

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271
Bloomington, Minnesota**

November 12, 2013

- I. ROLL CALL Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the Board of Education of Independent School District 271, was called to order by Chair Tim Culver at 7:00 p.m. on November 12, 2013, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Tim Culver, Chair; Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair; Dick Bergstrom, Clerk; Nelly Korman, Treasurer; Lyle Abeln and Maureen Bartolotta.
- Member Absent Arlene Bush.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Chris Lennox, Eric Melbye, Rod Zivkovich, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman and Bruce Pappas.
- Attorney Present David Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Chair Tim Culver requested that the agenda be amended by removing the approval of the minutes from the October 28, 2013, meeting as there has been a request to make a change to the minutes. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. CANVASS ELECTION RESULTS
- Referendum Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, the following resolution:
- WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District 271 has canvassed the election returns, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the School Board hereby declares the following:
1. It is hereby found, determined and declared that the special election of the voters of this school district held on November 5, 2013, was in all respects duly and legally called and held.
 2. As specified in the attached Abstract and Return of Votes Cast, at said election a total of 13,817 voters of the school district voted on the question of revoking existing capital project levy authorization; approving new authorization (SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION 1, Capital Project Levy),

6,975	YES	282	Undervotes
6,558	NO	2	Overvotes
- Said propositions, having received the approval of at least a majority of such votes, are hereby declared to have passed. Motion carried unanimously.

School Board

Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta, seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District 271 has canvassed the election returns, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the School Board hereby declares the following candidates elected to four year terms, beginning January 6, 2014:

Tom Bennett, Ricardo Oliva, Jim Sorum and Dawn Steigauf.

And Clerk of said Board is instructed to so notify the candidates according to law.

VOTE RECAP

Lyle Abeln	4,895
Tom Bennett	5,902
Arlene Bush	4,941
Tim Culver	5,220
Ricardo Oliva	6,602
Jim Sorum	5,947
Dawn Steigauf	5,763
Write Ins	120
Undervotes	15,846
Overvotes	32

Motion carried unanimously.

V. RECOGNITIONS

National Merit
Scholars

The School Board recognized and presented a Certificate of Achievement to Jefferson and Kennedy High School National Merit Scholars. Assistant Principals Kris Krenz and Deb Holman highlighted the program and the accomplishments of the students achieving these designations.

National Merit Semifinalists

Eight students have been named Semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program for 2014—Elizabeth Alonzi, Allison Bramanti, Rilyn Eischens, Nicholas Erickson, Alexa Groenke, Emily McGivern, Jonathan Newinski, and Bailey Plaman. These students will be in the running for one of the merit scholarship awards that will be offered next spring. More than 1.5 million high school juniors entered the 2013 National Merit Program by taking the preliminary PSAT/National Merit scholarship qualifying test, which served as an initial screening of program entrants. These students placed among the top one-half of one percent of their national Class of 2014.

National Merit Commended Students

National Merit Commended Student status recognizes exceptional academic promise demonstrated by performance on the PSAT qualifying test used for program entry. Three students earned the designation of Commended students—Alexander Claycomb, Emma Eckberg, and Catherine Landrum. These students place among the top five percent of their national Class of 2014.

American Education Week

Tim Culver moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached proclamation proclaiming November 18-22, 2013, as American Education Week in the Bloomington Public Schools.

Chris Lennox, Assistant Superintendent, accepted the proclamation and highlighted American Education Week. He emphasized the importance of education in the community and serves as evidence of the appreciation for everyone who works with and for the Bloomington Public Schools.

Chemical Health Week

Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 proclaims the week of November 18 – 22, 2013, Minnesota Chemical Health Week in Bloomington Public Schools.

The proclamation was accepted by Caroline Anderson, the new District Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, along with Eric Melbye, Executive Director of Student Services. The School Board of Independent School District 271 recognizes that the color RED has been chosen to represent individual and community commitment efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug abuse in our community and encourages its students, staff and families to participate in drug prevention education activities, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free community.

Citizens for Safer, Smarter Schools

The School Board and Superintendent Les Fujitake expressed appreciation to the Citizens for Safer, Smarter Schools for their efforts in supporting the referendum for school safety and security and technology, especially the tri-chairs of Dennis Kane, Gini Bergstrom and Dick Bergstrom.

Public

Kyle Dahlen addressed the School Board regarding his concern for an option for half-day kindergarten at his neighborhood school.

VI. PART A
1. *Board Business*
Personnel Items

a. Licensed Personnel: Employments, Changes of Status. Classified Personnel: Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident Student Agreements b. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2013-2014: Eleven (11) students entering Bloomington Public Schools and twenty (20) students leaving.

2. *Field Trips Approval* RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the field trips per the attached list (on file).

3. *Grants*

Bloomington Crime Prevention a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts grants totaling \$13,200 from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association (BCPA) for school district violence prevention activities during the 2013-2014 calendar year.

Education Foundation of Bloomington b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the \$2,666.35 grant from the Education Foundation of Bloomington to be used for selected educational projects.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

City HELP ME GROW/
South Hennepin Central Referral Services RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a contract with the City of Bloomington HELP ME GROW: South Hennepin Central Referral Services (formerly SHIELD) to assist in planning interagency services for handicapped children under age five and their families.

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, to approve Part A items in accordance with all of the written material submitted to the School Board. Motion carried unanimously

VII. PART B

Kindergarten
2014-2015

Assistant Superintendent Chris Lennox, Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Beth Anderson and Oak Grove Elementary Principal Brian Cline, presented to the School Board information from the Kindergarten Task Force. Research is conclusive that all-day Kindergarten is beneficial for all students and essential for others by providing educational experiences and support to attain achievement milestones along their Pathway to Graduation. Despite the compelling research, some parents may favor half-day Kindergarten as an option for their child. The School Board will need to decide if the District will offer a half-day option for families. It was noted that current all-day K+ program is enrichment based and not aligned to the new all-day Kindergarten state standards. Mathematics and literacy time must increase in the proposed all-day option in order to meet the higher rigor of the Minnesota and Common Core Standards. These time allocations are longer than both the current half-day or K+ program.

Option 1: All-day Kindergarten with no half-day option

All students will attend all-day Kindergarten with no cost to families.

Option 2: All-day Kindergarten at neighborhood schools with a half-day option at a centralized site(s).

A centralized site or sites (e.g. east and west side locations) for half-day Kindergarten would be needed because of the limited number of students at any neighborhood school to warrant a stand alone half-day section. If the Board of Education chooses this option, administration recommends a minimum of 20 students in order to offer a half-day section. If a half-day centralized program is offered, the School Board will need to decide if transportation will be offered to families. Currently, students who choose Hillcrest Community School are transported. Parents who choose other schools are responsible for providing their own student transportation. The state does not require districts offering all-day Kindergarten to provide transportation for a half-day program. Information on the recent parent survey regarding Kindergarten programming was shared along with information regarding surrounding school districts. Presenters responded to questions from Board members. Brian Cline provided perspective as a former Kindergarten teacher and District Mentor as well as being a principal. Space recommendations will be presented to the School Board on November 25 with the final recommendation for Kindergarten programming being presented for action by the School Board on December 9.

Hub Properties Update

Rod Zivkovich, Executive Director of Finance and Support Services, and the District's real estate agent, Neil Peterson, have been working with Hub Properties (HUB) regarding the lease and space at the former Lincoln High School, which is the site of the Community Services Campus. Since February 2012, discussions have been to secure a long-term (10+ years) lease. In August 2013, discussion included the possibility of a long-term extension of the current 27,500 square feet of space and leasing an extra 31,650 square feet for Student, Academic and Community Services programs. Tom Holton, Executive Director of Community Services, provided an overview of the growth of the programs serving adult learners, including Metro South's Adult Basic Education programs. Keeping in mind that the current lease expires in December 2015, Mr. Holton has been looking for other spaces to accommodate programming, without success. Eric Melbye, Executive Director of Student Services, spoke to additional needs for special education programs. Intermediate School District 917 Superintendent John Christiansen indicated that he has been looking for space to bring special education programs into member districts, particularly Bloomington. The timing of the opportunity that has become available from HUB will help make this possible. Assistant Superintendent Chris Lennox indicated that the additional space at the General Dynamics site allowing movement of special education programming would help to free up space at elementary sites for all-day Kindergarten programming.

On November 25th, Administration and Neil Peterson will request Board direction on a letter of intent. If the Board's direction is to move forward, Administration will start finalizing the lease agreement for Board approval in December or January. In September, the School Board approved a placeholder for these additional costs in the Pay 2014 Preliminary Levy. Based on preliminary negotiations, it is expected that the final letter of intent will not exceed the September placeholder amount. The final amount will be included in the final levy presented to the Board on December 9th.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS

Dick Bergstrom thanked all of the volunteers assisting our learners—Valley View Elementary is in need of more volunteers. He spoke to AVID classes at Valley View Middle School, attend the PTSA Council meeting, the East Side Collaborative event at Kennedy High School, and attended flag raising ceremonies at our schools on November 11 in honor of Veterans' Day.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake expressed thanks to the Bloomington community for supporting the Capital Projects Levy for the school district to fund the School Safety & Security and Next Technologies for Learning plans. We at the District are honored by the trust and continued support for our school district by a community that believes in strong schools focused on academic achievement for all children. We work hard to maintain your confidence in how we manage our financial resource, which has allowed us to maintain property tax levels over time, and to show results with your investment.

The first group of Family STARS University participants graduated tonight with a ceremony at Valley View Middle School. Family STARS University began this fall as part of the District's family engagement plan. It is an eight-week course that provides a broad overview of the public education system and specific strategies to help student learning at home.

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to established a Closed Session of the School Board for the purpose of negotiations discussion. (Tentative agreements for the nurses for 2011-2013 and the principals for 2013-2015.) Motion carried unanimously.

X. OTHER

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Dick Bergstrom, Clerk