

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

December 12, 2016

- I. ROLL CALL Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the School Board of Independent School District 271, was called to order by Chair Maureen Bartolotta at 7:03 p.m. on December 12, 2016, in the Arlene Bush Board Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Members Present Maureen Bartolotta, Chair; Dawn Steigauf, Vice Chair; Nelly Korman, Clerk; Jim Sorum, Treasurer; Tom Bennett, Dick Bergstrom and Ric Oliva. Student Representatives: Allie Andersen and Ethan Skophammer.
- Administration Present Les Fujitake, Eric Melbye, Rod Zivkovich, Mary Burroughs, Rick Kaufman, and Tamra Sieve.
- Attorney Present David Holman.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Dick Bergstrom moved, Ric Oliva seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF/PUBLIC Angela Bryant addressed the School Board regarding continued concerns for student safety and issues needing to be addressed by the District. She indicated that students are not willing to share incidents with Administration; they are not confident in sharing as incidents are being considered as rumors. Ms. Bryant stated that there is a cultural issue going on and encouraged the District to change the culture at the schools.
- V. PART A
1. *Board Business*
Minutes
- Personnel Items
- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Board on November 28, 2016.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Leave of Absence, Change of Status.
Independent Personnel: Resignation, Employment, Change of Status.
Classified Personnel: Retirements, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.
2. *Field Trip Approval* RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the field trip per the attached list (on file).
3. *Grants*
LCTS Grants
From HSSC
- Bloomington Community Foundation
- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts grants totaling \$148,000 from the Hennepin South Services Collaborative (HSSC) to fund three school district programs during the 2017 calendar year.
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a \$10,000 grant to fund the summer program offered by the Early Childhood Family Center.

Tom Bennett moved, Dawn Steigauf 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
Audit Report
2015-2016

Dick Bergstrom moved, Jim Sorum seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Auditor's Reports from BerganKDV, Ltd, which includes Audited Financial Statements, Audited Financial Statements of the Student Activity Accounts and accompanying Communication Letters for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

BerganKDV, Ltd. has completed a general financial audit for 2015-2016 conforming to State and Federal guidelines. Matt Mayer of BerganKDV presented highlights of the independent audit report indicating an unmodified, clean opinion, which is the best opinion that can be provided. This means that the District's financial statements are fairly presented and materially accurate giving a true picture of the District's finances; an unmodified opinion on single audit performed in accordance with OMB Circular A-133—Title II and Child Nutrition; and Minnesota Legal Compliance-no findings.

Mr. Mayer's presentation to the School Board included general fund budget and actuals, average daily membership and pupil units, general fund sources of revenue and expenditures stating approximately 69% of the general fund budget is expended for instruction. He also highlighted the general fund operation and the financial position, unrestricted fund balance as a percentage of unrestricted expenditures, long-term debt, tax levies, tax capacity rate, referendum tax rate and referendum market value, the food service fund and the community service fund.

Committed Funds

Tom Bennett moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves committed funds in the areas specified as follows:

Committed Funds:

1. \$413,100 for Third Party Medical Assistance
2. \$90,965 for Wellness Dollars
3. \$98,025 for Band Uniform and Instrument Replacement
4. \$1,323,054 for Operating Referendum
5. \$1,000,000 for Transportation Building
6. \$870,188 for Transportation Bus Purchase
7. \$3,761,142 for Transportation
8. \$170,945 for Athletics and Activities
9. \$185,150 for Staff Development
10. \$746,189 for Site Department Carry Over Funds

Motion carried unanimously.

The categories for committed funds were approved in June. In that the 2015-2016 audit has been completed, dollar amounts are now committed for each category.

Property Tax
Levy Certification
Final 2016
Payable 2017

Dick Bergstrom moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board Independent School District 271 approves the proposed final property tax levy for the 2016 payable 2017 levy of \$51,545,251. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event of any changes to levy amounts by the Minnesota Department of Education, it is the intent of the School Board of Independent School District 271 to levy the appropriate amount as allowed by law.

Rod Zivkovich, Executive Director of Finance and Support Services, reviewed the levy process and timeline. He then provided an overview of the 2016-2017 adopted budget including revenues by source and expenditures by program for all funds.

PROPOSED 2016 PAYABLE 2017 LEVIES

Referendum	\$13,997,531
Referendum Other	9,674,197
Other	16,388,209
Community Services	1,760,192
Debt Services	9,725,122
Proposed Certified Levy	<u>\$51,545,251</u>

The Proposed 2016 Pay 2017 levy represents a \$1,290,160 increase from our 2015 Pay 2016 levy.

Board Chair Maureen Bartolotta called for public comment for Truth in Taxation for the proposed levy. No one addressed the School Board. Public comment was declared closed by the Board Chair.

Motion carried unanimously.

Tonight's School Board action completes the levy process, which included:

- Submission of levy data and calculations of formulas that produced the preliminary levy certification document in September 2016.
- Mailing by the county auditor of Truth-in-Taxation statements in November 2016.
- Presentation of Fiscal 2016-2017 Budget and Proposed 2016 Payable 2017 Levy.

Guiding Change
Document RSB
2017-2018

Dawn Steigauf moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Guiding Change Document for Right Sizing the Budget 2017-2018. Motion carried unanimously.

The School Board reaffirmed the Guiding Change Document for the process of Right Sizing the Budget 2017-2018 at the School Board meeting on September 26, 2016. The document outlines why right sizing the budget is needed, results expected from the process, and a list of unacceptable means to accomplish right sizing of the budget.

The School Board reaffirmed the six areas that are unacceptable means as Administration works to put forth a recommendation to the School Board to Right Size the Budget: We will not ...

- Violate the law, agreements or policies
- Increase safety risks
- Close school(s)
- Sell District property (assets)
- Consolidate two high schools into one
- Put in jeopardy any targeted state, federal funding for mandated programs (i.e. SpEd, Integration, etc.).

School Board members discussed removing items from the *Unacceptable* Category (close schools, sell district property/assets, consolidate the two high schools) and possibly adding an item (freezing salaries for next round of negotiations) and a change in the *Why* category (changing “declining” enrollment to “uncertain” or “flat”). It was concluded that with for RSB 2017-2018 no changes would be made to the document presented and that discussion for longer term considerations would be a topic at the February Board retreat.

Explore Options
for Current
Operating
Referendum

Jim Sorum moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 directs Administration to explore options with respect to our District’s current operating referendum. Motion carried unanimously.

This resolution allows Administration to explore options for the operating referendum that will expire at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. This will assist Administration in making a recommendation to the School Board with an amount, and when an election could be held. The School Board will make the final determination of the referendum amount and when to seek voter approval.

Graduation Fees 2017

Tom Bennett moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the graduation fee of \$60.00 per student for Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools for the 2017-18 school year.

Tom Bennett moved, Dick Bergstrom seconded, to amend the motion to reflect the 2016-2017 school year. Motion to amend carried unanimously.

Chair Bartolotta called for the vote on the motion as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

District administration, in consultation with high school administration, recommends no increase to the graduation fee for students who will graduate in June 2017. The fee remains at \$60.00 per student. Per MN Statute 123B.37, graduation fees are not charged for graduation caps, gowns and diplomas.

To save costs, the District will look at stacking graduation ceremonies for the 2017-2018 school year.

Community Services
Fee Changes ELA

Nelly Korman moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the proposed fee changes for Early Learners Academy. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration is proposing changing fees for Early Learners Academy (ELA). The proposed fees are competitive with other local school district programs. The last fee change for ELA was effective with the 2015-2016 school year. The proposed rates will be effective for the 2017-2018 school year. Rate change increases range from \$5-7 dollars, depending on the program. The registration fee remained the same.

Metro South ABE
Consortium Agreement

Jim Sorum moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Joint Powers Agreement for the Metro South Adult Basic Education Consortium between Independent School District 271 Bloomington, Independent School District 272 Eden Prairie, Independent School District 273 Edina and Independent School District 280 Richfield. The term of this agreement is from the date of authorization of each respective member's School Board to June 30, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

It is the intent of each school district to renew the joint powers agreement, which has been in effect since September 2000. The consortium jointly cooperates to provide adult education and literacy education to its residents 16 years of age and older who are not currently enrolled in public school. Annual renewal now is required. The new process effective this year calls for a "re-compete" funding application to be submitted.

Richfield Public Schools
Partnership Dissolution

Dick Bergstrom moved, Nelly Korman seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the notification from Richfield Public Schools Superintendent Steve Unowsky that the School Board of Richfield Public Schools has taken action to dissolve the partnership with Bloomington Public Schools effective July 1, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

On December 5, the Richfield School Board took action to dissolve the partnership between our two districts. Superintendent Unowsky notified Superintendent Fujitake of this action via email on December 5. Richfield Public Schools and Bloomington Public Schools have partnered to share community education and early childhood programs for more than 14 years. While the partnership has been effective, the changing needs of the Richfield community and the expansion of its early childhood programs with help from the state's voluntary pre-K funding has led the Richfield School Board to approve a plan to dissolve the partnership. Richfield Public Schools has initiated action to start their own independent community education program effective July 1, 2017. This does not affect the collaborations we have with Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield for our Adult Basic Education and Adults with Disabilities programs. Bloomington Community Education programs will experience some structure changes as planning for the 2017-2018 school year continues.

Bloomington Advocacy Council New Members

Dawn Steigauf moved, Nelly Korman seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Jon Anderson and Addie Mattson as members of the Bloomington Advocacy Council (BAC) for the 2016-2017 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Legislative Committee of the School Board developed a plan for the formation of a Bloomington Advocacy Council (BAC). The role of the BAC would be to develop and execute a legislative plan of action and serve as advisory/consultant to the School Board on legislative matters.

The School Board's Legislative Committee identified BAC members for the 2016-2017 school year, which were approved at the November 28th School Board meeting. The following new members are being added to the membership list. Jon Anderson will be the third member (out of four) of the *Residents without Early Childhood/School Age Children* category. The addition of Addie Mattson fills the *Retired Staff/Board Member* category.

School Board Student Representative Reports

Allie Andersen highlighted a variety of activities going on at Jefferson: food drive, Sadie Hawkins, concerts, Town Hall meeting, Show Choir spaghetti dinner, winter sports and the Media Center project.

Ethan Skophammer reported on Kennedy activities: new trimester, Show Choir performances, winter sports, student government activities—movie night and Sadie Hawkins, Blood Center at school and FAFSA meetings.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

School Board members reported on various meetings and activities. Dick Bergstrom expressed appreciation to the district and board colleagues for a successful 2016. Jim Sorum highlighted the many school activities going on during the holiday season and attended meetings of the PTSA Council and Special Education Community Advisory Council, and the Realtor Forum. The clerical unit reached a tentative agreement. The Omar Bonderud Award recipient this year is Normandale Community College. Dawn Steigauf attended the DDAC Committee meeting, the Olson Elementary White Tiger Rally—students from the SUN program attended as well. Ric Oliva highlighted the Olson Middle School Band concert and thanked Mr. Gauper and all teachers making the music programs as success. Maureen Bartolotta highlighted Valley View Middle School's 8th grade Nobel program and the Empty Bowl event that benefitted "Good in the Hood."

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake asked for a motion to establish a professional development session of the School Board on Monday, January 9, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 601. The topic is equity briefings. So moved by Dick Bergstrom and seconded by Jim Sorum. Motion carried unanimously.

Winter break for students and teachers is December 19 through January 2, with school resuming on Tuesday, January 3. On behalf of the School Board and Administration, we wish the entire school community a happy and safe holiday.

At the end of January, Bloomington elementary schools will begin hosting Kindergarten registration events for families of incoming Kindergartners for the 2017-2018 school year. Check with your attendance area school for the specific date and time.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Nelly Korman, Clerk