

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271
Bloomington, Minnesota**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 5, 2013**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 271, was called to order by Vice Chair Mark Hibbs at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 5, 2013, at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota. Members Present: Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair; Tim Culver, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom and Nelly Korman. Member Absent: Melissa Halvorson Wiklund. School Attorney Present: David Holman.

Vice Chair Hibbs indicated that the purpose for the Special Meeting was to interview selected candidates for the Board seat that soon will be vacant due to Board Member (and Chair) Melissa Halvorson Wiklund being elected to the Minnesota Senate effective January 8, 2013.

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 declares that there were 13 applicants for the Board vacancy and certifies all 13 applicants eligible for appointment. The names of the applicants are: Lyle Abeln, Nikki Abramson, Marcie Coval, Nels Erickson, Larry Frost, Mohamed Ismail, Lucinda Jones, Jon Oleson, Ricardo Oliva, James Sorum, Heather Starks, Dawn Steigauf, and Mark Thorson.

Applications were reviewed by Board members. Each Board member put forth the names of three applicants to be interviewed. Applicants receiving three or more votes were scheduled for an interview today. The names of the finalists are: Lyle Abeln, Mohamed Ismail, Ricardo Oliva, Jim Sorum and Dawn Steigauf. Attached (on file) is a listing of the choices of the Board members for interviews, which is also hereby certified. One of the candidates recommended for an interview has withdrawn— Mohamed Ismail.

In discussing the resolution, Director Culver questioned if due to the withdrawal of one of the interviewees, should consideration be given to providing an opportunity to another candidate by adding a name to the list of finalists. Board members reviewed and discussed the process used to determine finalists for an interview and shared their thoughts regarding the proposed consideration. Directors Korman and Hibbs expressed support for this consideration. Directors Bartolotta and Bergstrom expressed their rationale and support for keeping the process as outlined and not making a change—the process provided that if a candidate were not available for an interview on January 5, the candidate would be withdrawn from consideration. District Counsel indicated that if the process were to be changed, the resolution presented would need to be amended to state the process for identifying an additional candidate for an interview. Interviews were scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m.

Vice Chair Hibbs called for the vote on the resolution as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon conclusion of the four interviews, the special meeting was recessed to Tuesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. At that time, Board members will put forth the names of their top three candidate choices; votes will be taken. Should a subsequent round(s) be needed, each board member will submit one name and a vote will be taken. This process will continue, if needed, until one candidate is agreed upon for the appointment. The successful candidate needs a majority vote (at least four votes) of the Board.