

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

October 10, 2011

- 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 Chuck Walter at 7:00 p.m. on October 10, 2011, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Chuck Walter, Chair; Melissa Halvorson Wiklund, Vice Chair; Tim Culver, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Maureen Bartolotta, Mark Hibbs and Jim Sorum.
- 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 Maureen Bartolotta moved, Arlene Bush seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC Jefferson Theater will be presenting “The Little Mermaid” beginning this week. Laura Schmit, play director, presented members of the cast who performed a selection from the production.
- Lights on After School Melissa Halvorson Wiklund moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes the attached proclamation (on file) declaring the week of October 17, 2011, as “Lights On After School,” week, the 12th annual national celebration of after school programs. Motion carried unanimously.
- The proclamation was accepted by Russ Purdy, Coordinator of Youth and Family Programs at Hillcrest Community School. The “Lights On After School” celebration of after school programs promotes the critical importance of quality after school programs in the lives of youth, their families and their communities. Funds from the Bloomington Crime Prevention Association help fund this effort.
- 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.

Bloomington Sister City Organization

The Bloomington-Izumi Sister City relationship began in 1993. Numerous exchanges have helped our Sister Cities learn about government structures, industries, community Services, art groups, art and culture groups, fraternal organizations, schools, and colleges. Members of the community, businesses, government, service groups, athletes, and K-12 students participate in a variety of events. The Bloomington Sister City Organization (BSCO) promotes international understanding through exchanges of people, information, and ideas. Its goals are to establish friendships, build understanding, and develop economic relationships. Doug Langefels, President of BSCO, highlighted recent student/staff delegations to Izumi City as well as the Japanese Assistant Language Teacher program, which is a direct benefit to the Bloomington Public Schools. Jefferson student Alison Abrams highlighted the value of her trip to Izumi City. School Board Member Arlene Bush was part of the recent Mayor's Delegation to Japan.

NAESP
Congressional
Briefing

Washburn Elementary Principal Jon Millerhagen reported on his trip to Washington D.C. for a Pre-K Coalition Briefing on Capitol Hill, which took place on October 8, 2011. He shared how the District is integrating early childhood education into its K-3 system. During the briefing, a live feed was conducted from April Walker's Kinderprep classroom at Washburn.

Art Display

The new art display is provided by Oak Grove Middle School students. Art Specialists are Michelle Jurewicz-Gruenheid and Gabrielle Erickson.

Public

Judy Gruggen addressed the School Board with a concern that the Board does not mindfully appreciate the administrators, staff and parents who make the system work. She highlighted five examples of Bloomington being an above average school district and encouraged the School Board to move forward in a more collaborative and considerate manner.

Tom Kendall expressed appreciation for the Superintendent's support for the community of Bloomington citing his engaging style, financial acumen, vision for the school district and his leadership skills.

- V. PART A
1. *Board Business*
Minutes
Personnel Items
Non-Resident
Student Agreements
DCAC Membership

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on September 12, 2011.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Leaves of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status, Independent Personnel: Employments. Classified Personnel: Termination, Retirements, Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2011-2012: Students coming into Bloomington total 28 and students leaving Bloomington total 45.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 confirms the appointments of the District Curriculum Advisory Committee (DCAC) citizen members roster for the 2011-2012 school year as attached (list on file).

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

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

- Headway a. 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 July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.
- Work Based Learning Program b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a contract with the City of Bloomington to provide educational opportunities to support the Work Based Learning Program at Creekside Community Center through its Human Services division.
- Student Teaching Walden University c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Walden University. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.
- District 625 Consultant Services d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School 271 approves the Contract for Consultant Services between Independent School District 625/Saint Paul Public Schools and Independent School District 271. The Contract for Consultant Services begins on August 1, 2011 and ends July 31, 2012.
- Lifetime Fitness Parking e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the arrangement with LTF Real Estate Company, Inc. to utilize parking lot space at Poplar Bridge Elementary School beginning Tuesday, November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012.
- Skates 4 Schools f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves an agreement with Skates 4 Schools, LLC, to provide rental of inline skates and safety equipment for elementary students. The term of the contract is September 1, 2011 or whenever services commence, through June 30, 2013.
- Bloomington Ice Garden g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement between the City of Bloomington and Independent School District 271 for the use of the Bloomington Community Ice Garden for the 2011-2012 hockey season for Jefferson High School and Kennedy High School.

4. *Finance*

- Election Judges a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 confirms the appointment of election judges for the School Board Directors election on November 8, 2011.
- Gifts/Donations c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts gifts and donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount of \$26,958.58.
- Receipts/Disbursements d. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

Mark Hibbs moved, Arlene Bush 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
Superintendent
Contract
2012-2015

Jim Sorum moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a three-year contract effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015 with Les Fujitake as Superintendent of the Bloomington Public Schools under the terms and conditions agreed to and set forth in the Superintendent's Contract attached hereto. The School Board authorizes and directs the Chair and Clerk of the Board of Education to sign the new contract.

District Counsel reviewed changes from the current three-year contract. This is the third three-year contract for Les Fujitake as Superintendent of Schools. No significant changes have been made to the new three-year contract. District Counsel reworded Section 7.9 regarding Severance Pay to clarify that this contract begins with the Superintendent having 170 days of credit toward severance (rather than referring back to the 110 days that he began with in 2006) and it clarifies the calculations used to compute the severance pay, which takes the twelve-month salary and divides by 365 days to determine daily rate of pay. Salary has been set at \$180,000. It was the desire of the Superintendent that the salary remain the same for each year of the three-year contract. The \$180,000 reflects a \$4,000 increase from the current salary of \$176,000 for the 2011-2012 school year.

Directors Hibbs, Culver and Halvorson Wiklund shared reasons for not voting in support of the resolution. Concerns expressed—dialogue and debate that has taken place regarding the contract is about due process, timing of the decision, the contract does not need to be executed now, new School Board members coming on in January, the contract does not adequately protect the District, approval of a new three-year contract before success measures have been reviewed, lack of goals attached to the contract, need to do a better job of reviewing Superintendent performance based on the job description and agreed upon individual objectives.

Directors Walter, Bartolotta, Bush and Sorum shared reasons for supporting the motion citing: financial condition of the district despite challenges and demographic changes, being recognized as being leaders in early childhood education, developing collaborations with the City and County and other strategic partners, Superintendent Fujitake is recognized as a leader among his peers.

On roll call vote, Maureen Bartolotta, Arlene Bush, Jim Sorum and Chuck Walter voted aye. Tim Culver, Melissa Halvorson Wiklund and Mark Hibbs voted nay. Motion carried 4-3.

Superintendent Fujitake addressed the Board pledging to continue to work together towards the mission and goals of the District's Strategic Plan. He apologized to the citizens if they have felt cause for concern during these proceedings. He emphasized the core values and strategic directions of the Strategic Plan and highlighted the good work going on in the District.

MSHSL Foundation
Funds

Mark Hibbs moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the request for funds from the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Foundation to be used to pay athletic fees for student athletes who qualify. Motion carried unanimously.

The state Legislature has allowed sales tax money from Section and State tournaments to be returned to the MSHSL to establish a foundation to support athletic programming in area schools. The league has instructed area schools to provide a copy of a School Board resolution requesting funds from the foundation for various uses, including supplemental funding for athletes who qualify for free and reduced lunches and, thus, have their athletic fees waived.

Cooperative
Sponsorship
Alpine & Nordic Ski

Tim Culver moved, Arlene Bush seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a cooperative sponsorship for the Jefferson/Kennedy Boys Alpine Ski, Jefferson/Kennedy Girls Alpine Ski, Jefferson/Kennedy Boys Nordic Ski and Jefferson/Kennedy Girls Nordic Ski programs effective with the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Jefferson Activities Director Brian Fell presented information regarding the cooperative sponsorship agreement. Under this agreement, the two teams for Boys Alpine Ski would combine to form one team. The same would be true for Girls Alpine Ski, Boys Nordic Ski, and Girls Nordic Ski. Under MSHSL bylaws, this cooperative agreement would be for the regular season only. Once the team goes on to the section and state meets, the teams would have to compete as two separate teams, one for each school. The teams would be combined as one for the regular season but split into two teams for the section and state meets. The cooperative agreement is requested due to low participation numbers. The change will allow the students involved in the program to feel more a part of a team. In Boys Alpine Ski, there are currently two students from Kennedy out for the program (only one student was out last year). This will allow those two students to be part of a full team during the regular season. There will be no change in the financial cost to the district. The number of coaches paid by the district will not change and other costs will remain the same. All schools in the South Suburban Conference approved the request. This cooperative sponsorship is allowed through the bylaws of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). The four cooperative sponsorship applications will be submitted to the MSHSL for approval at the November 2011 Board of Directors meeting. Approval of the agreement must be granted prior to the start of the ski season, which is November 14, 2011.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Arlene Bush attended District 917 and MLA Board meetings. Tim Culver reported on upcoming AMSD and MSBA legislative activities as the 2012 legislative session is approaching. Maureen Bartolotta reported on PTSA Council activities, including the School Board candidate forum scheduled for October 18, as well as the forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters (LWV) scheduled for October 11. The LWV forum will cover both City and School Board candidates. Ms. Bartolotta indicated that Bloomington United for Youth, housed at Creekside Center, is in need of volunteers.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Administration requests a Board Study Session on October 17 at 6 p.m. for the following topics: financial planning update that includes enrollment analysis and updated projections, and facilities plan process proposal. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Jim Sorum seconded to establish a Board Study Session on October 17 at 6 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration requests a Closed Session to be held upon conclusion of the October 17 Study Session. The purpose of the Closed Session is negotiations discussion. Maureen Bartolotta moved, Jim Sorum seconded to establish the Closed Session. Motion carried unanimously.

There is a regularly scheduled (4th Monday of the month) Study Session on October 24 at 6 p.m. Preliminary agenda planning includes the Enrollment Report and a Financial Projections update.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Maureen Bartolotta moved, Jim Sorum seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Tim Culver, Clerk