

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

**July 12, 2010**

- 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 Jim Sorum at 7:00 p.m. on July 12, 2010, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Jim Sorum, Chair; Maureen Bartolotta, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Melissa Halvorson Wiklund.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Pat Geraghty, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton, Rick Kaufman and Joan Bernard.
- Attorney Present Kingsley Holman.  
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC The School Board recognizes the contributions made by organizations and business partners.
- Friends ***Born Again Jocks (BAJs)***  
The BAJs have been in existence since 1984. It is an organization of men 55 years and over who want to participate in various sports for fitness and enjoyment. Now that most of the members are of retirement age and having been inactive in sports for a number of years, these gentlemen are "born again" and back playing in good-natured competition and with spirit of friendship. The BAJs have been a strong and loyal advocate group for the educational community and the Bloomington Public Schools. Since 1984, the BAJs have donated over \$150,000 in scholarship money to our Kennedy and Jefferson High School seniors. Last year, nine \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to senior athletes. The awards are given in honor of Jerry Molosky, a long time coach and teacher in the Bloomington school system, and also a BAJ supporter. The BAJs were a key component in the passage of the referendum in 1999, which allowed for the construction of activity centers at both Jefferson and Kennedy high schools. The BAJs are a valuable asset to the Bloomington community. In attendance were Dan Heintzman, Pat Cady, Bob Swanson, Jack Evens and Jerry Narragon. The BAJs presented the School Board with a \$5,000 donation towards the turf project at the two high schools.

**Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota**

For 145 years, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota has responded to Minnesota's changing needs by being wholly committed to making life better for our most vulnerable citizens. 2,300 staff members serve nearly 100,000 people of all ages in each of Minnesota's 87 counties and in more than 300 communities. The organization is funded from public, private and charitable sources. Lutheran Social Service is the state's largest, nonprofit social service organization. Its goal is to provide services to inspire hope, change lives, and build community and its service outcome goals are organized around children, youth and families; people with disabilities; and older adults. For the last ten years, the Bloomington School District has had a partnership with Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota whereby staff members work with the School Attendance Review Board, a truancy intervention program. Tonight, the School Board will be receiving a summary report on the past school year's activities and progress. In attendance were Mary Anderson and Patty Fahnlander.

Student  
Recognition

**National Forensics League National Tournament**

Jefferson's Adam DeGonda placed fourth in the humorous division at the National Forensic League National Tournament recently held in Kansas City. Adam is the first Jefferson student to qualify for a national tournament in humorous. In the school's history, only one other Jefferson student has been named a finalist in a national speech tournament. Scott Sieling coaches the Jefferson/Kennedy Speech Team. Principal Steve Hill highlighted Adam's many accomplishments in a variety of activities while a student at Jefferson High School. Adam graduated in June and is headed to college.

Staff  
Recognition

Mr. Pat Geraghty, Executive Director of Student Services, will be retiring at the end of July after serving the Bloomington Public Schools for 37 years. Kingsley Holman authored and recited a poem in honor of Mr. Geraghty.

V. PART A  
1. *Board Business*  
Minutes

Personnel Items

Non-Resident  
Student Agreements

District Memberships  
2010-2011

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on June 14, 2010, and the Special Meeting on June 28, 2010.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status, Rescission of Non-Renewal of Probationary Teachers. Administrative Personnel: Change of Status. Independent Personnel: Employments, Changes of Status. Classified Personnel: Retirements, Resignation, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2009-2010: Students leaving Bloomington total 1. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2010-2011: Students entering Bloomington total 11 and 3 students leaving.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the following association memberships for the 2010-2011 school year: Minnesota School Boards Association = \$12,004.00; Association of Metropolitan School Districts = \$13,079.00; and the Minnesota High School League (no fee).

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 271, County of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, delegates the control, supervision and regulation of interscholastic athletic and fine arts events (referred to in MN Statutes, Section 128C.01) to the Minnesota State High School League, renews the membership of John F. Kennedy Senior High School and Thomas Jefferson Senior High School in the Minnesota State High School League and authorizes participation in the approved interschool activities sponsored by said League and its various subdivisions. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board hereby adopts the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of said League and all amendments thereto as the same are published in the latest edition of the League's *Official Handbook*, on file at the office of the School District or as it appears on the League's website, as the minimum standards governing participation in said League-sponsored activities and that the administration and responsibility for determining student eligibility and for the supervision of such activities are assigned to the official representative identified by the School Board.

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

- Excensus™ a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the master subscription agreement with Excensus™ Select Products and Services, with a subscription fee of \$4,775.00, the term of the subscription to be 12 months after the date the agreement is signed.
- Institute for Athletic Medicine b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the two-year agreement between the Institute of Athletic Medicine (IAM) and Independent School District No. 271 for the services of certified athletic trainers for Jefferson and Kennedy high schools for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years.
- School Management Services c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves an agreement between School Management Services (SMS) and Independent School District No. 271 for the services of a bank reconciliation project.
- Safe & Drug Free Schools Leadership Services d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract with the City of Bloomington to provide leadership services, by the City, for the Safe & Drug-Free Schools Program. This contract is for the period of September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.
- Lutheran Social Service Truancy Intervention e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract with Lutheran Social Service to provide truancy intervention related support services to students attending the Bloomington Public Schools. This contract is for the period of October 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.
- Storefront Group Mental Health Services f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract with Storefront Group, Inc. to provide mental health services to enrolled students with emotional behavioral disorders. This contract is for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

- Storefront Group Ancillary Support & Collaborative Services
  - g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves a contract for Storefront's use of District facilities, ancillary support and collaboration services. This contract is for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.
- District 287 Transportation
  - h. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves an agreement with Intermediate District 287 for pupil transportation services for 2010-2012.
- Hennepin County Family Education
  - i. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the agreement between Hennepin County and Family Education for the Community POWER Environmental Education in the amount of \$3,000. The term of this agreement is July 16, 2010 through July 15, 2011.
- Lease Amendment A-1 Foam
  - j. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Amendment to the Existing Lease with A-1 Foam Specialties Company, Inc. in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth and agreed to by the parties. The extended term of the lease shall be in effect commencing August 1, 2010 and continue through July 31, 2015.

3. *Grants*

- Hennepin County Youth Sports Program/Turf Project
  - a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 accepts the grant from the Hennepin Youth Sports Program and approves the grant agreement with Hennepin County for \$200,000 for the Turf Development Project at Jefferson High School and Kennedy High School.

4. *Finance*

- Finance Reports
  - a. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month of May 2010.
- Receipts/Disbursements
  - b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Tim Culver 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

SARB Report 2009-2010

Pat Geraghty, Executive Director of Student Services, introduced Patty Fahnlander and Mary Anderson from Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, who updated the School Board on the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). SARB is an intervention program designed to help students and families avoid court referral for truancy. SARB goals are to devise a plan empowering the student to fulfill their obligation to attend school while emphasizing the real and potential assets of the child and considering personal strengths along with family and community support. The SARB Board meets with truant students and their parent(s) to provide intervention measures and seek alternatives to court referral.

Participants of the SARB process include the student, school and parent(s). Along with school representatives, the SARB Board is comprised of Bloomington volunteers from the Bloomington Police and Public Health departments, Cornerstone Advocacy, Lutheran Social Service, Storefront, Anthony Louis Center and Hennepin County Family and Children Services.

In 2009-2010, of the 81 referrals to SARB, the largest numbers of referrals were from Kennedy High School. Most referrals come from students in grades 9 and 10. Of the 81 referrals, 75 students/parents attended a SARB meeting (two were by phone conference). Referrals to SARB were down this school year. In January 2010, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office implemented a countywide truancy referral and response plan, which significantly impacted referrals to SARB.

This is the fifth year using the truancy risk factor tool, which identifies the multiple issues that can play into student attendance problems. Among the 75 students and their parent/guardian served, 250 risk factors were identified at referral, in phone conversation with a parent/guardian or at the SARB meeting. Examples include: *Student Factors*: failing grades, attendance issues prior school year/s, mental health issues, special education, peers who skip, pattern of low achievement, lack of involvement in after-school activities, drug and/or alcohol use, lack of social skills, prior court involvement, gang involvement, physical health issues and possible sexual, physical or emotional abuse, disruptive/anti-social behavior and assaultive behavior. *Family Factors*: single parent home, social/cultural or language barriers, lack of parent supervision/control, co-parenting conflict, parent mental health issues, and parent drug/alcohol use. *Economic Factors*: lack of basic needs such as food, clothing, housing; high mobility rate, lack of childcare and lack of transportation. *School Factors*: negative climate. SARB Statistics: Students—53% had failing grades. 51% came from single parent households. 40% had attendance issues prior school year. 28% had a pattern of low academic achievement. 20% had mental health issues. Parents—25% indicated low income or lack of basic needs.

*Truancy (39 students)*—Pre/Post data shows that SARB meetings decreased this past year in all areas related to student truancy verified/unverified absences and tardy/skipped classes. The SARB meeting is a strong intervention when students are faced with explaining to their parents where they are and what they are doing when they skip entire days of school or an entire class. At the meeting the parent sees their child's attendance printout, and the big picture of missed days, skipped classes and tardies. Data indicates the highest areas of improvement are in tardies and skipped classes. In the SARB meeting, students and parents became aware of how tardies and skipped classes not only result in truancy but also correlate to learning and grades.

*Educational Neglect (6 students)*—The most significant point of the data is the percents of change in verified and unverified absences. The change shows the SARB meeting impacts parents' knowledge and understanding about what qualifies as a verified absence and of the importance of calling the school to verify their child's absence. The increase of tardies correlates to the parents having car trouble and/or parents not bringing their children to school on time.

*School Year 2009-2010 Highlights*—In September 2009 Lutheran Social Service made contact with Child Protection. The SARB schedule was adjusted to coincide with Child Protection deadline for educational neglect referrals. LSS contacted Hennepin County Attorney's Office in December 2009 to inquire about the educational neglect and truancy referral changes that were to be implemented by the county in January 2010. The following meetings resulted from changes at Hennepin County:

March 11, 2010: LSS attended the Bloomington Schools principal's meeting with a presentation from Hennepin County Attorney, Mike Freeman. At this meeting Pat Geraghty enlisted a group to discuss the District's continued utilization of SARB within the county's new referral plan.

April 29, 2010: Pat Geraghty convened a meeting with staff from Lutheran Social Service, Storefront, and Bloomington district staff from Kennedy, Jefferson, Oak Grove Middle, Poplar Ridge Elementary, and Health Related Services. The focus of the meeting was the integration of Bloomington attendance procedures with the revised Hennepin County procedures. It was determined that SARB was an effective intervention and would continue to serve as an integral part of the District's attendance procedures.

May 19, 2010: Pat Geraghty convened a meeting attended by Lutheran Social Service and Hennepin County Attorney's Office staff, Linda Ritchie and Assistant County Attorney Micky Cook. The information resulting from the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting was discussed to insure Bloomington procedures aligned with those of the Hennepin County Attorney's Office. It was agreed at this meeting that SARB was a valuable intervention for Bloomington students and would work in alliance with the county's truancy process. Lutheran Social Service will be in on-going contact throughout the summer with the Hennepin County Attorney's Office in order to be best prepared to resume the SARB process for 2010-2011 school year. A training session will be held on August 27th with representatives from the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, SARB facilitators, principals, counselors, nurses and attendance clerks to review the revised attendance procedures.

Overall, SARB had a successful year in helping students. Attendance is important to student success in school.

Health and Safety  
Annual Review  
MDE Attachment 10

Chuck Walter moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Attachment 10 for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Berg, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported that the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) manages the Health and Safety funding for Minnesota public schools. In order to receive the funding, MDE requires school districts to submit an annual Health and Safety Report. The submission document is referred to as Attachment 10 (previously, it was known as MDE Attachment 99). The MDE requires that the School Board validate the information on Attachment 10 and certify that the information within the Health & Safety Program Revenue Application will be implemented during the 2010-2011 school year.

The documentation for Attachment 10 shows that the District has conducted a health and safety assessment, developed a plan to address deficiencies and issues, and implemented a plan to keep employees safe (i.e. workers compensation plan). Certification of Attachment 10 by the School Board ensures that the School Board is aware of any safety issues in the District.

Megan Rooney from the Institute for Environmental Assessment (IEA), reviewed the process, which is conducted annually. She indicated that the Health & Safety program includes the following components for 2010-2011: accident investigation, bloodborne pathogens, asbestos, bleachers, chemical hygiene, fire and life safety, indoor air quality, machine guarding, management assistance, mercury and safety committee. Ms. Rooney reviewed with the School Board the District's Management Assistance Physical Hazard/Building Walkthrough conducted by Metro ECSU. The completion and verification of this annual report setting forth a documented plan qualifies the District for Health & Safety levy revenue.

#### Budget 2010-2011

The budget for 2010-2011 was approved by the School Board at a Special Meeting held on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Prior to approval, the budget process and details were discussed at Study Sessions with the School Board over the past few months. This year's budget approval was later than in past years due to the challenging legislative session and the departure of the District's business manager. In that special meetings are not televised, the budget is being presented for public information. Tonight's presentation is an executive summary of what the School Board studied in June. The numbers in the presentation are the same as presented at the Board's Study Session and Special Meeting. Jon Swanell presented the budgets for Food Services, Operating Capital (including Construction) and the General Fund. Tom Oestreich presented the Transportation budget. Tom Holton presented the Community Services budget. Bruce Pappas presented the self-insurance dental and health funds. Administration's assessment is that all funds are in strong condition. At the June 21 Study Session, a long-range financial projection was shared with the Board. Assumptions and projections will be reviewed by the new business manager, who begins on July 19. At a future Study Session, the School Board will be updated on long-range financial planning.

#### Policies

Jim Sorum moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 approves the second reading of the following policies:

- Policy 417 Chemical Use and Abuse
- Policy 418 Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
- Policy 502 Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person.
- Policy 503 School Attendance

Motion carried unanimously.

These policies were reviewed in detail with the School Board at a Study Session. Approval of the first readings occurred at the last School Board meeting, June 14, at which time there were no further suggested revisions.

*[By approval of the second reading of the above-listed policies, the following policies (and regulations) are affected as follows: Current Policy 417 (Chemical Health), will become new Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School). Current Policy 526 (Student Chemical Possession, Use, Abuse And Dependency) and Policy 541 (School Attendance) will be eliminated.]*

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake highlighted District activities.

The Education Foundation of Bloomington is sponsoring its annual Chip In for Schools Golf Tournament on August 11 at Dwan Golf Course. The tournament will benefit the Education Foundation of Bloomington's effort to fund Educational Innovation Grants in the Bloomington Public Schools. These grants support teachers in providing creative and innovative educational opportunities for Bloomington's learners.

This year's summer musical will be Hello Dolly. Performances will be July 28-31, at 7 p.m. at Kennedy High School in the auditorium. A special preview performance for senior citizens (over age 65) will take place Tuesday, July 27 at 10 a.m. Tickets are priced at \$5 and can be purchased at the door one hour prior to the performance. The summer musical is a production of the Bloomington Public Schools Community Services Department.

There is a Board Study Session scheduled for July 26th at 6 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the School Board will be August 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

Chuck Walter, Clerk