

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

May 29, 2012

SCHOOL SERVICE
AWARDS
(6:30 p.m.)

Staff members who have retired or left the School District this past year, or plan to do so this spring/summer, were recognized for their ten or more years of service to the Bloomington Public Schools. Staff members who have been employed by the District for ten to fourteen years were presented with a certificate for meritorious service. Staff members who have been employed fifteen years or more were presented with a school bell in recognition of their service to the Bloomington Public Schools. Prior to the awards presentation, the School Board hosted a reception in their honor.

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 Melissa Halvorson Wiklund at 8:00 p.m. on May 29, 2012, in the Community Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Members Present

Melissa Halvorson Wiklund, Chair; Mark Hibbs, Vice Chair; Tim Culver, Clerk; Arlene Bush, Treasurer; Maureen Bartolotta, Dick Bergstrom and Nelly Korman.

Administration Present

Les Fujitake, Nancy Allen-Mastro, Rod Zivkovich, 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

Tim Culver moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

District Food Drive

Maureen Bartolotta is the Board's liaison to the PTSA Council. This is the third year that the Youth Advisory Council to the School Board and the Bloomington PTSA Council have worked together to ensure that no child in our community goes hungry during the summer. The Board is very proud to work with the students on the Advisory Council, who in turn return to their respective schools and work with their student councils and their PTSAs to gather food for the drive. Linda Batterson, PTSA Council President, highlighted the results of the food drive reporting that the 2012 collection surpassed the last two years by generating 7,221 pounds of food and \$5,243 in cash donations. For each dollar donated, VEAP can purchase up to five pounds of food. The cash donations equal 26,217 pounds of food to stock the VEAP shelves.

The total of 33,438 pounds (food plus cash donations converted) for 2012 tops 2011, which totaled 29,291 pounds. Through the We Believe Alliance, this year's district-wide food drive established a new world record. The traveling trophy was passed from Oak Grove Middle School to Jefferson High School. Jefferson's food and cash donations totaled 11,475 pounds of food. Steven Handt and Ellen Berkowitz highlighted Jefferson's "Hunger Games" strategy for the food drive. Patty Schulz, Advancement Director for VEAP, along with VEAP Board Member Debbie Belfry, expressed VEAP's appreciation for the District's efforts in helping to keep VEAP shelves stocked. This will be especially helpful for the summer when school is not in session and children are not receiving free and reduced priced meals.

MESPA Award

The Minnesota Elementary School Principals Association (MESPA) has selected Washburn Principal Jon Millerhagen as Minnesota's 2012 National Distinguished Principal Award. The award honors his exemplary work in leading a team of dedicated professionals to close the achievement gap, among other accomplishments.

Assistant
Superintendent

Dr. Nancy Allen-Mastro, Assistant Superintendent, is leaving the the District to be the Superintendent of District 197. Superintendent Les Fujitake expressed appreciation for her leadership and as a valued team member of the Bloomington Public Schools for the past four years.

Students were invited for recognition tonight but could not attend due to so many spring activities.

KHS French
Students

In March, 97,353 contestants from all 50 states, took the 60 minute exam called *Le Grand Concours*, which tests a student's listening, writing and reading skills in French. Eleven Kennedy students scored in the top 10% nationally. In addition to scoring really high on a national level, three students also achieved the very top score among their peers at the State level: Victoria Udeh and Andrew Schmitz were ranked number one, and Benjamin Starfeldt was ranked number two in Minnesota. The other eighteen Kennedy students who competed in *Le Grand Concours*, scored in the top one-third nationally.

Twenty-six Kennedy French students participated in *A Vous la Parole*, the Minnesota State French Speaking Contest, at the University of Minnesota on April 25th. This year's contest drew 1300 entries, a record number, among students in grades 7-12. The students gave dramatic recitations of French poems, songs, and theatrical pieces. Awards were given based on their pronunciation, expression, intonation and poise. Fifteen students received a blue ribbon (excellent), the highest award possible, while eleven students received the second highest award possible, a red ribbon (very good).

Jefferson JIVE

The Jefferson JIVE show choir and band qualified for national finals competition by winning the Grand Championship in Orlando earlier this year. The JIVE show choir went on to perform in the FAME National Show Choir Championships in Chicago where they placed 6th. JIVE is under the direction of Jane Samsal and Brett Benson.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on May 14.

Personnel Items

b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations. Classified Personnel: Termination, Resignations, Employment, Changes of Status.

Non-Resident Student Agreements

c. Non-Resident Student Attendance Agreements 2011-2012: Students entering Bloomington total 7 and students leaving total 14. For 2012-2013: students entering Bloomington total 5 and students leaving total 2.

2. *Grants*

United Way Reading by Third Grade

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a grant from the Greater Twin Cities United Way in the amount of \$100,000 per year for three years to support Reading by Third Grade.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

Volunteers of America RSVP

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent of Independent School District 271 approves the Memorandum of Understanding between Volunteers of America Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and Independent School District 271, Volunteer Connection, E-12 Programs effective May 2012 through May 2015.

Headway Mental Health Services

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent 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 July 1, 2012, through August 15, 2012.

Headway District 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 July 1, 2012, through August 15, 2012.

HTC Classrooms

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the renewal of three 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 June 4, 2012, through July 18, 2012.

Food Catering Nativity School

e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the continuation of providing catering services to Nativity of Mary School for the 2012-13 school year and approves the agreement with Nativity of Mary School to accomplish this work.

4. *Finance*

Gifts and Donations

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts gifts and donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount of \$42,377.00.

Finance Reports

b. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for the month ended March 31, 2012.

Receipts &

Disbursements

c. Receipts and Disbursements as submitted.

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.

VI. PART B

MMR and
Valley View
Elementary School
Update

Dr. Jim Angermeyr, Director of Research Evaluation and Assessment, updated the School Board on the Multiple Measurement Rating or MMR—the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) new school rating. The MMR is part of the state’s approved waiver plan that replaces the Adequate Yearly Progress rankings under the federal No Child Left Behind law. MDE’s request for a waiver from the NCLB mandate was approved earlier this year. Under Minnesota’s new plan, schools will continue to be judged on the proficiency of their students in math and reading, but will also have to show academic growth in individual students, a shrinking achievement gap and a strong high school graduation rate. The goal of the new accountability focus is to cut the achievement gap in half within six years. Rather than simply designating all schools as either “failing” or “not failing,” MDE will assign a new rating for every school in the state, but only Title I schools will be identified as a Reward, Focus or Priority schools, or no “label” designation depending on its student achievement.

The designations, based upon the MMR are: *Reward Schools*--15 percent of highest performing Title I schools (127). *Focus Schools*--10 percent of Title I schools (85) showing the largest achievement gaps in the state for one or more groups of students. *Priority Schools*--5 percent of the most persistently low-performing Title I schools (42). A majority of the state’s 851 Title I schools (the “other 70 percent”) will not be identified by a specific category, at least not initially. Schools designated as *Priority* and *Focus* schools will receive assistance from MDE and educational experts on their school improvement plans.

Valley View Elementary School is identified as a *Focus* school. The three other elementary Title I schools – Indian Mounds, Oak Grove and Washburn – fall within the majority of the state’s Title I schools that will not receive an initial designation.

Principal Andy Kubas updated the School Board on the Valley View Elementary (VVE) "Roadmap to Greatness" by showing where they were and where they are headed. In fall 2010, behavior referrals were at an all time high, staff morale was low, test scores and AYP sanctions were falling at an increasing level, VVE was in its fifth year of not making AYP and headed to level 6 of AYP. Over the last two years, behavioral referrals are down 45%, MCA Reading scores are up 7% over last year (2012 data not yet available), MCA Math scores are up 3% for 2012, systems and structures are in place to respond to issues—not react, MMR data is increasing at a strong pace. VVE moving forward will focus on all kids reading by third grade, responding to ESL needs, becoming a bigger force in the community, changing the culture for all stakeholders, ensuring a viable curriculum, accounting for all students so they can be successful and providing a pre-school presence.

Beth Anderson, Director of Teaching and Learning for Elementary, indicated that a leadership team will follow the state template and develop a three-year comprehensive improvement plan for VVE to be approved by the School Board in August. Plans are due to the MDE by September 1.

Bid Award
Food Products
and Supplies

Maureen Bartolotta moved, Tim Culver seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Upper Lakes Foods, Inc., Cloquet, Minnesota bid to provide food products and supplies to the District for the period of July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014, and approves the contract with Upper Lakes Foods, Inc. to facilitate these purchases. Motion carried unanimously.

This was a joint bid for the combined requirements of both Richfield and Bloomington Public Schools. The 218 products included in this bid represent the majority of the items used by the each school District's Food Service departments excluding produce, USDA commodities and dairy products. Bids were sent to seven companies specializing in this service. The bid from Upper Lakes Foods was the lowest of the four bids received. Each school district will enter into a separate contract with Upper Lakes Foods. This bid is for a two-year period renewable for an additional two years. Product bid prices are firm for the initial six-month period and increases for subsequent six-month periods are capped by Consumer Price Index language in the bid specifications. Based on Bloomington's estimated product usage of \$615,888 for the six-month period of July 1, 2012, to December 31, 2012, this bid award will result in an estimated six-month savings of \$22,075 when compared to our current prices for the same products.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Arlene Bush reported on the Board meeting of the Metropolitan Learning Alliance (MLA). Graduation for MLA students is next week.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake indicated that Administration requests a closed session on Monday, June 11, at 6 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations discussion. So moved by Arlene Bush, seconded by Maureen Bartolotta. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration requests a study session on Monday, June 18, at 7 p.m. So moved by Maureen Bartolotta, seconded by Dick Bergstrom. Motion carried unanimously. Study Session topics include: Demographer's Report, Budget Review 2012-2013 for Community Services and the General Fund, Early Childhood Valley View Elementary Proposal, Six-Period Day Update and Monthly Board Development.

Graduation this year is Thursday, June 7, for both high schools at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Jefferson graduation is at 5 p.m. and Kennedy graduation is at 8 p.m.

IX. OTHER

Dick Bergstrom thanked all volunteers for their service to the Bloomington Public Schools.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Tim Culver moved, Maureen Bartolotta seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Tim Culver, Clerk