

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

**February 11, 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 February 11, 2013, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Tim Culver, Chair; Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair; Dick Bergstrom, Clerk; Nelly Korman, Treasurer; Lyle Abeln, Maureen Bartolotta and Arlene Bush.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Chris Lennox, Rod Zivkovich, Eric Melbye, Tom Holton and Bruce Pappas.
- Attorney Present David Holman.  
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, approval of the agenda as revised (moved a contract from Part A to Part B). Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITIONS
- Friends
- The District is fortunate to have businesses and organizations support our learners and the community of Bloomington. In appreciation of these collaborations efforts, the School Board recognizes “Friends” of education.
- PACER Center—The mission of PACER Center (Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights) is to expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life of children and young adults with disabilities and their families, based on the concept of parents helping parents. Founded in 1977, PACER Center was created by parents of children and youth with disabilities to help other parents and families facing similar challenges. Today, PACER Center expands opportunities and enhances the quality of life of children and young adults with disabilities and their families. PACER is staffed primarily by parents of children with disabilities and works in coalition with 18 disability organizations. Bloomington Public Schools has been an active partner in advocating for kids, helping to find and provide resources to students, families and staff. The District has partnered with PACER for grants. A current focus is helping with the development of a bullying prevention policy and a program implemented at Valley View Middle School. Paula Goldberg, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the organization, shared highlights of working with the Bloomington Public Schools.

Career & Tech  
Education Month  
Proclamation

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached proclamation (on file) declaring February 2013 as Career and Technical Education Month in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

The proclamation was accepted by Debbie Belfry, District Career Development Coordinator and Kennedy High School student Daniella Shaeoda, who is a SkillsUSA state officer. Scott Etzel, Business teacher and SkillsUSA advisor also attended the meeting.

MAPT  
Administrator  
of the Year

Transportation Director Tom Oestreich has been selected as Administrator of the Year by the Minnesota Association of Pupil Transportation (MAPT). Keith Paulson, Transportation Director for the Anoka-Hennepin Schools, and Derrick Agate, Transportation Director for the Hopkins Schools, presented the award on behalf of MAPT.

Public

In support of the school nurses, Amy Irv and Lacy Dockman addressed the School Board regarding negotiations encouraging a contract settlement worthy of their credentials and mutually satisfactory to both parties.

V. PART A  
1. *Board Business*  
Minutes

Personnel Items

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on January 28, 2013.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments. Administrative Personnel: Resignation. Independent Personnel: Change of Status. Classified Personnel: Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the 2013 Pay Equity Implementation Report, submitted to the Pay Equity Office, Department of Minnesota Management & Budget, on January 31, 2013.

Non-Resident  
Student Agreements

- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2012-2013: Students entering Bloomington Public Schools total 5 and 6 students are leaving. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2013-2014: Students entering Bloomington Public Schools total 7 and 4 students are leaving.

2. *Field Trip Approvals*

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

3. *Grants*  
Lockheed Martin

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the acceptance of grants totaling \$22,000 from Lockheed Martin to Independent School District 271 for Jefferson and Kennedy High Schools, Oak Grove, Olson and Valley View Middle Schools.

4. *Contracts/Agreements*

MNSCU/Hennepin  
Technical College

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the renewal of five Occupancy Agreements between the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on behalf of Hennepin Technical College and Independent School District 271. The Occupancy Agreements are effective from January 14, 2013 through May 24, 2013.

Volunteer Connection  
University of North  
Dakota

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement between University of North Dakota and Independent School District 271, Volunteer Connection, E-12 Programs.

Lyle Abeln moved, Maureen Bartolotta 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/Saint  
Mary's University

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Saint Mary's University. This agreement will be in effect from January 31, 2013 to June 30, 2015.

Motion carried with six ayes and one abstention. Director Abeln abstained due to a conflict of interest—he is an employee of Saint Mary's University.

Q-Comp Update

The School Board received an update on Q-Comp. Presenters included Assistant Superintendent Chris Lennox, along with Q-Comp leadership and Peer Coaches—Kelley Spiess, Cristin Caruso, David Carberry, Tim Kaari and Ashley Modrow. Kelley Spiess provides the leadership for Q-Comp. The team highlighted elements of the program. *Peer Evaluation Process*—includes observations by a primary coach, secondary coach and the building administrator and common training. *PLC Participation*—focuses on research-based teaching strategies and evidence toward goal achievement. *Goal Setting*—Individual classroom, PLC and building. The District's Q-Comp work aligns with the Minnesota Teacher Evaluation law as to frequency of evaluations, locally selected Peer Evaluation Team, teacher improvement process and coordinated staff development plan through PLCs and aligned training.

Early Childhood  
Plan Update

Tom Holton, Executive Director of Community Services, presented an update of the Early Childhood plan. The goal of the plan is to have all kids ready for Kindergarten. Mr. Holton reviewed plans for Kinderprep scale-up, E-3 alignment and the Community Provider Network. Washburn and Valley View currently have the Kinderprep program. Next year, the program will be replicated at Oak Grove and Indian Mounds elementary schools and maybe Westwood. He highlighted work towards common standards and expressed that our current rate of 85% percent of kids ready for Kindergarten is not a high enough standard.

Working with the Community Provider Network daycares are provided resources to assist with getting students ready to transition to Kindergarten. Valley View Elementary held its first Family Academy. The addition of two early childhood classrooms at Valley View Elementary is on schedule to be completed by the end of spring break. Mr. Holton reviewed proposed legislation regarding early learning; the Governor's bill providing funding for scholarships and parent resources.

American Indian  
Education Transmittal  
of Resolution

Maureen Barolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Resolution of Concurrence by the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee for the 2012-2013 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Minnesota. Statute 124D.78 states School Boards and American Indian schools must provide for the maximum involvement of children enrolled in education programs, programs of elementary and secondary grades, special education programs and support services. Accordingly, the board of a school district in which there are 10 or more American Indian children enrolled and each American Indian school must establish a parent committee. If a committee whose membership consists of a majority of parents of American Indian children has been or is established according to federal, tribal or other state law, that committee may serve as the committee required by this section and is subject to, at least, the requirements of this subdivision and subdivision 2.

Hiedi Hecker, Indian Education Program Coordinator, indicated that along with the Resolution of Concurrence, two recommendations were submitted to the School Board.

#### **2012-2013 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) of Bloomington Public Schools has "found most of the District's educational programs to be adequate in meeting the needs of American Indian students." As a result, on January 13, 2013, the AIPAC voted to submit a Transmittal of Resolution of Concurrence.

However, the AIPAC feels strongly that there are areas in need of improvement and are thus submitting the following recommendations:

### 1. Equitable Access

The majority of children eligible to participate in the Indian Education program qualify for Free or Reduced meals (62%). Still others, while not meeting the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free/reduced meals have little disposable income left after basic needs are met. The financial situation that many of our American Indian families face, make it impossible to afford fee-based after school enrichment opportunities that some of their classmates are able to participate in. The AIPAC believes this creates a two-tiered system based on class in which enrichment activities (after school and summer) have become a privilege for the few.

**As a means to reducing the achievement gap and increasing equity, the AIPAC recommends creating greater access to afterschool and summer enrichment activities by greatly reducing or eliminating fees for all students.**

### 2. Communication

Families have expressed not having knowledge regarding academic resources available to them - specifically in math. The AIPAC does not see a uniform system of sharing this information with parents.

The AIPAC also is concerned that while SchoolView is a valuable tool, teachers may assume that all parents have internet and/or check it frequently. In contrast, many of our parents believe that they will hear from school if their child(ren) are not performing adequately.

**Therefore the AIPAC recommends that teacher-to-home communication become standardized so that information regarding students achievement and resources that will help parents help their children is consistent across the District.**

2012-2013 Mid Year Adjustments

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves adjusting the 2012-2013 budget for all funds by increasing revenues by \$1,310,257 and increasing expenditures by \$1,828,867. Motion carried unanimously.

Annually, Administration proposes adjustments to update our current year budgets. The four major budget adjustment categories are: Prior year carry over, Updated information, Grants/Donations/Revenue and Other. The rationale and justification for the proposed budget adjustments were discussed in detail at the January 28, 2013 Board Study Session.

Architectural Services Agreement

Mark Hibbs moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves entering into an Architectural Services Agreement between Wold Architects and Engineers, St. Paul Minnesota, and Independent School District 271. Motion carried unanimously.

Wold Architects and Engineers has been providing planning and design services to educational clients in the Upper Midwest for more than 30 years. Due to their extensive experience in the area of educational facility design and remodeling, the District initially engaged the services of Wold to provide expert consultation and guidance to the District's Facilities Planning for Success Committee.

In April 2010, the District approved a contract with Wold to provide architectural and engineering services from the design phase through project completion for the remodel of Olson Middle School. This contract formalizes the relationship between the District and Wold for future architectural and engineering services along with noting that the District now is using a Construction Manager. The compensation for these services is 7.5% of the construction costs per project.

Construction Manager Agreement

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves entering into a Construction Manager Services Agreement between Kraus-Anderson Construction Company, Circle Pines, Minnesota and Independent School District 271. Motion carried unanimously.

With the approval of \$15 million per year in Alternative Facility Funding, the District formed a Construction Manager search team in the fall of 2012 to choose a District Construction Manager. Presentations and interviews were held with construction management firms and the Kraus-Anderson Construction Company was chosen based on their overall qualifications and experience. Kraus-Anderson's compensation will be at a rate of 2% of alternative facility funds they are assigned in addition to on-site construction management services, which will be at a set fee per project.

Fees 2013-2014

Dick Bergstrom moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School 271 approves the following fees for the 2013-14 school year: Student Athletic, Student Non-Athletic Activity, Student Instrument User, Student Parking, and Student/Adult Activity Admission as per the attached fee lists (on file). Motion carried unanimously.

Administration recommends no changes to the current Student Athletic, Student Non-Athletic Activity, Student Instrument User, Student Parking, and Student/Adult Activity Admission Fees for the 2013-2014 school year. A fee increase was considered, but given the current financial environment, it is believed an increase at this time would result in fewer students participating in various activities. The potential loss of revenue from lower participation rates would likely offset increases that would result from higher fees.

Programs are managing to keep costs in line with current revenue. Participation in activities is considered a key component to closing the achievement gap. Participation in activities has a strong correlation to academic success. When students are engaged in activities, they have more positive attitudes toward school. A fee increase will inordinately impact students from low socio-economic backgrounds. Although we may have to raise fees in the future, the longer we can keep fees at current levels, the longer we will be able to give a wider range of students the opportunity to participate in the excellent activities program we offer our students.

High School  
Graduation Fees

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the graduation fee of \$55.00 per student for Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools for the 2012-2013 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

District administration, in consultation with high school administration, recommends a graduation fee of \$55.00 for students who will graduate in June 2013. The proposed fee is an increase from last year's fee of \$52.00. Fees change annually to reflect rising or changing costs. Per MN Statute 123B.37, graduation fees are not charged for graduation caps, gowns and diplomas.

Policy 102

Policy 102, Education Opportunity, was reviewed by the School Board at the January 28 Study Session. No changes were made to the policy (there is no accompanying regulation). The policy will be posted on the District website with the new review (Board meeting) date.

VII. BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS

Dick Bergstrom highlighted activities and events—Bloomington United for Youth Volunteer Awards, Jefferson's production of Alice in Wonderland and Jefferson Cheerleaders placing first in national completion in Florida. Lyle Abeln attended the MSBA new Board Member orientation. He extended an invitation to fellow Board members to attend the MSBA District 4 legislative forum hosted by Eden Prairie Schools on March 8. Also as a new Board Member, Mr. Abeln met with some District staff, including the Superintendent. Nelly Korman, Arlene Bush and Tim Culver attended and reported on the AMSD meeting at which the organization's legislative platform was presented. Arlene Bush attended a MSBA Insurance Trust meeting. Nelly Korman attended a MSBA workshop for newly elected Board officers and a meeting of the Safe and Drug Free Schools Task Force. Nelly Korman is the Chair of the Board's Legislative Committee, which met twice. A mission statement and committee goals have been developed and the draft will be shared with the School Board at the upcoming study session. Lyle Abeln and Arlene Bush are the other two members of the Board's Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee is scheduling a forum with Bloomington legislators on March 2, 8:00-9:30 a.m. Tim Culver reported on the PTSA Council meeting, which met at the Bloomington Theater and Art Center. Summer programming available for students was highlighted.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake requested actions regarding upcoming sessions of the Board. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, to establish a closed session on February 19 at 6 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, to establish a study session on February 19 at 7 p.m. to continue discussion of Board priorities, including legislative priorities. Motion carried unanimously.

The March 25th Board meeting/study session date falls during Spring Break. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, to cancel the sessions scheduled for March 25 and establish March 18 as a Board Meeting followed by a Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Les Fujitake attended the grand opening of the new Partnership Center at Normandale Community College. This was a vision of President Dr. Joe Opatz turned into a reality.

The League of Women Voters has invited the Superintendent to be the speaker for the meeting on Tuesday, February 12. The topic is changing demographics and student needs. The meeting will be at Pond Center at 7 p.m., socializing at 6:30 p.m.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Dick Bergstrom, Clerk