

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 271  
Bloomington, Minnesota**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
September 26, 2011**

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 Chair Chuck Walter at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2011, at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Chuck Walter, Chair; Melissa Halvorson Wiklund, Vice Chair; Tim Culver, Clerk (arrived at 6:15 p.m.); Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Maureen Bartolotta, Mark Hibbs and Jim Sorum. School Attorney Present: David Holman. Administration Present: Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Rod Zivkovich, Bruce Pappas and Rick Kaufman.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Recited.

**Agenda Approval**

Chair Chuck Walter indicated that the agenda for the Special Meeting will be amended to accommodate a request by two Board Members to consider the topic of the Superintendent 2011-2012 Goals, Progress Reports, and Accountability Measures. The request was for the School Board to consider these topics prior to the Study Session, which is scheduled to immediately follow the Special Meeting and includes the topic of the Superintendent's Contract for 2012-2015.

To facilitate the discussion on the 2011-2012 goals, the Chair asked for a motion to amend the agenda by moving the Academic Progress Report (Goal #6 for 2010-2011) from the Study Session to item number 3 of the Special Meeting. So moved by Jim Sorum, seconded by Arlene Bush. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chair asked for a motion to amend the agenda by moving the Superintendent 2011-2012 Goals from the Study Session to the Special Meeting as item number 4 on the agenda. So moved by Mark Hibbs and seconded by Melissa Halvorson Wiklund. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the amended agenda for the Special Meeting, which now includes Insurance Policy Renewals, Preliminary Levy Certification, Academic Performance Report-Secondary and Superintendent Goals 2011-2012. The Study Session agenda will be one item; Superintendent Contract 2012-2015. Motion carried unanimously.

**Insurance—Commercial Property and Casualty, Storage Tank Liability, Identity Fraud and International Travel**

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 for the period October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012, renews the District's Commercial Property and Casualty Insurance policies with WRM America Insurance Company; annual premium is \$327,488. School Leaders Legal Liability policy with Darwin National Assurance Company; annual premium is \$38,944. Equipment Breakdown Coverage with Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America; annual premium is \$8,746. Employee Fidelity Coverage with Hartford Fire Insurance Company; annual premium is \$12,907. Storage Tank Impairment Liability policy with Endurance American Specialty

Insurance Co.; annual premium is \$9,205. Identity Fraud Expense Coverage with Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America; annual premium is \$5,567. International Travel Coverage with ACE American Insurance Co.; annual premium is \$ 3,250. Motion carried unanimously.

Coverages have been updated based on consulting advice from our District's Insurance agent, Kraus-Anderson Insurance. WRM America Insurance Company (WRMA), the District's current property and casualty provider, offered a renewal quotation, which included increased coverage limits. Kraus-Anderson recommends renewing coverage with WRMA and the other recommended providers as this renewal is at or below the price increases they are seeing in the market. Administration proposes keeping deductibles and coverage limits the same as 2010-2011 on the recommendation of Kraus-Anderson Insurance. The overall proposed 2011-2012 renewal premiums are 2.6% higher than the 2010-2011 premiums.

### **Proposed 2011 Payable 2012 Property Tax Levy**

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the property tax levy for the proposed 2011 payable 2012 levy of \$42,505,261. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event of any changes to levy amounts by the Minnesota Department of Education, it is the intent of the School Board of Independent School District 271 to levy the appropriate amount as allowed by law. The state requires that districts use the term "Maximum" on the certification sheet to allow these corrections to the levy.

Board discussion focused on the District's plans relating to an application to the Minnesota Department of Education for Q Comp funding. The District and the BFT are working collaboratively to submit an application using the 2008 application as a basis for the 2011 Q Comp application. District Administration and Wendy Marczak, President of the Bloomington Federation of Teachers, addressed questions from Board Members regarding views and perceived benefits of implementing Q Comp as it relates to the new annual teacher evaluation requirement in the new K-12 law, which is to be implemented for 2013-2014. The teacher evaluation/observation component of the application is a current work in progress. The Q Comp application will be submitted in mid October.

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to substitute the following motion: that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the property tax levy for the proposed 2011 payable 2012 levy of \$43,450,296. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event of any changes to levy amounts by the Minnesota Department of Education, it is the intent of the School Board of Independent School District 271 to levy the appropriate amount as allowed by law. The state requires that districts use the term "Maximum" on the certification sheet to allow these corrections to the levy. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2011 payable 2012 levy is proposed at a 2.6% increase over the 2010 pay 2011 levy. Annually, the School Board is required to certify a preliminary levy. This year, the District is required to submit this certified preliminary levy information to the county by September 30, 2011. This certified preliminary levy information will be used by the county to generate property tax notices that show parcel specific tax impact for each taxpayer in our district for the coming year. These notices will be mailed in November 2011. The final levy will be certified by the School Board on December 12, 2011. This final certified levy information will be used by the county to calculate actual property taxes payable in 2012.

### **Academic Progress**

Dr. Jim Angermeyr, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment provided a summary of academic progress in the secondary schools. The details of the report were presented by Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Tim Anderson, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Dr. Richard Cash, Director of Gifted and Talented Programs. The report contained a summary of the goals set by the Board of Education to evaluate improvement in increasing proficiency rates (MCA), student growth (CALT) and progress in closing the achievement gap. Information presented included percentages of students—meeting state standards as measured by MCA-II exams, making a full year of growth or better as measured by CALT, taking and scoring 3 or higher on at least one AP exam, taking the ACT exam and showing continuous improvement in the District average score and showing continuous improvement in closing the gap between lowest and highest performing groups in the District. Results presented showed a comparison of all District schools at a given level and comparable data from schools in Richfield, Burnsville, and Eden Prairie. Administrators responded to Board member questions/concerns/discussion regarding topics such as incremental progress not being adequate, is consideration being given to mandatory summer school or longer school days, status of electronic grade books and programming for pathways to graduation.

Director Jim Sorum indicated that by previous action of the Board, the Superintendent was given additional time, until September 30, to complete Goal #6, Academic Progress, for the 2010-2011 school year – the elementary and secondary academic progress reports have been presented to the School Board within that timeline.

Jim Sorum moved Arlene Bush seconded that the reports on Academic Progress, Goal #6 of the Superintendent's Performance Goals for 2010-2011 now are complete; the goal has been fulfilled, and further, that the School Board authorizes the payment of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter incentive pay per the terms of the Superintendent's contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Walter declared a five-minute recess at 8:45 p.m.

### **Superintendent 2011-2012 Goals**

The School Board and Superintendent Les Fujitake have been in discussion regarding goals for 2011-2012. The Board drafted a set of goals in August, which have been reviewed by Superintendent Les Fujitake. Mr. Fujitake presented his goals for 2011-2012, which reference and align with Strategic Directions of the District's Strategic Plan. Mr. Fujitake indicated that the goals define "what" the Board wants and the Administration determines how to achieve the "what." Success Measures are the measurement of achieving the goals (reference: the 2009-2010 Annual Report online). Updated Success Measures will be presented to the Board in November. There was discussion/comment by Board members. Melissa Halvorson Wiklund reviewed MSBA training surrounding goal setting for a superintendent—goals should be easily understandable, achievable, within the realm of control of the superintendent, realistic timeline (flexible), clear expectations and shows progress. Director Culver cited other school districts that established goals for their Superintendent and the need for a collaborative effort in being proactive to have a good work plan in place. There was discussion surrounding overall communication and aspects of metrics/deliverables for the goals and how performance evaluation would be measured for meeting the goals. Other members of the Board expressed support for the District's strategic plan/strategic directions as the basis for the Superintendent's goals; thereby not having two sets of goals. Superintendent Fujitake suggested that the conversation continue at a Study Session on October 3. Director Hibbs suggested more specifics/details along with a timeline be part of the next discussion. Chair Walter commented that the goals are to be mutually agreed upon.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded to adjourn the Special Meeting. The Special Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

The Board was scheduled to enter a Study Session upon the conclusion of the Special Meeting. The agenda topic was the Superintendent's 2012-2015 contract. Due to the late adjournment of the Special Meeting, Arlene Bush moved, Jim Sorum seconded, that the Study Session agenda topic be moved to the October 3 Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Culver, Clerk