

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

November 8, 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 271, was called to order by Vice Chair Maureen Bartolotta at 7:00 p.m. on November 8, 2010, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Vice Chair; Chuck Walter, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Tim Culver, Mark Hibbs and Melissa Halvorson Wiklund.
- Member Absent Jim Sorum, Chair.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Rod Zivkovich, Eric Melbye, Bruce Pappas, Tom Holton and Rick Kaufman.
- Attorney Present David Holman.
(There are no abstentions unless otherwise stated.)
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Melissa Halvorson Wiklund moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, to table the agenda item under VI. PART B, 2. Rescission of Magnet Schools Approval. Motion carried unanimously.
- Chuck Walter moved, Tim Culver seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC The School Board recognizes the contributions made by organizations and business partners. Tonight we acknowledge the contributions of one of the many "Friends" of the Bloomington Public Schools.
- Friends **Bloomington Community Foundation**
The Bloomington Community Foundation is dedicated to building a healthy, strong Bloomington community. The Foundation's volunteer directors share a vision of Bloomington as a caring community with an outstanding residential and business environment. The Foundation respects Bloomington's rich heritage while anticipating the changes, which will shape its future. Through its collection, management, investment, and distribution of charitable donations to the Bloomington community, the quality of life in Bloomington is enhanced. As just one example of how the Bloomington Community Foundation helps the Bloomington Public Schools, tonight the School Board will be accepting the second half of a \$20,000 grant from the Bloomington Community Foundation.

The grant funded the summer 2010 Kindergarten School Readiness Skills Program known as Kindersprouts. The grant provided the Early Childhood Family Center the opportunity to provide school readiness skills with an environmental theme for 54 Bloomington children prior to entering Kindergarten this fall. These children had low scores on the Bloomington Kindergarten assessment and were not eligible for all-day kindergarten. Gil Williams, President of the Bloomington Community Foundation, highlighted the work of the foundation and its annual Legacy Award, which recognizes a Bloomington resident who possesses a record of notable achievements, has demonstrated community leadership, possesses and exhibits high ethical standards, has a history of involvement in a variety of community activities and/or organizations, has illustrated ongoing support for community projects and is aware of, and able to, address community challenges from past, present and future perspectives.

National Merit
Scholars

National Merit 2011 Scholarship Program Semifinalists

Five Bloomington high school students have been named semifinalists in the 56th annual National Merit Scholarship Program for 2011. Jefferson's Anthony Campana, Patrick Herron, Helena Howard, Monica McEvoy and Amanda Tveite. 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 juniors in about 22,000 high schools entered the 2010 National Merit Program by taking the preliminary SAT/National Merit scholarship qualifying test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

National Merit 2011 Scholarship Program Commended Students

National Merit Commended Student status recognizes exceptional academic promise. Commended students are Kennedy's Kayla Hayes and Jefferson's Alta Alonzi, Katherine Berg, Kathryn Carr, Kathleen Kelly and Abby Reudelsterz. These students place among the top five percent of their national Class of 2011 on the PSAT.

American Education
Week

Chuck Walter moved, Tin Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached proclamation proclaiming November 15-19, 2010, as American Education Week in the Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

American Education Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, throughout American history, schools have helped democratize our nation, strengthen our communities and widen opportunities for all people; and

WHEREAS, by integrating different groups through commonly shared values, schools prepare this nation's diverse population to live harmoniously in a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, for generations, our schools have answered the call to develop and challenge the future leaders of our families, our communities and our nation; and

WHEREAS, there is no greater legacy than the sound education of our children and the continuing education of our adults;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, members of the Bloomington Board of Education, proclaim in the Bloomington Public Schools that November 15-19, 2010, be observed as the 89th anniversary of American Education Week.

Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent, highlighted American Education Week as an annual observance emphasizing the essential role of public schools in developing democracy, integrating diverse groups around shared civic values, developing skills and knowledge and fostering the nation's future leaders. She further emphasized that all staff members are a part of a child's educational experience. Accepting the proclamation on behalf of all of the District's teachers and support staff was Wendy Marczak, President of the Bloomington Federation of Teachers.

Chemical Health
Week

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 proclaims the week of November 15-19, 2010, Minnesota Chemical Health Week in Bloomington Public Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

***Bloomington Public Schools
Chemical Health Week Proclamation***

WHEREAS, alcohol and other drug abuse in the United States severely affects individuals, families, schools and communities and;

WHEREAS, the color RED has been chosen to represent individual and community commitment efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug abuse in our community and;

WHEREAS, business, government, law enforcement, schools, religious institutions, service organizations, neighborhoods, youth, senior citizens and other individuals are encouraged to demonstrate their commitment to helping reduce and prevent alcohol and other drug abuse by wearing and/or displaying the color RED during Minnesota Chemical Health Week, and wearing and/or displaying a RED RIBBON;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Bloomington Public Schools does hereby declare November 15-19, 2010, Minnesota Chemical Health Week in Bloomington Public Schools 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board of Bloomington encourages all students, staff, and parents to support alcohol and other drug abuse prevention efforts year round.

Denise Reese, Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator and Sara Schnadt, Kennedy High School Chemical Awareness Coordinator, accepted the proclamation. Chemical Health Week is set aside to create an awareness of substance abuse and encourage a commitment to prevention. Many activities will be going on in the schools, including the wearing of the color red on November 17. Ms. Schnadt emphasized that although this is a special week of observing chemical health awareness, safe and drug free schools are a year round focus in the Bloomington Public Schools.

National Community
Education Day

Mark Hibbs moved, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached proclamation declaring November 16, 2010, as National Community Education Day a celebration of Community Education programs and services. Motion carried unanimously.

National Community Education Day Proclamation

WHEREAS, there is an increasing public insistence that all levels of government become more responsive to citizen needs and desires; and

WHEREAS, there is a limited amount of tax money and other resources, both human and physical, available to meet public demand for facilities, programs, and services; and

WHEREAS, full use of existing public facilities, programs, and services is a desirable community goal; and

WHEREAS, community education philosophy advocates full use of public facilities, programs, and services by every age group in the community; and

WHEREAS, community education philosophy assumes that when local communities identify their own needs and resources and public agencies work cooperatively, community betterment will result; and

WHEREAS, agency coordination and cooperation improve public service and maximize the use of tax money; and

WHEREAS, the involvement of local communities is essential to the development of community education programs; and

WHEREAS, November 16, 2010, has been proclaimed "National Community Education Day" by joint resolution of Congress and by authorization of The President of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the theme of National Community Education Day in 2010 is "Community Education Looking Forward."

NOW THEREFORE, The Bloomington Board of Education does hereby proclaim November 16, 2010, as National Community Education Day and call upon Bloomington citizens to recognize and participate in this special observance.

National Community Education Day is a celebration to recognize and support the strong relationships between communities and the public schools that serve them, by highlighting the positive impact that Community Education programs play in communities. Community Education offers enrichment to early childhood learners to elderly learners with a wide range of classes offered. Community Education also enriches the community by offering after school programming to youth.

Accepting the proclamation was Tom Holton, Executive Director of Community Education for Bloomington and Richfield school districts, who highlighted the many learning opportunities, some of which are made possible through a variety of partnerships. Free/discounted programs and activities are planned in celebration of National Community Education Day.

Staff
Introductions

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro introduced one of our new administrators. Naida Grussing-Neitzel is the new Assistant Principal at Valley View Middle School. She has experience as a Spanish teacher in Robbinsdale and Minneapolis school districts and most recently an administrative intern at Robbinsdale Cooper. Currently, she is working on doctoral studies. Ms. Grussing-Neitzel is looking forward to the challenges and rewards of her new position.

Vice Chair Maureen Bartolotta stated that earlier tonight there was a Board Study Session to receive the Elementary Neighborhood School Renewal Project Task Force's five (5) elementary school attendance area map options. The maps were presented along with the Task Force's pros and cons for each map and student progress. The maps are a work in progress and will be posted on the District's website. Each map will have an online feedback form for the public to submit comments. The maps will be part of the Community Conversation scheduled for November 18.

Public

The School Board received public comment from eight (8) individuals who expressed concern regarding the proposed boundary changes and the revisions being made to the student transfer and enrollment policies. Parents addressing the School Board focused on the following themes-- maintain school choice, treat all schools fairly, implement a "grandfather" provision for students' current attendance area, consider a phase-in process for implementation of the change and a suggestion that the Board be proactive, visionary and creative with solutions.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on October 11, 2010.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Retirement, Employments. Classified Personnel: Termination, Retirements, Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident Student Agreements

c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2010-2011: Students entering Bloomington total 31 and students leaving Bloomington total 28.

Community Services Advisory Council

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the appointment of Krista Phillips to the Community Services Advisory Council for a three-year term ending fiscal year 2012-2013.

District 287 Board

e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 appoints Arlene Bush as its representative to the Intermediate District 287 Board effective January 1, 2011. This term will be for the remaining months of Bloomington's membership with Intermediate District 287.

2. *Grants/Grant Applications*

Bloomington Community Foundation

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the second half of a \$20,000 grant to fund the Kindergarten School Readiness Skills Program for summer 2010.

Barbara Bush Foundation

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a \$64,464 grant to support the Family School family literacy project.

United Way & We Believe Alliance

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the first half of a \$78,500 grant from the Greater Twin Cities United Way and the We Believe Alliance to support the Initiative for Lasting Change for school year 2010-2011.

MSHSL Foundation Grant Application

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes the Administration at Kennedy High School to submit a grant application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation requesting financial support for the Athletics Hall of Fame and Fine Arts and Activities Hall of Fame.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

- MLC Adult Basic Education MABE Database Service
- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the renewal of the MLC Adult Basic Education MABE Database Service Agreement with Minnesota Literacy Council. This agreement will allow SHAPE access to MABE software and companion files that meet current Minnesota and National Reporting System guidelines as of May 1, 2010. SHAPE will pay an annual fee for the use of MABE and related technical support/training. The fee is based on enrollment data submitted to MDE from the previous program year. The fee for fiscal year 2010-2011 is \$7,123.20. The term of this agreement shall commence July 1, 2010 and end June 30, 2011.
- SHIP Leadership Services
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement with the City of Bloomington for State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) School Leadership Services. The term of this agreement is September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011.

4. *Finance*

- Gifts & Donations
- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts gifts and donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount \$7,526.65.
- Receipts/Disbursements
- b. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

5. *Regulation Update*

- Revised Regulation 513.1 Granting Credits Grades 9-12
- a. Revised Regulation 513.1 Granting of Credits Grades 9-12 was distributed to the School Board for information. The policy and regulation were reviewed at the April 26, 2010 Board Study Session. No changes were made to the policy at that time and the regulation was revised to reflect new practice of the decision to drop class rank as reported on high school transcripts. The regulation allows for the continuation of recording class rank within the system and providing it to parents for post secondary programs that require class rank (i.e. military academies) and any scholarship programs that require class rank. It also allows for providing parents a snapshot approximation with a system utilizing a cumulative GPA deciles report. The regulation update was distributed to the School Board on May 10, 2010.

For the current revision, again, there is no change in the policy. Revisions to the regulation were made to sections I. C. and I. E. 1. e. The modifications further clarify the regulation by referencing MN Statutes 124D.09 and 123A.06, Subd. 4.

Arlene Bush moved, Chuck Walter 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
Special Education
Community Advisory
Council Report
2009-2010

The Special Education Community Advisory Council (SECAC) provides parental and community input into the decision-making process of the Student Services Department. The council membership includes parents, community members and school district staff. Presenting the report were, SECAC Chairperson Mary Blegen, and Dawn Steigauf, Past Chairperson. Eric Melbye, Executive Director of Student Services, is the Administrative Liaison.

SECAC Activities for 2009-2010—Reviewed, developed and implemented plans with Kennedy administration to address the disproportionate number of dismissal of students with disabilities, developed a process to provide parent mentors—the program is being instituted this fall, successful awards banquet held honoring the accomplishments of school employees in their work with students with disabilities, provided feedback on the decision to transition from Intermediate District 287 to 917, reviewed and provided feedback on the decision regarding block schedule at the high schools, reviewed and provided feedback on plans for the development of the BTC facility at Olson Middle School, SECAC representatives participated on PER and Community Education Advisory Council committees to promote unified educational programs, distributed transition checklist to parents of fifth and eight grade students, reviewed the District plan to move to the iPlan system, reviewed the MDE monitoring process of District special education programs (continuing), and reviewed and endorsed a collaborative grant proposal with PACER to provide parent training.

New Goals for 2010-2011—Review outcomes of MDE monitoring process of special education programs to determine implications for SECAC, monitor and provide input to the Elementary Neighborhood School Renewal Project, evaluate the impact of the 2011-2012 high school schedule change on special education programming, monitor the transition from Intermediate District 287 to 917, implement the parent mentoring program, review services provided by the newly hired Augmentative Communication/AT position, participate in the District's update of web pages, and examine/advise on the District's anti-bullying efforts.

Ongoing Goals for 2010-2011—Continue to review and provide input into ongoing District initiatives to enhance special education programming capacity, continue to recognize excellence of staff, continue to have representation on other districtwide committees, continue to monitor the state special education teacher licensing changes, and continue to work with Kennedy High School on special education discipline/removal issues.

Course Fees
2011-2012

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Middle School and High School course fees for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

In accordance with MN Statutes § 123B.35 and 123B.36, school districts have the right to establish fees in areas considered extracurricular, noncurricular or supplemental to the requirements for the successful completion of a class or educational program. By approving fees at this time, the fees can be included in the high school registration guides for 2011-2012.

After consultation with middle and high school principals, the administration recommends: no change to fees for middle school courses and changes to fees for some high school courses (list on file). Jefferson Assistant Principal Kevin Groebner and Kennedy Assistant Principal Rod Wade were in attendance and responded to questions by members of the Board.

School Calendar
2011-2012

Chuck Walter moved, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund seconded, that the School Board of Independent School 271 approves the calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Calendar Planning Team developed the school calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. It follows the format of the current calendar. The calendar reflects the change from quarters to trimesters. Administrative Cabinet, Principals, and the Labor Management Committee reviewed the proposed calendar. Director Chuck Walter served on the Calendar Committee. Administration recommends approval of the calendar.

Extended Field Trip
Valley View Middle
School

Melissa Halvorson Wiklund moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Extended Field Trip Application for 8th grade Science students from Valley View Middle School to participate in a trip to YMCA Camp Widjiwagan in Ely, Minnesota. Motion carried unanimously.

Adam Haisman, teacher at Valley View Middle School, submitted the Extended Field Trip Application for 8th grade students to travel to Ely, Minnesota, from February 15-18, 2011. Students will be receiving instruction at the destination site for four (4) days; Board approval is needed for the trip, per Regulation 610. The purpose of the trip is to provide a wilderness experience, group building, and environmental education.

Annual Report
2009-2010

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Annual Report for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations, and Jaclyn Swords, Communications Specialist, presented the report to the School Board. Each fall, the District publishes a report that details the accomplishments of the District for the previous school year. State law mandates many of the items contained in the report. The 2009-10 Annual Report will be produced as an online publication for the third consecutive year. A link to the report will be provided on the Bloomington Public Schools' home page and each individual school home page.

Following the Board's approval, the public will receive specific and required notification of the report's availability through several different means including the Winter Edition of *School Pages*, which will be mailed in November to each home in Bloomington, fliers sent home with elementary school students, along with notification included in the secondary schools' online newsletters. English language learners will have access to a one-page translation in Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali. These will be posted online with the full English version and made available to the Office of Educational Equity.

The District Curriculum Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the curriculum content that appears in the publication. Copies of the report will be sent to the Minnesota Department of Education.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE

Arlene Bush reported on the Mayor's delegation to Bloomington's Sister City—Izumi City, Japan. Mrs. Bush was part of the delegation to Japan. Tim Culver reported on the AMSD Committee, which includes legislative activities being scheduled for January.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Administration recommends the addition of two study sessions. Chuck Walter moved, Mark Hibbs seconded, that the School Board establish a Study Session on November 15 at 6 p.m. and December 6 at 7 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

There is a regularly scheduled School Board Study Session on November 22 at 6 p.m.

The School Board will meet with its Youth Advisory Council on December 6 at 5:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Middle School in the Media Center.

Following the YAC meeting, there will be a Board Study Session, which will begin at 7 p.m. in Community Room 610/610A.

Kennedy High School has been selected to receive a \$400,000 in Microsoft software as part of Microsoft's campaign to award up to \$1 million dollars in software to organizations across the country in celebration of opening its newest Microsoft Store location at the Mall of America. Principal Andy Beaton along with students and staff from Kennedy High School formally accepted the grant at Microsoft Store's grand opening this past Saturday, November 6.

With the recent election, Bloomington will have changes to its legislative delegation. Congratulations to our two new legislators Senator Dan Hall and Representative Pat Mazorol who begin their terms in January 2011. We appreciate the work of our past legislators Senator John Doll and Representative Paul Rosenthal. Congratulations to Representatives Ann Lenczewski and Linda Slocum and Senators Geoff Michel and Ken Kelash on being re-elected.

- IX. OTHER None.
- X. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Chuck Walter, Clerk