

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

August 25, 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 August 25, 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; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Maureen Peterson.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Pat Geraghty, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman, Bruce Pappas and Rod Zivkovich.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Peterson moved, Chuck Walter seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC
NSPRA Award Bloomington Public Schools has won a Gold Medallion Award for Excellence in Educational Public Relations from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). The award recognizes the 2007 *Unite Bloomington for Schools* referendum campaign with special emphasis on the communications and innovative “get out the vote” process as part of the campaign. Bloomington was one of six winners selected from a field of 50 exemplary public relations programs through the United States and Canada. Laura Schmit was a co-leader for the campaign and Addie Mattson provided leadership for the communications efforts. Appreciation was expressed to Liz Weatherhead and all of the many staff, volunteers and community members who assisted in the campaign. Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations, received the award at the NSPRA conference held in July in Washington, D.C.
- New Staff Introductions New staff introductions were made to the School Board. Jaclyn Swords, Communication Specialist, was introduced by Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations. Beth Anderson, Elementary Director of Teaching and Learning, was introduced by Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent.
- During Recognition of the Public, Keith Knutson, a parent in the District, addressed the School Board regarding the need for long-term availability of serviceable, safe athletic fields in Bloomington for a variety of sports but primarily for girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, as well as boys football.

Mr. Knutson supports synthetic surfaces at the high schools and stadium and provided rationale and a variety of additional possible uses for the turf fields, including use by the Phy Ed, Music Programs/Marching Bands for the schools and community-based youth groups such as BAA and youth soccer and lacrosse teams. Mr. Knutson has been involved with high school and youth activities/organizations across the City. He offered to be of assistance to the District as solutions are explored and decisions made regarding athletic fields.

Karen Abers, BAA representative, also offered to be of assistance regarding the topic of athletic fields in the District.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

Personnel Items

Non-Resident
Agreements

District Memberships
2008-2009

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on August 11, 2008.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Change of Status. Independent Personnel: Resignation, Leave of Absence. Classified Personnel: Retirements, Rescission of Retirement, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status, Reduction in Force, Rescission and Reassignment of Clerical Reduction in Force. Approval of Agreement and General Release.
- c. Non Resident Student Agreements:
2007-2008 Students Leaving Bloomington = 3
2008-2009 Students Entering Bloomington = 40
2008-2009 Students Leaving Bloomington = 10
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the following association memberships for the 2008-2009 school year: Minnesota School Boards Association = \$11,458.00; Association of Metropolitan School Districts = \$14,392.00; and the Minnesota High School League (no fee). The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 271, County of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, delegates the control, supervision and regulation of interscholastic athletic and fine arts events to the Minnesota State High School League, renews the membership of John F. Kennedy Senior High School and Thomas Jefferson Senior High School in the Minnesota State High School League and authorizes participation in the approved interschool activities sponsored by said League and its various subdivisions. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board hereby adopts the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of said League and all amendments thereto as the same are published in the latest edition of the League's *Official Handbook*, on file at the office of the School District or as it appears on the League's website, as the minimum standards governing participation in said League-sponsored activities and that the administration and responsibility for determining student eligibility and for the supervision of such activities are assigned to the official representative identified by the School Board.

2. *Grants/Applications*
Hennepin County
Organic Recycling

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the acceptance of a \$25,000 grant from Hennepin County to be used for organic waste recycling.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

- Lutheran Social Services
Truancy Intervention
- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract with Lutheran Social Services to provide truancy intervention related support services to students attending the Bloomington Public Schools. This contract is for the period of October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

4. *Finance*

- Gifts and Donations
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 \$9,943.23.
- b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Arlene Bush moved, Mark Hibbs 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
Contract with
the Bloomington
Principals
Association
2008-2009

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves and ratifies the 2008-2009 Negotiated Contract between Bloomington Independent School District and the Bloomington Principals' Association. Motion carried unanimously.

The Bloomington Principals' Association ratified the tentative agreement before the Board for the 2008-2009 Master Contract on Tuesday, August 19, 2008.

This tentative agreement includes salary schedule improvements of 1.5% for 2008-2009. In addition, the tentative agreement includes the following:

- One-year contract to bring the principals' contract in line with the State biennium funding cycle and other employee groups.
- Conversion to a High Deductible Health Plan and Health Savings Accounts in September 2008.
- Inclusion of Education Specialist stipend on salary schedule.
- Clarification of advanced degree stipends.
- Changes in longevity steps.
- Reduced District contributions toward health and dental insurance premiums for new hires.
- Modifications to leaves of absence, including new personal days.
- Modifications to the layoff procedure.
- Clarification of benefit eligibility, detailed in a table based upon hire date and seniority date.
- Creation of an ongoing "Issues Forum" to resolve issues between negotiations.
- Definitions of operational terms.
- Substantial "housekeeping" changes.

School Board members received detailed copies of all proposed language, insurance and schedule changes in the tentative agreement.

The settlement is within the parameters for negotiations given by the Board to Administration. Administration recommends that the Board ratify the tentative agreement.

Summer School
2008 Update

Summer Program Leaders Raymond Yu, Kris Krenz, Carol Kampa and Suzanne Kpowulu updated the School Board on 2008 programming. BEACON goals were to increase academic skills, earn high school credits towards graduation and facilitate a successful transition from 8th to 9th grade. Basic skills reviewed included Math, Reading and Writing. Score reports are pending for the 38 students who participated. Credit recovery served 368 students of which 94% successfully earned credit. The 9th Grade Summer Academy had 67 participants of which 95% successfully earned credit. Free breakfast was served to students. The program for students in grades one through eight focused on Reading and Math to assist students with learning and engagement. Oak Grove Middle School served 346 students with 40 staff members. Valley View Middle students served 340 students with 38 staff. Program highlights included a STEM effort at Oak Grove and Valley View Elementary; technology applications using Laptops, Airliners, Read Naturally and IMovies; creative instruction such as reading buddies service learning—Feed My Starving Children; free breakfast and lunch was provided to students at Valley View Middle School; and a family night celebration of student learning (900 students/families attended). Planning already has begun for summer school 2009. Future directions include exploring earlier planning time for teachers to align curriculum with student needs, technology enhancements to streamline daily attendance and bus drop off refinements to increase student contact time.

[The Technology Innovations Update was postponed to the next meeting.]

Volunteer
Connection
Programs
Update
2007-2008

Debbie Belfry, Volunteer Connection Coordinator, updated the School Board on K-12 activities for 2007-2008. The goal of the program is to support the successful development of K-12 learners through innovative programs and a caring network of volunteers. Last year, 757 volunteers from businesses, faith community, colleges and individuals, provided 23,806 hours of help for Bloomington students through the Volunteer Connection. Volunteers contribute services as basic skills tutors, ESL tutors, classroom assistants and assistants for the International Kids (& Parents) Club, the International Welcome Club and the Homework Connection. Some of the volunteers are prospective teachers from Normandale Community College who volunteer through America Reads and America Counts. In 2007-2008, volunteers supported 6,727 students. Volunteer Connection recruits, screens, trains and supervises the volunteers.

Extended Field
Trip – Italy

Jim Sorum moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Extended Field Trip Application for a group of students from Jefferson High School to travel to Italy. Motion carried unanimously.

Constance Van Blarcum and ten (10) adult chaperones will accompany fifteen (15) Jefferson High School Media Club students to Rome and Florence, Italy. Travel dates are April 1 through April 9, 2009, which is primarily during spring break. Students will miss one day of school. The purpose of the trip is to study art, architecture, history, language and the culture of Italy.

Policy 522

Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the second reading of Policy 522, Student Sex Nondiscrimination. Motion carried unanimously.

The purpose of this policy is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students and to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual orientation pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. This policy has been reviewed and approved by Kingsley Holman.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arlene Bush reported on District 287 activities. The South Education Center ribbon cutting ceremony and open house is August 28. Maureen Peterson highlighted a visit to Westwood Elementary for staff introductions.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities and his public engagement schedule for the week.

This past weekend, two of our students, Joni Weatherhead and Jen Kalkman, presented their engineering project (Project Lead The Way) at the Minnesota Department of Education booth in the Education Building at the State Fair. They presented this project at 3M and at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board Meeting last spring as 8th graders. Both girls will be entering Jefferson this year.

New teacher workshop was held during the week of August 18. The District hosted 65 new staff members. Workshop week for teachers started today as all staff gathered for the District back to school celebration held at Kennedy High School. Students arrive on Tuesday, September 2.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk