

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

May 10, 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 May 10, 2010, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Members Present Jim Sorum, Chair; Maureen Bartolotta, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Melissa Halvorson Wiklund.

Administration Present Les Fujitake, Pat Geraghty, Stacy Colebrook-Robjent, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman and Joan Bernard.

Attorney Present David Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC The School Board recognizes the contributions made by organizations and business partners.

Friends ***Bridging***
Founded in 1987, Mr. Fran Heitzman found a way to help people in need and he called it Bridging. Bridging is a non-profit organization operating 58,000 square feet of warehouse space in Bloomington and Roseville. Founded on the simple concept that community resources should be shared with those in need, Bridging's mission is to provide the economically disadvantaged with a one-time gift of quality furniture and household items, which helps to stabilize and improve their lives while effectively using community resources. Through a network of over 200 social services, eligible clients are referred to the warehouse for a "once-in-a-lifetime" shopping experience. Program services and community needs continue to climb. In 2009, Bridging served 5,146 families (15,173 individuals) in the Twin Cities area. Bloomington Schools students help out at the warehouse on a regular basis. Olson Middle School grade 8 teams have conducted a pots and pans collection to benefit Bridging.

Cornerstone

Cornerstone's mission is to prevent domestic abuse. To provide children and adults a continuum of service that builds sustainable self-reliance and revives the human spirit. To educate, advocate and lead the way to social change. Cornerstone is deeply committed to its mission and to the safety and well being of the youth and families in our community. The goal is to provide early intervention and prevention services that support people of all ages to overcome the devastation of domestic abuse. To achieve its mission, Cornerstone is not only committed to the safety and well being of the families and youth in our community, it supports those families to end the generational cycle of abuse. Cornerstone provides services to the Bloomington Public Schools through the PAVE (Preventing Abuse and Violence through Education) program, a comprehensive violence prevention program provided to students to create environments of respect responsibility and change. The program is delivered in our schools through classroom/school presentations on topics such as bullying, anger awareness, dating violence and individual services for students that have been impacted by anger, harassment or violence. Highlighting some of their services and collaborations with our school district was Susan Neis, Executive Director, and Barton Erickson, PAVE Coordinator.

Older Americans
Month

Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring the month of May as Older Americans Month. Motion carried unanimously.

Older Americans Month Proclamation
Age Strong, Live Long

WHEREAS, Bloomington is a community where 13,000 citizens age 65 or older make their home; and

WHEREAS, older Americans are valuable members of our society who enhance communities and personal lives; and

WHEREAS, increasing numbers of older adults are reaching retirement age and remaining strong and active for longer than ever before; and

WHEREAS, the older adults in Bloomington deserve recognition for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to the culture, economy and character of our community and our nation; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide that recognition and respect by continuing to enhance the quality of life for older Americans by: increasing their opportunities to remain active and engaged in community life; providing individualized services and support systems to maintain the dignity, independence and self-determination of older Americans as they age; honoring their past, present and future contributions to our community

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Bloomington Board of Education, Independent School District No. 271, Bloomington, Minnesota does hereby proclaim May 2010 to be Older Americans Month. We urge everyone to take time this May to honor our older adults that contribute so richly to our community.

Please join us this May as the Bloomington Human Services Division offers creative and informative events and workshops throughout the community.

Accepting the proclamation on behalf of the School District and City's older adult community was Addie Mattson, who worked for the Bloomington Public Schools for 25 years as the Community Relations Specialist. Ms. Mattson continues to contribute through her volunteer work with the League of Women Voters, helping to coordinate the Bloomington Heritage Days event and serving on the Board of Directors for the Education Foundation of Bloomington.

Asian/Pacific
American Heritage
Month

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring May 2010 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

May is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

Whereas, Asian/Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed immeasurably to the richness of our dynamic, multicultural society in the United States of America, Minnesota, and Bloomington, and

Whereas, the cultural values of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders embody many of our Nation's core values of citizenship, family, hard work and community service; and

Whereas, the people of this diverse and rapidly growing community have contributed to education at all levels, the professions, government and public service, the arts and sports; and

Whereas, the Bloomington community long has been home to thriving Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who contribute in many ways to cultural and economic life; and

Whereas, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders continue to find their homes in our community and entrust the educational needs of their children and families to the Bloomington Public Schools; and

Whereas, the Bloomington Public Schools is committed to providing a learning community where children and adults of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds can thrive and learn together

Now, therefore, we, the Bloomington Board of Education, do hereby proclaim May 2010 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month in the Bloomington Public Schools and call upon residents of the School District to observe this occasion.

District Cultural Liaisons Hung Phung and Chinda Gregor, along with student representatives of the Asian Club, accepted the proclamation.

MATHCOUNTS

William Zeng, an 8th grade student in the Dimensions Academy program at Oak Grove Middle School competed in the State MATHCOUNTS competition and ranked among the top 4 Math students in the State. Eric Petterson is the MATHCOUNTS coach. William Zeng will represent Minnesota in the National MATHCOUNTS competition at Disney World in Florida. Julie Donaldson is the Middle School Gifted and Talented Specialist. Brian Ingemann is the Principal of Oak Grove Middle School.

WordMasters

Olson Elementary students won highest honors in the WordMasters Challenge, a National Language Arts competition encouraging growth in vocabulary and verbal reasoning. Out of 35,460 fourth grade students participating, only 132 received perfect scores and Olson Elementary had two of them.

Barbara Dullaghan, Elementary School Gifted and Talented Specialist, highlighted the event and the winners.

Jacob Roy	Perfect Score	60/60
Rachel Graff	Perfect Score	60/60
Hayden Peery	Almost Perfect Score	59/60
Alexa Schirber	Almost Perfect Score	59/60

Ms. Dullaghan announced that Olson Elementary 4th graders competed in the difficult Blue Division of the Challenge and the students placed first in the nation for this competition. Congratulations to Ms. Ann Broz and her students along with Principal Paul Meyer.

State History Day Tournament

The State History Day competition was held at the University of Minnesota on May 1. The following students placed in the competition.

State Champion – Individual Performance and Topical Prize for best Native American Project—Alexa Groenke.

Best Minnesota History Project and Topical Prize
and an Honorable Mention—Soren Anders-Macleod

Third Place – Paper Category	Rachel Hertzberg
Fifth Place – Paper Category	Cole Erickson

Honorable Mention	Ana Alonso
Honorable Mention	Patrick Boldenow
Honorable Mention	Catherine Landrum
Honorable Mention	Lucien Turczan-Lipets

The students are coached by teacher Tim Kaari at Ridgeview. Dr. Richard Cash, is the District's Gifted and Talented Coordinator and program director for Dimensions Academy.

Jefferson/Kennedy Speech and Debate Team

Jefferson's Adam DeGonda placed second in the Southern Minnesota National Forensic League Tournament. The top three speakers in each category qualify for national competition. In the Minnesota State High School League State Speech Tournament, Matt Ervin placed 4th in Prose, Alex Kosanovich and Terry Lund placed 4th in Duo Interpretation and Adam DeGonda placed 6th in Humorous. The team is coached by Scott Sieling.

Kennedy SkillsUSA

The mission of SkillsUSA is to help its student members become world-class workers and responsible American citizens as well as experiencing leadership opportunities for students in career and technical programs in high school and college. Students participate in leadership and skills competition in nine career and technical education cluster areas including arts and communication, construction, health services, legal and protective services, hospitality, human services in manufacturing, science, engineering and technology and transportation.

Congratulations to the Kennedy SkillsUSA student competitors and advisors with their success at the Minnesota SkillsUSA State Championships. Debbie Belfry, Career Development Coordinator, introduced Scott Etzel, SkillsUSA Advisor at Kennedy High School.

The following are **first place award** winners who now qualify for competing at National Competition in June in Kansas City.

1st Place Gold -- Opening & Closing Ceremonies – Team 1

McKenzie Auers	Shelby Spurlin
Edith Lopez	Anna Zhao
Mahlet Makonnen	Emily Zhao
Gina Shuck	

1st Place Gold – Customer Service

Sophie Konewko

2nd Place Silver -- Opening and Closing Ceremonies – Team 2

McKayla Auers	Michaela Mahon
Caitlin Cole	Cory Schroeder
Sophie Konewko	Breiah Simms
Jared Limbeck	

2nd Place Silver – Prepared Speech

Sophie Konewko

2nd Place Silver – Crime Scene Investigation

Brianna Boettcher	Ruth Mogire
Ana Colo	

3rd Place Bronze – Prepared Speech and Pre-School Teaching Assistant

Mahlet Makonnen

3rd Place Bronze – Fire Fighting Training

Murray Kemp

3rd Place Bronze -- Advertising Design

Jared Limbeck

SkillsUSA Advisor
of the Year

Scott Etzel has been selected as the 2010 Minnesota SkillsUSA High School Advisor of the Year. Mr. Etzel has been involved with SkillsUSA for the past eight years.

Tom Burnett Jr.
Day of Service

Oak Grove Middle School teacher Joy Kalkofen provided an overview of the Thomas Burnett Jr. Day of Service on Friday, May 21. This event is one effort that integrates the core ethical value of citizenship education at Oak Grove Middle School. In the morning, the students will volunteer at several sites performing service learning activities. In an afternoon ceremony, students will present a check for their fundraising proceeds to benefit the Thomas Burnett Memorial Education Fund. This will be the seventh year for this event. Annually, the education fund will provide a \$1,000 scholarship for a Jefferson senior and a Kennedy senior. Community members are encouraged to participate in this day of service. Several local businesses have helped to sponsor a variety of events.

Bloomington
Youth Action Crew

The Bloomington Youth Action Crew is a team of youth and adults working toward improving the health and well being of Bloomington youth through mapping community assets for young people, promoting meaningful opportunities for youth and inspiring youth to lead healthy lifestyles.

The Bloomington Youth Action crew mapped the Bloomington community over several months and surveyed over 570 youth, ages 11-19, as well as 52 businesses and 22 community organizations in Bloomington. The purpose of the youth survey was to learn what opportunities exist for youth, related to working, volunteering, connecting, and hanging out. A map highlighting youth friendly opportunities now is available in paper and electronic versions. The group shared survey findings, which indicated there are numerous opportunities in Bloomington and youth are aware. Participation in after school and /or community sponsored programs was 66.2%. Next up for the Youth Action Crew is to develop a campaign focusing on 8th and 9th grade students emphasizing the importance of making healthy choices. Leadership for the Youth Action Crew is provided through Bloomington Public Health, Denise Reese.

SECAC Awards

Bloomington has an active Special Education Community Advisory Council. The Council advises the Director of Student Services regarding current issues, program development, parental concerns and involvement, and departmental priorities. Its mission is to provide input to the Bloomington Department of Special Education, to serve as a communication link with the Bloomington community at large, to advocate for high quality educational programs for all learners and to assure the implementation of the District and Special Education Mission to all students in the Bloomington Public Schools.

Special Education Community Advisory Council (SECAC) Special Caring Awards is an annual event that recognizes staff and others who have done an outstanding job working with our District's Special Education students. Award recipients for 2010 are:

Jan Frydenlund	Social Worker	Kennedy
John Reger	Paraprofessional	Southwood
Sophorn Phang	Paraprofessional	Normandale Hills
Steve Olson	Science Teacher	Oak Grove Middle
Nate Edwards	EBD Teacher	Poplar Bridge
Gretchen Polkinghorne	Gade 3 Teacher	Oak Grove Elementary

Scott Stevens, Chair of the Special Education Community Advisory Council, recognized the recipients of the SECAC special caring awards. Pat Geraghty, Executive Director of Student Services, assists in providing the leadership for this event.

Gary Siemers Exemplary Educator Award

Mary Childs, Media Director at Valley View Middle School, is the 21st recipient of the Bloomington Federation of Teachers 2010 Gary Siemers Exemplary Educator Award. Since 1994, the award recognizes a professional educator for their contributions to education by exemplifying professional qualities set forth by Gary Siemers--a love and dedication to teaching; a respect for students and a commitment to helping them learn; a demonstrated understanding of the relationship between unionism and professionalism; a positive attitude that turns obstacles into challenges; and a willingness to be honest, forthright, and involved in the pursuit of quality and continuous learning. David Dorava, District Mentor and the 2009 award recipient, highlighted the contributions Mary Childs has made to the education profession.

Staff Appreciation Board Chair Jim Sorum expressed appreciation to all staff for their dedication and service to the Bloomington Public Schools. The efforts of everyone in helping to make all of our learners successful in this rapidly changing world is a total team effort. On behalf of the School Board, Administrative Council and Principals, Wednesday, May 12th, is designated as Staff Appreciation Day. Staff will be provided ice cream sandwiches.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

Personnel Items

Non-Resident
Student Agreements

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on April 12, 2010, and the Special Meeting on April 19, 2010.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignation, Leaves of Absence, Employments. Independent Personnel: Retirement. Classified Personnel: Terminations, Retirements, Resignations, Leave of Absence, Position Eliminations, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010: Students entering Bloomington total 14 and 21 students leaving. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2010-2011: Students entering Bloomington total 16 and 8 students leaving.

2. *Regulation for Information*

Revised Regulation
513.1 Granting Credits
Grades 9-12

- a. Revised Regulation 513.1 Grant of Credits Grades 9-12 was distributed to the School Board for information. The policy and regulation were reviewed at the April 26, 2010 Board Study Session. No changes were made to the policy. The revised regulation reflects new practice; the previous decision to drop class rank as reported on high school transcripts. The regulation allows for the continuation of recording class rank within the system and providing it to parents for post secondary programs that require class rank (i.e. military academies) and any scholarship programs that require class rank. It also allows for providing parents a snapshot approximation with a system utilizing a cumulative GPA deciles report.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

Commerce Bank
Commercial Card

Shred It

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves an agreement to have Commerce Bank provide commercial credit card services for the District.
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the client services agreement with Minnesota Shredding, LLC. Minnesota Shredding, LLC provides locked security consoles and collects and destroys SHAPE's confidential materials on a regularly scheduled basis. The agreement will remain in force for a term of two years and will automatically renew for an unlimited number of additional one-year terms. Either party may terminate the agreement by providing two days written notice of termination.

4. *Finance*

Gifts & Donations

Finance Reports

Receipts/Disbursements

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts gifts and donations as indicated in the background in the amount of \$30,270.00.
- b. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month of March 2010.
- c. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Arlene Bush 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
American Indian
Education Transmittal
Resolution

Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the Resolution of Concurrence by the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Minnesota Statute, 124D.78 states School Boards and American Indian schools must provide for the maximum involvement of children enrolled in education programs, programs of elementary and secondary grades, special education programs and support services. Accordingly, the Board of a school district in which there are ten or more American Indian children enrolled and each American Indian school must establish a parent committee. If a committee whose membership consists of a majority of parents of American Indian children has been or is established according to federal, tribal or other state law, that committee may serve as the committee required by this section and is subject to, at least, the requirements of this subdivision and subdivision 2.

The parent committee must develop its recommendations in consultation with the curriculum advisory committee required by Section 120B.11, subdivision 3. This committee must afford parents the necessary information and the opportunity to effectively express their views concerning all aspects of American Indian Education and the educational needs of the American Indian children enrolled in the school or program. The committee also must address the need for adult education programs for American Indian people in the community. The Board or American Indian school must ensure that programs are planned, operated and evaluated with the involvement of and in consultation with parents of children served by the programs.

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee decided to pass the above Resolution of Concurrence. Priscilla Wick, Chairperson of the Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee, presented the Resolution of Concurrence along with Hiedi Hecker, liaison to the Indian Education program.

Dimensions Academy/
Elements Update

Dr. Richad Cash, the District's Gifted and Talented Coordinator, updated the School Board on Dimensions Academy and the new Elements Program. Background—Dimensions Academy (DA) program was designed and approved in 2003-2004. Year 1 in 2004-2005 had 2 multi-age classrooms (grades 4/5 & 6/7). The program became financially self-sufficient within the first year. Year 2 was 2005-2006 which expanded to 2 multi-age classrooms at elementary (4/5) and expanded to 1 cohort per middle school grade level (6, 7, & 8) on the team. Year 4 was 2007-2008—the elementary program moved to Ridgeview. Year 5 was 2008-2009—development of the Elements program and discussions of expanding middle school DA program to Olson Middle School. Year 6 was 2009-2010—pilot of the Elements program and develop expansion of middle school DA program to Olson Middle School.

Revenue for the program is generated through non-resident attendance and students returning to the Bloomington Public Schools. The current enrollment is 134—80 resident students (60%) and 54 non-resident students (40%). The retention rate into high school for resident students is 100% while non-resident student retention is 30%.

Elements is a program for 2nd and 3rd grade students whose outstanding academic talent, advanced motivation, performance (or potential for performance) at high levels of accomplishment indicate their need for in-depth, complex and rigorous curriculum and instruction. Elements will be located at Ridgeview Elementary beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. The program is similar to DA, with more scaffolding to more advanced curriculum. Participation in Elements is not a guarantee for placement into DA. The application deadline is May 14, 2010.

Advanced Placement
Data Review

Dr. Richard Cash, the District's Gifted and Talented Coordinator, provided the School Board with a review of Advanced Placement programming. College level courses are taught in high school in 32 subjects—15 courses offered at Jefferson and 14 courses offered at Kennedy. There are 495 students enrolled in AP classes. AP allows students to gain college level learning and testing experience, provides advanced students with greater challenge and rigor and enables students to receive college credit or advanced standing in college. Advanced Placement links to the District's strategic plan—maximize student achievement and eliminate the achievement gap, develop education programs in response to research and best practices and market conditions, and provide meaningful staff development for all staff, including competency with diverse populations. The number of students tested in AP courses verses registered is 80% at Kennedy and 88% at Jefferson. AP scholars tested who scored 3 or higher on 3 or more exams for 2009 result in 23% at Kennedy and 24% at Jefferson.

Student Athletic
Fees 2010-2011

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves Student Athletic Fees for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The recommendation is to increase the athletic fees at the high school and middle school levels by \$5.00 and increase the maximum per student/family by \$15.00. Last year's cut of custodial overtime impacted the athletic budget. A portion of the revenue from increased fees will create a \$9,000 fund to cover custodial overtime at the high schools. The additional revenue collected from the middle school and adapted programming fees will help the existing bottom line of the athletic budget by keeping up with the increased scholarships for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Policy 503.2
Student Assignments/
Transfers

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of revised Policy 503.2, Student Assignments/Transfers. Motion carried unanimously.

The policy changes are recommended as part of the annual review of the policy. The policy contents were reorganized to create a parallel structure between the elementary and secondary regulations. Changes were made in the duration of an approved transfer and attendance conditions that may result in a revocation of an approved transfer. Changes to the transfer form were made to reflect the policy changes.

Policy 540
Student Handbooks

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the first reading of (New) Policy 540 Student Handbooks. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration recommends the School Board adopt a policy outlining what policies are to be referenced in the K-12 school handbooks. Handbooks are written and distributed at the individual sites. A policy will ensure handbooks contain required policy information. This policy was discussed with the School Board at its April 26th Study Session.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Arlene Bush highlighted band and choir concerts along with plays at the two high schools, the Third Congressional District Art Show at the Bloomington Art Center featuring artwork from Kennedy and Jefferson students. May 7th was Diversity Day at the high schools. The peace run was canceled due to rain. Arlene Bush serves on the Music Board. The call for instruments being needed resulted in 60 instruments being donated. Maureen Bartolotta announced that Bloomington United for Youth is accepting nominations for volunteers are due Friday, May 14. The Jefferson Blue Ribbon School celebration is May 11th with the program at 5:30 p.m. The food drive May 3-7 was a success with 9,591 pounds of food and almost \$3,000 in cash collected.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities.

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board establish a Closed Session and a Special Board Meeting on May 17th. The Closed Session would begin at 6 pm. The Special Meeting would begin at 7 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The purpose of the May 17th Special Meeting is to ratify proposed contracts for custodians/bus drivers and the clerks.

The School Board honors staff for their years of service to the Bloomington School District with the School Service Awards ceremony and reception. Staff members who are retiring or leaving the District and have served the District for at least 10, but less than 15 years, receive a Certificate of Appreciation. Staff members who have served the District for 15 years or more receive a school bell. This staff recognition is scheduled for Monday, May 24. The reception, hosted by the School Board, begins at 5:45 p.m. in the Oak Grove Middle School Lunchroom. We invite staff who have retired/left since this time last year. The awards presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Community Rooms 610/610A.

There is a Board Study Session scheduled for Monday, May 24, immediately following the Celebration of Service Awards Ceremony, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Curriculum and budget are the topics.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk