

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

August 27, 2007

- 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 7:03 p.m. on August 27, 2007 in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Maureen Peterson, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Jim Sorum.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Debra Fincham, Pat Geraghty, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton and Rod Zivkovich.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Arlene Bush moved, Chuck Walter seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC None.
- V. PART A
1. *Board Business*
- Minutes
- Personnel Items
- Non-Resident Agreements
2. *Finance*
- Receipts/Disbursements
- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on August 13, 2007.
 - b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status. Classified Personnel: Resignations, Rescission of Resignation, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status, Rescission of Reduction in Force.
 - c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2007-2008:
Students Entering Bloomington = 23
Students Leaving Bloomington = 3
- a. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Maureen Peterson moved, Tim Culver seconded, to approve Part A items in accordance with all of the written material submitted to the School Board.

VI. PART B

Energy
Management
Update

Rod Zivkovich, Executive Director of Finance and Support Services, along with Mike Berg, Director of Buildings and Grounds, updated the School Board on energy management. The District's energy mission is to manage consumption and continue to increase our facilities operational efficiency while still meeting the needs of the District. Objectives include control operation costs by lowering utility costs and reducing maintenance costs, reduce energy usage and provide healthy, comfortable buildings. The use of natural gas and electricity has an almost flat usage from 2000-2004. The District continues to maximize student support and community access while holding utility unit usage to levels of pre-renovation levels. An average utility cost for schools and commercial facilities is \$2.00 per square foot. Bloomington schools were at \$1.05 per square foot in fiscal year 2006-2007. The Energy Star label recognizes buildings where energy performance ranks in the top 25% in the nation. Schools with the Energy Star label typically spend 40 cents less per square foot to operate than the average performing school. There are 33 Energy Star label school buildings in Minnesota. Some of our Bloomington schools have attained recognition as an Energy Star school: 2003—Poplar Bridge; 2004—Hillcrest Elementary and Pond Center. Program goals include: a \$100,000 cost avoidance in annual energy usage through measurable energy conservation efforts. Improved learning environments. Improve district wide energy efficiency by 10% over the next five (5) years district wide and thereby attaining recognition as an Energy Star Leader designation. Energy Star leaders recognized school districts that have a 10, 20 or 30 percent improvement in energy usage. Looking to the future, our new energy software tracking program will help document energy usage using weather normalization and energy cost increases to calculate energy cost avoidance. The District's utility tracking efforts include reports on energy usage for natural gas, oil, electricity and water for each school. The reports translate savings into dollars with cost avoidance calculations making it possible for the District to see how many therms, kilowatts or gallons of water are saved and how much cost was avoided in regards to utility bills. When lighting needs to be replaced, it is updated with more efficient lighting and energy efficient construction and energy efficient equipment. The cost to air condition the Activity Centers is being explored. Cost to benefit will be a primary factor.

Reserve Teacher
Wage Increase

Maureen Peterson moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes the full day beginning wage rate for reserve teachers to be \$110.00 per day for the first 40 days, \$115.00 per day after 40 accumulated work days, and \$125.00 per day for Bloomington School retirees effective September 4, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

This increase is necessary to retain the core of quality reserve teachers we employ, to attract high-quality new reserve teachers and to respond to a steady decrease of reserve teachers available for employment. Executive Director of Human Resources Bruce Pappas indicated that there are 145 active reserve teachers of which 33 are retired Bloomington teachers.

Policy 529
Staff Notification of
Violent Behavior
by Students

Jim Sorum moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District #271 approve the first reading of Policy 529, Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students. Motion carried unanimously.

This new policy is in response to Minnesota Statute §121A.64, which asserts that a classroom teacher has a legitimate interest in knowing which students placed in the teacher's classroom have a history of violent behavior and must be notified in advance of such students being placed in the teacher's classroom. The critical provisions of this law have been contained in Policy 515, Protection and Privacy of Student Records. However, these provisions are not very visible or clear. Also, they are inconsistent with recommendations coming from a committee of administrators and the Bloomington Federation of Teachers representatives that met in 2003-2004 when the law was initially passed. During the course of the last school year a committee of teachers and administrators met to refine the work that was done in 2003-2004. The draft policy and regulation were taken to a K-12 Principals meeting. Kingsley Holman has reviewed and provided input into shaping the proposed new policy and regulation. Principals will be addressing this policy with staff during workshop week.

During discussion, Director Culver suggested that as we build portfolio information on students, he would encourage the school/district's consideration of focusing on positive aspects of a student's school life.

Policy 506
Student
Discipline

Maureen Peterson moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of revised Policy 606, Student Discipline. Motion carried unanimously.

The policy and accompanying administrative regulation are consistent with the Minnesota School Boards Association model policy with a few modifications to reflect District practices. Following the first reading of this policy on October 23, 2006, Director Peterson requested that plans for notifying staff of the new reference to the use of "reasonable force" to control student behavior be enacted. Staff will be instructed on these provisions during the upcoming workshop week. At the suggestion of District Counsel, Kingsley Holman, provisions were added to comply with a new law that prohibits bullying through electronic forms and forms involving Internet use (Section IV, #36). All students will receive a copy of a student conduct guide setting policies and regulations pertaining to expected student behavior.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Jim Sorum reported on ETAC Committee activities. Information on the Technology Plan for 2008-2011 has been shared with School Board members. Chuck Walter reported on the MSBA Summer Seminar school finance workshop he attended, the Jefferson chemical awareness meeting, the new teacher luncheon sponsored by the BFT and the RBCU and the Jefferson "kickoff." The Kennedy "kickoff" is rescheduled to August 29th.

Maureen Peterson reported that the Board's Legislative Committee would be in contact with PTAs. Maureen Bartolotta highlighted the Back-to-School all staff celebration held at Jefferson kicking off the 2007-2008 school year.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake indicated that there is a School Board Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, at 6 p.m. Bill Morris from Decision Resources will report the results of the referendum survey.

The "Back to School" edition of *School Pages* should be reaching all Bloomington homes/businesses this week.

At the Back-to-School Celebration, some of our staff members were recognized for years of service to the Bloomington Public Schools. Among those recognized were Lynn Aaze, Phy Ed teacher at Indian Mounds Elementary, for 35 years of service and for 40 years of service were Mary Jo Lang, Media Director at Oak Grove Middle School and Art Seplak, Language Arts teacher at Jefferson High School. Congratulations!

The Parade of Schools Magazine is beginning to arrive at Bloomington homes. The cost to produce the magazine was supported entirely through ad sales. The Parade of Schools Open House at the schools will be September 25.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk