendents followed by a series of meetings and negotiations that included principals and athletic directors. Ted Schultz and Steve Hill were Bloomington representatives. All three conferences agreed to remain separate and independent and will not dissolve during the terms of the agreement for purposes of making application to one of the other conferences. This scheduling agreement is in effect for five years. For the sports of football, hockey, basketball, baseball and softball, one non-conference game a year per school will be played with a school in the new Classic Lake Conference. For Bloomington, positive results of the agreement are a reduction in travel, playing comparable sized schools, stability of the conference for the next five years and student athletes are in a good position for success.

Districtwide  
Food Drive  
Update

Maureen Bartolotta, the Board's representative to the PTSA Council, highlighted the collaboration of the Youth Advisory Council to the School Board with the PTSA Council for conducting a districtwide food drive the week of May 3-7. VEAP will be the beneficiary.

Oak Grove Middle School Assistant Principal Renee Corneille announced that on behalf of the Bloomington Public Schools, Oak Grove Middle School student Najaad Dayib, who is a member of the School Board's Youth Advisory Council, has applied to the We Believe Alliance to attempt a world record for the most food collected by a school district. Students are excited about the challenge and helping the community.

Bid Award/  
PB Mechanical  
Piping Tunnel

Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the Ebert Construction, Inc., Corcoran, Minnesota bid of \$128,800.00 to replace the mechanical piping tunnel at Poplar Bridge Elementary School and authorizes Administration to enter into a contract with Ebert Construction, Inc., to accomplish this work. Motion carried unanimously.

Poplar Bridge Elementary was built in the 1960's and an addition was added in the 1970's. The heating and domestic water pipes for this addition could not be routed through the existing building so were installed in an underground tunnel on the outside of the building. In early November 2009 the domestic water pipe(s) within this tunnel experienced a leak. As access to the exterior tunnel was not installed at the time of construction, the cause and location of this leak could not be determined. Due to weather and ground conditions at the time of the leak a temporary fix was implemented. This bid is to excavate and replace this tunnel with an accessible tunnel and to replace the damaged heating and domestic water pipes. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. District legal counsel and insurance agent of record reviewed the bid specifications.

The process generated ten bids. Directors Walter and Hibbs noted the variance in low to high bids and queried as to possible reasons for the significant difference of approximately \$117,000 for the project. Stacy Colebrook-Robjent indicated that the driving force would be the current economy and the bid was awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

Policy 203

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Chuck Walter seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of revised Policy 203, School Board Sessions. On roll call vote Chuck Walter, Maureen Bartolotta, Jim Sorum and Melissa Halvorson Wiklund voted aye. Mark Hibbs voted nay. Motion carried 4-1.

The purpose of the policy is to establish operational procedures so that School Board sessions (meetings and study sessions) are conducted in an orderly fashion that allows School Board members to participate in discussion and act upon District matters necessary to accomplish the mission of the Bloomington Public Schools. The revised policy also reflects the new schedule for meetings and study sessions established by the School Board at its organizational meeting on January 11, 2010.

Board members discussed specific wording in the policy related to the statement of *Comments regarding specific employees, activities or practices will be handled at the discretion of the School Board chair to "assure" that the rights of persons involved are protected.* Administration will develop a regulation to support the policy addressing the nature of Board members concerns.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chuck Walter highlighted the Normandale Hills Read-A-Thon. The school PTSA and volunteers organized the event. Students did raise a significant amount of money; however, the focus of the Read-A-Thon was to engage students in reading to strengthen literacy skills. During the period February 1-14, the students read 138,690 minutes or 2,413 hours. Melissa Halvorson Wiklund reported on meetings and activities of the Board's Legislative Committee. Local legislators have been invited to a forum on March 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss status of legislation at this point in the session and how it may affect the school district.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Chuck Walter seconded, that the School Board establish an additional Board Study Session on Monday, March 15, at 6 p.m. at ESC in Rooms 610/610A. Motion carried unanimously.

There is a Board Study Session scheduled for Monday, March 22 at 6 p.m.

The Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA) has awarded Joan Maland, principal of Bloomington Indian Mounds Elementary School, with one of its leadership achievement awards. The award honors principals for leadership efforts to improve education. Ms. Maland will be recognized at the April 12 School Board meeting.

District Food Services Offices are relocating to the Educational Services Center from its current location at Olson Middle School. The relocation will make room for the special education programs moving to Olson Middle School this fall. Effective April 1, the new offices will be located in the Business Office at ESC.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk