

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

January 26, 2009

- 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 January 26, 2009, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Jim Sorum, Vice Chair; Maureen Peterson, Clerk; Tim Culver (arrived 8:10 p.m.), Mark Hibbs and Chuck Walter.
- Member Absent Arlene Bush, Treasurer.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Pat Geraghty, Rod Zivkovich, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Chuck Walter moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC Chuck Walter moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the proclamation declaring February 2009 as Black History Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

*Black History Month
Proclamation*

Black History Month

WHEREAS, the history of people of African heritage goes back thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative societies in the history of human existence; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played a significant role in the history of the State of Minnesota, from the early days of the pioneers to our present day leaders in education, agriculture, government, the arts, finance and international trade; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, all Americans are encouraged to reflect on the rich history and teachings of African Americans and bear witness to the progress, beauty, and achievements they have made throughout our region;

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience; and

WHEREAS, the history of African Americans and that of Americans from all of the world's cultures are reflected in the curriculum, learning materials, activities and celebrations throughout the year in the Bloomington Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Bloomington Board of Education, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2009 to be Black History Month in the Bloomington School District. We encourage all staff, students and residents to join in celebrating the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultures and traditions of African Americans and to continue honoring the contributions of Black Americans throughout the year.

The observance focuses attention on the contributions of African Americans throughout American history and across all sectors of society. The proclamation emphasized the Bloomington Public Schools' commitment to recognizing the contributions of all Americans throughout the year.

The proclamation was accepted by Dinna Wade-Ardley, Director of the Office of Educational Equity, and Kennedy High School student Marcus Page, President of Shades of Brown. Marcus Page highlighted the young adult leadership workshop being conducted by Naomi Tutu on February 7th at Bloomington Civic Plaza.

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring February 2009 as Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month. Motion carried unanimously.

*Bloomington
Loves Its Kids
Proclamation*

***Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month
February 2009***

WHEREAS, all of the children of Bloomington—of all ages, every race, religion, economic and ethnic background—deserve the recognition and support of the people of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, adults in Bloomington recognize their duty to protect children by reporting suspected child abuse or neglect, the selling of alcohol to minors, or the dealing of drugs by or for children; and

WHEREAS, the people of Bloomington can help raise the self-esteem of all children, especially those who have hurt and hardship in their lives; and

WHEREAS, children who commit their time and energy to serving their community deserve recognition; and

WHEREAS, children who are achieving success in their schools and community should be acknowledged and encouraged by adults; and

WHEREAS, adults and organizations in Bloomington can collaborate in providing the developmental assets that will help our children and youth grow up successfully;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Gene Winstead, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, and Maureen Bartolotta, Chair of the Bloomington Board of Education, do hereby proclaim February 2009 as the 21st Annual Bloomington Loves Its Kids Month and call upon the people of Bloomington to observe this special month by showing love and appreciation to children, recognizing organizations that support and encourage children of Bloomington, and, as a community, celebrating our kids.

The proclamation was accepted by Michael Riebel, a representative from Bloomington United for Youth, along with Dana Hanson and Molly Kalina, representatives from Box City Vigil, and Greg Boatman, Assistant Manager, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Division.

February 2009 marks the 21st annual Bloomington Loves Its Kids celebration by joint proclamation of the Bloomington City Council and Bloomington School Board. Along with the City and the School District, the month-long celebration is a partnership with Bloomington United for Youth, Northwestern Health Sciences University Penn Lake Library, Oxboro Library and various businesses, clubs and organizations.

There will be a recognition event on Thursday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. at Bloomington Civic Plaza in the Council Chambers and many family-friendly activities are planned for the month of February.

Bloomington United for Youth will sponsor a Box City Vigil on the lawn of the State Capitol on May 8, 2009.

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring that February 2009 is Career and Technical Education Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

*Career & Technical
Education Month
Proclamation*

***Career and Technical Education Month
February 2009***

WHEREAS, February 2009 has been designated Career and Technical Education Month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

WHEREAS, profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce, which fosters productivity in business and industry and contributes to America's leadership in the international marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education gives students experience in practical, meaningful applications of basic skills such as Reading, Writing, Science and Mathematics, thus improving the quality of their education. It also provides all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills, which provide them with expanded career choices; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing cooperative efforts of career and technical educators, business and industry stimulate the growth and vitality of our local economy and that of the entire nation by preparing graduates for career fields forecast to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade;

NOW THEREFORE, we, members of the Bloomington Board of Education, proclaim in the Bloomington Public Schools that February 2009 be observed as "Career and Technical Education Month."

The proclamation was accepted by Debbie Belfry, Career Development Coordinator, and Kevin Chederquist, Dean of Students at Kennedy High School. They spoke about opportunities available through the SkillsUSA program to prepare students for the world of work. Scott Etzel provides the leadership for the SkillsUSA program at Kennedy. Currently, three Kennedy High School students hold state offices. Ms. Belfry and Mr. Chederquist also highlighted learning focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) noting that the Jefferson and Kennedy Robotics Team recently did very well in competition.

V. PART A
1. Board Business
Minutes

Personnel Items

- a. Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the School Board on January 12, 2009.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignation, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Change of Status.
Independent Personnel: Change of Status.
Classified Personnel: Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident

- c. Non Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2008-2009: Students entering Bloomington is 14 and 6 students leaving.
Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010: Students entering Bloomington is 21 and 2 students leaving.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 authorizes the following appointment for State and Federal Programs: Beth Anderson, Elementary Director of Teaching and Learning, as the Local Education Agency (LEA) Representative for the District.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

Normandale College

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves an agreement between State of Minnesota/Normandale Community College and Independent School District No. 271 for grant development consulting services.

3. *Grants*

St. Edward Tithing and Outreach

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts a \$1,000 grant that the St. Edward Parish Tithing & Outreach Programs awarded to the Community Education Learning Exchange Program.

4. *Finance*

Gifts & Donations

- 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 \$79,024.90.

Receipts/Disbursements

- b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Chuck Walter moved, Jim Sorum 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

Safe & Drug Free Schools Report

Melissa Drews, the District's Safe and Drug Free Coordinator, presented to the School Board the 2007-2008 Task Force Report. The 19 member Task Force is a cross-section of stakeholders who deal with drug use in the schools. The purpose of the Task Force is to determine the following: Bloomington Public Schools' regional and statewide standing related to safe and drug free schools, whether data suggest an increase in issues related to school safety and chemical use, identify strengths and unmet needs and to develop recommendations based on findings from the aforementioned. The Task Force reviewed existing data, which included: suspension and expulsion data, 2007 Minnesota Student Survey Results, Bloomington Youth Health Update, Bloomington Police Juvenile Arrests, and 2006-2007 Hennepin County School Crime Report.

A few report highlights—*2007 Minnesota Student Survey* findings indicate that alcohol and marijuana are the most commonly used chemicals by students, tobacco use is way down, increase in 6th and 9th graders being pushed, shoved or grabbed at school and a rise in perception of illegal gang activity being a problem at school. *Youth Health Update* findings show girls' use exceeded boys' use of alcohol by 14.6%—up from 9.2%.

Tobacco use rates are now lower than the state average. The percent of 9th graders who were offered, sold or given an illegal drug on school property has declined and now is consistent with the state average.

Juvenile Arrests—findings continue to see seasonal trends identified in tobacco, alcohol and curfew violations, alcohol violations down (179) tobacco violations down (210), curfew violations steady (246).

Hennepin County School Crime Report findings indicate a decrease in the number of offenses for Bloomington students since 2005-2006 when the total was 114. The total for 2006-2007 was 65. The total for 2007-2008 was 94, a slight increase over the previous year.

Ms. Drews reported that student dismissals for drug-related offenses have decreased from 97 in 2005-2006 to 59 in 2007-2008. A review of recommendations and progress of recommendations suggested by the Task Force include the following: data maintained and reviewed annually, more random canine searches, Policy 502 pertaining to student searches revised to include canine search language, consistent annual notification on canines, consistent search procedures, staff training on drugs and alcohol, definition of “possession” clarified, parent education offerings to include SHAPE and BEACON, enhanced partnerships with police. Focuses include providing more explicit information in Policy 506 on, Discipline, conduct a survey to determine attitude/behaviors around bullying and violence, identify methods to address high perceptions of gang activity and communication to the community regarding safe and drug free schools efforts. It was noted that while there is increased gang activity within the City, it is not necessarily in our schools and not necessarily Bloomington residents. Concerns and comments include positive behavior intervention and supports (PBIS) is in seven schools and is going well. Marijuana seems more prevalent than alcohol use at the high school level and determine differences between student behaviors/attitude in the high schools. Use of personal electronics (cell phone/ipod) during the school day are disruptive to learning, used in bullying, harassment, cheating, safety concerns. Technology and cyber bullying will be the next focus of the Task Force.

2008-2009
Mid-Year Budget
Adjustments

Chuck Walter moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the 2008-2009 revenue budget adjustments for all funds of (\$573,620.00) and the expenditure budget adjustment for all funds of (\$211,159.00). Motion carried unanimously.

Annually Administration proposes adjustments to update our current year budgets. There are four major categories for budget adjustments. Prior Year Carry Over Adjustment, Updated Information, Grants/ Gifts/Revenue and Other. The rationale and justification for the proposed budget adjustments were discussed in detail at the January 20, 2009, Board workshop.

Extended Field Trip
Bahamas

Mark Hibbs moved, Jim Sorum seconded that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Extended Field Trip Application for students from Jefferson Connection to travel to the Bahamas.

Jeff Kelly and six (6) adult chaperones will accompany eighty (80) students from Jefferson Connection for a cruise ship performance tour to the Bahamas. The scheduled dates of the trip are February 11-16, 2009. Students will miss two (2) school days. Per Policy 610, School Board approval is needed for international travel.

School Board members discussed the extended field trip application procedure noting the timeline for paperwork for such a trip with students. Director Walters inquired about an itinerary and inquired if students would be disembarking the cruise ship. If so, what procedures were in place to assure proper adult supervision for the large number of students to ensure safety of the students. Director Hibbs indicated that the expectation is for students to have a good, safe trip and that it is expected that the 20 other adults on the trip will take a role to ensure that happens.

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, to approve the field trip with the condition that a detailed itinerary and information regarding chaperones and roles/responsibilities of other adults going on the trip be verified with Administration. On roll call vote Chuck Walter, Jim Sorum, Maureen Peterson, Maureen Bartolotta voted aye. Mark Hibbs voted nay. Motion carried 4-1.

It was agreed that satisfaction of the conditional approval will be determined by the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and School Board Chair.

Motorcycle Engines
Donation Contract

Maureen Peterson moved, Jim Sorum seconded that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the donation agreement for two motorcycle engines and one transmission from Harley-Davidson Motor Company Group, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

The Harley-Davidson Motor Company Group, Inc. is donating two motorcycle engines and one transmission to the School District for the Motorcycle Technology-Chopper Class at Kennedy High School. The donation is valued at approximately \$4,500. Kevin Baas teaches this course. The District's legal counsel and insurance carrier have reviewed the donation agreement.

Policy 543

Maureen Peterson moved, Chuck Walter seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of Policy 543, In School Student Security K-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy 5146 and Regulation 5146.1 have been rewritten as Policy 543. This policy has been updated from a K-8 policy to a K-12 policy. In addition to language covering high school students, the policy has been expanded to include procedural guidance for responding to requests made by noncustodial parents. This policy and regulation was reviewed at the December 15, 2008 Board workshop.

Policy 620.1

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of Policy 620.1, College Level Courses/Grade Weighting. Motion carried unanimously.

This policy has been updated to include reference to weighting Project Lead the Way courses offered at our high schools. (Project Lead the Way courses are college level courses.) Provisions of the policy would apply to the 2008-2009 school year and beyond. This policy and regulation was reviewed at the December 15, 2008 Board workshop.

(Tim Culver arrived at 8:10 p.m.)

Policy 808

Jim Sorum moved, Maureen Peterson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of Policy 808, District Crisis Management. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy 808, District Crisis Management, is a revision of old Policy 2600. This policy provides that the superintendent shall appoint a district-wide emergency management coordinator who shall work with the superintendent to develop the Crisis Management Plan, recruit and supervise a District and building level emergency response teams, coordinate in-service programs for teams and all staff members, serve as a liaison between central office and staff, and serve as a liaison between the district and local emergency agencies. To reduce the disruptive effects of a crisis, the superintendent and/or designee will develop a *Crisis Management and Communications Plan*. Development of the plan shall involve local emergency agencies, staff members, parents, students, community members, and other interested persons.

The Executive Director of Community Relations will serve as the superintendent's designee for the Crisis Management and Communications Plan. Policy 808 was reviewed with the School Board at its December 15th workshop.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Chuck Walter reported on the MSBA Conference, the CFAC Meeting, the Board's Legislative Committee activities and the Kennedy High School National Honor Society Induction. Maureen Peterson reported on meetings of the Labor Management Committee and the Long Term Financial Planning Group. She encouraged staff, parents and public to submit budget ideas for consideration. This can be done through the District website. Maureen Bartolotta reported on the PTSA Council meeting and the updated PTSA Council website. She highlighted Bloomington Loves Its Kids and BUY activities. For the Bloomington Loves Its Kids event on February 12th, BUY wants to recognize youth, youth organizations, and community groups that make a positive difference for Bloomington residents. Nominations are being accepted. Information and the nomination form is on the All District Conference.

Board Chair Maureen Bartolotta announced that upon conclusion of the regular meeting, the School Board would enter a workshop to discuss dates and format for the Budgeting for Success public engagement process.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities. The state's financial forecasting is a deficit for the biennium. In consideration of the deficit, the way public education is funded may change. To prepare for the deficit and possible changes, the District has started to prepare and a process entitled Budgeting for Success has been implemented. Information can be found on the District's website. The Minnesota Association of School Administrators has invited Superintendents to meet and share how their respective districts are preparing for the deficit.

At the request of Representative Lenczewski, he attended and testified at a joint Tax and K-12 Committee meeting regarding OPEB (other post-employment benefits) legislation.

IX. OTHER

Chuck Walter announced that the Minnesota Department of Education has awarded our school district the School Finance Award. Congratulations was extended to Rod Zivkovich and his staff.

Superintendent Les Fujitake indicated work continues to determine the cause of the problems with the buses and fuel, which resulted in the closing of school for students on January 16, 2009.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Maureen Peterson, Clerk