

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

June 10, 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 June 10, 2013, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Tim Culver, Chair; Dick Bergstrom, Clerk; Nelly Korman, Treasurer; Lyle Abeln, Maureen Bartolotta and Arlene Bush.
- Member Absent Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Chris Lennox 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, Dick Bergstrom seconded, approval of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITIONS 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.

Earl C. Hill American Legion Post 550

Since 1951, the Earl C.Hill American Legion Post 550 has been welcoming veterans from all branches of the Armed Forces. As part of its mission, Post 550 provides aid and assistance to local veterans and their families as well as community programs and projects. The Legion supports a variety of school and city programs and organizations. For Bloomington alone, \$62,000 of funding was provided in 2012. A few examples of how the Bloomington Public Schools has benefited, either directly or indirectly, by the Legions financial support to organizations or programs: Companies to Classrooms, Jefferson & Kennedy Hockey Boosters, Kennedy Wrestling, Angelica Cantanti, senior class parties, food pantry at Kennedy, speaker system for Westwood Elementary, Camp Invention summer program scholarships, Jefferson Volleyball, and the Sister City delegation fall trip to Izumi City, which includes some of our students ... the list goes on. Bloomington Public Schools appreciates this generous support for the families and learners of our community. Commander Terry Selle and Post 550 member Mike Mellin highlighted collaborative efforts.

Everett McClay Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1296

For over 65 years, the Everett McClay Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1296 has represented the interests of veterans who have strived to keep America free in times of war and peace. Due to their dedication to these families, youth, elderly and our community, Post 1296 earned the distinction of being an “All American Post” in 2004-2005 year. Over the years, the Women’s Auxiliary’s has promoted two competitions in which some of our students participated—the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pens Essay. Students from our schools have been award winners on several occasions. Commander Chris Anderson was unable to attend the meeting.

Members of both the American Legion and VFW have been a valuable resource to our students as they have worked on history and citizenship curriculum and special projects. Our staff and students have appreciated the conversations and historical perspectives of those who have lived and made history and have been willing to share their knowledge and stories. Thanks to both of these organizations for their past and continued support.

Valley View Middle School

State Latino Student Achievement Results

Valley View Middle School ranked among the top 10 middle schools in Minnesota in Latino student performance according to MinnCAN’s School and District Report Cards. MinnCAN stands for Minnesota Campaign for Achievement Now. The report cards highlight student learning in five key categories, including student performance, subgroup performance, performance and achievement gaps, and graduation rates. Each subgroup’s performance score is an average of its reading and Math proficiency at the highest tested grade level in that school.

MASSP Bronze Star of Innovation

Valley View Middle School has been awarded a Bronze Star of Innovation from the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) for its After-School Intervention program. The program’s mission is to engage students in productive, learner-centered activities after school by pairing students’ interests with a teaching and learning component. Activities range from Reading, Math and study skills to cooking, soccer and drama. These classes and activities are taught mainly by Valley View Middle School teachers. The school has seen the number of students engaged in after-school programs double, from fewer than 100 students during the 2010-11 school year to over 200 students this year.

- V. PART A
- 1. Board Business
- Minutes

Personnel Items

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on May 28, 2013.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignation, Leave of Absence, Employments. Administrative Personnel: Employments. Classified Personnel: Retirement, Resignations.

Non-Resident
Student Agreements

- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2012-2013: Students entering Bloomington Public Schools total 1 and 6 students leaving. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2013-2014: Students entering Bloomington Public Schools total 8 and 2 students 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).

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.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

MnSCU/HTC

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 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 May 29, 2013 through July 17, 2013.

Headway Mental Health
Services

- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the contract with Headway Emotional Health Services to provide mental health services to enrolled students with emotional behavioral disorders. This contract is for the period of June 24, 2013 through August 16, 2013.

Headway Facilities
& Ancillary Support

- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a contract for Headway's use of District facilities, ancillary support and collaboration services. This contract is for the period of June 24, 2013 through August 16, 2013.

Arlene Bush 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

VVMS Nobel
Program

The Nobel Program at Valley View Middle School is a program inspired by Alfred Nobel and his Legacy for Excellence. It is a high-level humanities approach program providing rigor, depth and complexity. Principal Ben Magras, and Erin Boltik, Director of Gifted and Talented Programs, provided highlights to the School Board. Nobel provides an accelerated learning opportunity beyond honors courses, provides a talent development program that targets a more diverse population, enhances and extends 21st century skills such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity. The target audience is current fifth graders residing in the school's attendance area, scoring 85% or higher on current MAP Reading test and creatively talented students as identified by the Torrance Test of Creativity. Curriculum components for grade 6 focus on an absent narratives approach, interdisciplinary humanities approach and focus on critical and creative thinking.

The school works with various District departments for program implementation—staff development, testing administration, and course content. Additional staffing of .4 FTE is provided for program development and communication. Plans for the future will allow for the program to become a grades 6-8 program.

Principal Evaluation Update

Chris Lennox, Assistant Superintendent, and Valley View Middle School Principal Ben Magras, updated the School Board on the principal evaluation process. Mr. Magras and five of his colleagues are part of the team working with Mr. Lennox. There is a collective commitment to this process, which includes updating the principal job description and aligning it with the evaluation process. The Legislature added specific language relating to building principals evaluation effective with the 2013-2014 school year. Components for evaluation include feedback regarding principal performance related to core administrative competencies and those competencies should be consistent and embedded in the job description. In addition, evaluation should include formative and summative evaluation and feedback provided to principals through on the job observations as well previous evaluations. Evaluation should provide survey data in the context of goal setting and provide for use of student achievement data with specific measureable goals for continuous improvement related to professional growth and development. The work of the group on this process includes the development of a rubric and checklist to align with the components of the evaluation, similar to the work with teachers in the Q-Comp process.

Q-Comp 2012-2013 Report

Chris Lennox, Assistant Superintendent, and Kelley Spiess, Q-Comp Coordinator, provided the School Board with a report on the 2012-2013 school year presenting information that was provided to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). As part of that End of Year report, Board Chair Tim Culver was part of the conference call with MDE staff. The presentation addressed questions as to how the Q-Comp program improved classroom instruction, improved student achievement with the District, helped to close the achievement gap, what other impacts has implementing Q-Comp had on teaching and learning and what changes might be needed to make the program more effective in improving classroom instruction and student achievement, and closing achievement gaps between student populations. Ms. Spiess reported on each of the questions. A few highlights from the report indicate that the program has improved rapport and collegiality among staff through more consistent PLC practice and increased focus on the Danielson rubric. It has promoted more collaboration with all district personnel. Many PLC and student achievement goals were set based on areas of improvement, which focused on achievement gaps and made focused differentiation more of a priority.

Employment Agreements Extending Probationary Period

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Employment Agreements between the District and probationary teachers, Katherine Solberg and Kate Koester, extending their probationary periods. Motion carried unanimously.

Katherine Solberg and Kate Koester are currently employed as probationary teachers by the District. Both teachers will complete their probationary periods at the end of the 2012-13 school year. Both teachers have been offered long-call reserve positions in 2013-14 for teachers on leaves of absence. The purpose of these agreements is to extend the probationary periods of both teachers through the 2013-14 school year, thereby waiving their right to the acquisition of continuing contract rights for that period. Under State law, it can be interpreted that they might acquire continuing contract rights unless non-renewed before July 1, 2013. Under arbitration rulings, it has been interpreted that they cannot achieve continuing contract while employed in long-call reserve positions. Under these agreements, both teachers have voluntarily agreed to extend their probationary periods and understand that they will not achieve continuing contract during the 2013-14 school year.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Tim Culver reported on AMSD Executive Committee activities. Dick Bergstrom highlighted fifth grade graduation at Normandale Hills, and Jefferson and Kennedy.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake indicated that Administration requests a study session on June 17 at 7 pm. Agenda topics include the General Fund preliminary budget for 2013-2014 and flipped instruction. So moved by Maureen Bartolotta, seconded by Arlene Bush. Motion carried unanimously.

Seven student athletes from Jefferson and Kennedy High Schools received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Born Again Jocks—one of our Friends of the Bloomington Public Schools. Money for scholarships is raised in the fall at an annual pancake breakfast and through memorial gifts. \$180,000.00 in scholarships has been awarded by the BAJs since 1984, the year Born Again Jocks was founded. The awards are given in honor of Jerry Molosky, a long time teacher and coach for Bloomington Public Schools.

The Destination Imagination team comprised of Oak Grove and Olson Middle School students placed 12th out of 67 teams in their category at this year's Destination Imagination Global Finals, May 22-25 in Knoxville, Tennessee. The team competed in the technical challenge category, in which students were asked to design and build small vehicles that used at least three different power sources. The Destination Imagination Global Finals featured eight categories of competition with over 1,200 teams from around the world.

Kennedy High School's Laura Gale has advanced to the National History Day competition being held, June 9-13 at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her documentary on Title IX placed second in the senior individual documentary category at the recent State History Day competition.

