

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

**September 14, 2020**

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE  
EXECUTIVE ORDERS ISSUED BY GOVERNOR TIM WALZ  
THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA GOOGLE  
HANGOUTS MEET AND LIVE STREAMED ON BEC-TV  
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- I. ROLL CALL
- Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the virtual School Board meeting of Independent School District 271 was called to order by Chair Nelly Korman at 7:00 p.m. on September 14, 2020.
- Chair Korman announced that there is no public recognition tonight during this Hangouts Meeting. However, in the interest of open communications, on Monday, September 28, our next regularly scheduled School Board meeting, we will initiate a new process to provide an opportunity for Bloomington residents to address the School Board. Next week, the District will provide information and a link for residents, district staff, students and parents to submit a comment to the School Board. Submitted comments may be read during the Recognition of the Public portion of our regular meetings only (study sessions are excluded). Look for more information next week on the District web page and through our other communication channels.
- Members Present on Roll Call: Nelly Korman, Chair; Tom Bennett, Vice Chair; Dawn Steigauf, Clerk; Beth Beebe, Treasurer; Mia Olson, Jim Sorum and Heather Starks.
- Attorney Present: David Holman.
- Administration Present: Les Fujitake, Jenna Mitchler, Mary Burroughs, Dave Heistad, Rick Kaufman, Andy Kubas, Jennifer McIntyre, Jake Winchell, and Rod Zivkovich.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- Beth Beebe moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.
- III. PART A
1. *Board Business*
- Minutes
- Personnel Actions
- a. Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting on August 17, 2020.  
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting on August 24, 2020.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Rescission of Resignation, Employments, Changes of Status.  
Classified Personnel: Retirements, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status, Transportation Changes of Status for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Hour Averaging.
2. *Grants*
- EFB Innovation Grants 2020-2021
- RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts \$7,084.75 in grants from the Education Foundation of Bloomington to be used for selected educational projects.

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

- Headway Mental Health Services 2020-2021      a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the contract with Headway Emotional Health Services to provide family community support and mental health services to students enrolled in special education identified as seriously emotionally disturbed and their families as defined in MS 245.4871, subdivision 6. This contract is for the period of August 24, 2020 through June 11 , 2021.
- Headway Facilities & Ancillary Services 2020-2021      b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the contract with Headway Emotional Health Services to provide facilities, ancillary support and collaborative services to Bloomington Public Schools. This contract is for the period of August 24, 2020 through June 11, 2021.
- Fraser Child and Family Center 2020-2021      c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Collaboration Agreement with Fraser Child and Family Center to provide autism day treatment/mental health services to enrolled students in the early childhood special education program identified needing supports in the areas of autism. This Collaboration Agreement is for the period of September 1, 2020 through June 4, 2021.
- Literacy Minnesota ABE Technology Services 2020-2021      d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the renewal of the Literacy Minnesota Adult Basic Education Technology Services Agreement with Literacy Minnesota. This agreement will allow Metro South Adult Basic Education access to SID software and companion files that meet current Minnesota and National Reporting System guidelines as of May 1, 2020. The fee for these services is \$19,747.00. The term of this agreement is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
- Student Teaching/ Hamline University      e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Hamline University. The agreement will be in effect from August 15, 2020 to June 30, 2023.
- Student Teaching/ UW River Falls      f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with The University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023.
- Instructiv, GBC/ SEIS Project      g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Letter of Intent for the purpose of Special Education Software Development and Marketing with Instructiv, GBC and authorizes the Superintendent to sign on behalf of the District.
- HTC/PSEO/BCCA Amendment 1      h. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Amendment No. 1 to the PSEO income contract with the State of Minnesota acting through its Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on behalf of Hennepin Technical College to provide PSEO instruction at the Bloomington Career and College Academy effective August 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

4. *Finance*

Tuition Rates 2020-2021      RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes non-resident tuition rates to be charged for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Kindergarten – Grade 6	per student	\$15,641
Grades 7 – 12	per student	\$18,769

Nelly Korman moved, Tom Bennett seconded, to approve Part A items in accordance with all of the written material submitted to the School Board. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

IV. PART B  
Policy Review

The Board Policy Committee (Tom Bennett, Chair, Jim Sorum, Heather Starks) met on August 31, 2020 to consider a policy recommended for revision by Administration.

202.1 School  
Board Student  
Representatives

Mia Olson moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves revised Policy 202.1, School Board Student Representatives. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The School Board values and recognizes the importance of the voice of students in the governing of the District and encourages student engagement as leaders in our school community. The purpose of Policy 202.1, School Board Student Representatives, is to establish the role of School Board student representatives. A student from each high school is an advisory, non-voting representative on the School Board. The revised policy provides clarity for their role and the process for being part of the School Board. Their role is not the same as School Board members in that students do not participate in closed sessions or participate in negotiations. The revised policy was approved by the Board Policy Committee at its meeting August 31, 2020. There is no accompanying regulation.

MDE IOwA  
EDIAM  
Authorization

Tom Bennett moved, Heather Starks seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 designates Superintendent Les Fujitake as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) for the Education Identity Access Management (EDIAM) system with authority to assign job duties and authorize user access for MDE secure systems for Independent School District 271—Bloomington Public Schools. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requires that school districts annually designate an Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) to comply with State Access Control Security Standard 1.0, which states that all user access rights to Minnesota state systems must be reviewed and recertified at least annually. The Identified Official with Authority will assign job duties and authorize external users access to MDE secure systems for its local education agency (LEA). This School Board action will be forwarded to the Minnesota Department of Education as a matter of record.

Return to Learn  
Monitoring Update

Superintendent Les Fujitake indicated that at the August 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, he reported to the School Board that administration would monitor and study COVID health conditions, changes to federal and state guidelines, and how other districts were implementing the hybrid instructional model. Recall that the Governor directed school districts to develop three instructional delivery models—traditional, distance learning and hybrid. The monitoring and studying were to gather information to help determine when and how our district can move between the models. Findings are being presented tonight. Administration also will provide information on the proposed process for developing a recommendation for the School Board for changing the instructional delivery model.

Hannah Hatch, Supervisor of Health Services, provided statistics on the current COVID numbers. The last 14-day period (August 18-31) for reporting the number of cases per 10,000 in Hennepin County put us at 23. Per the Governor's order In the Minnesota State Learning Plan, it puts the district in the Hybrid learning model. However, school districts can implement a more restrictive model. Bloomington Public Health (BPH) looks at cases daily with the current rate being 13.4. Numbers appear to be trending downward per BPH; however, we are cautioned that our base numbers have not been determined. Ms. Hatch reported that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has released several documents including a decision tree indicating when students/staff need to be sent home and for how long. MDH also has produced training videos for staff and students addressing hand washing hygiene and wearing of masks. The vides are available to our staff.

Dr. Jenna Mitchler, Assistant Superintendent, shared the process for transitioning should a Hybrid model be a viable learning model option. Dr. Mitchler shared information on the Model Movement Planning Timeline. Staffing remains a challenge for all school districts. We are learning from other district's learning plans. Key points—there are many models for Hybrid instruction. There are a variety of accommodations for staff. We have been focused on Distance Learning. Throughout this planning, we will continue to engage staff, gather parent input and consult with local public health agencies.

Learning model movement plan timeline:

- Sept. 1-28: Collect data, including COVID-19 case rates, staffing availability based on accommodations, how other districts are managing hybrid learning, and reassessing family preferences for in-person or distance learning.
- Sept. 14: Reported timeline and process to the School Board.
- Sept. 14-28: Analyze collected data and determine readiness to shift learning models.
- Sept. 28: Present findings and recommendation to the School Board.

Depending on our findings and recommendations to the School Board, the next steps to move to a Hybrid learning model would be staff and operational preparations, including bus routing, class schedules, and seeking parent preferences. Principals Andrew Wilkins, Megan Willrett, Akram Osman and Jaysen Anderson reported on how Distance Learning 2.0 with Supports is going thus far. In addition to the presenters, many principals, administrators and staff members responded during Board member discussion.

Some questions/comments/concerns related to the following: consideration to bring back our youngest learners first—maybe K-3 students, phasing in the in-person instruction for students by grade levels, guidance from the state should a COVID case present in a classroom by a student or staff member—elements of the MDH decision tree should a case occur, how many students have left the school district, will students be kept with current teacher/class with a change in model.

The COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and Return to Learn documents are on the District website. District employees are expected to be knowledgeable about the components of the Preparedness Plan.

A question was posed regarding food services available to students and families during distance learning days. The Superintendent shared that Grab and Go meals are available for pick up on Mondays and Thursdays from 11 am to 1 pm at four school sites—Jefferson High School, Kennedy High School, Normandale Hills Elementary and Valley View Middle School.

Paraprofessional  
Negotiations Update

Mary Burroughs, Executive Director of Human Resources, updated the School Board on the status of negotiations with the Paraprofessional employee unit. She reported that district and unit negotiations teams met three times in mediation. The last mediation session took place on June 22, 2020. At the end of that session, the district team presented its last/best/final offer that included increases to pay and benefits. No other sessions are scheduled.

V. BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS

School Board members reported on various meetings and school activities they attended. Beth Beebe, Mia Olson and Heather Starks met with the new student representatives to the School Board—Tristan Phay and Juma Waganda. Mia Olson attended a virtual screening entitled *Push Out* at which a panel from Teach for America Twin Cities and Girls on the Run discussed disparities concerning black girls and their feeling of being pushed out of education. Girls on the Run is an empowerment program that focuses on the development of self-respect and healthy lifestyles.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake reaffirmed to the public and parents the District's commitment to bring students back to school.

The Superintendent invited Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations, to report on the recent COVID-19 testing event. Mr. Kaufman shared that the District was a co-partner in hosting a COVID-19 testing site on September 1 from 11 am to 7 pm at Kennedy High School in the parking lot. Partners included the City Bloomington Public Health (BPH), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Parents in Community Action (PICA)/Head Start. Leading our partners was Josh Syrjamaki of the State Emergency Operations Center and head of statewide COVID-19 testing. He also is a parent in the District. The goal was to test 1200 people with a large number of tests set aside for our BIPOC community in Bloomington, Richfield and Edina; communities served by BPH. A total of 1,195 tests were administered of which 596 were to Bloomington residents. This community-wide testing event was the largest community testing event in the state. There were 29 positive tests results for Bloomington, which is lower than other communities. Mr. Kaufman shared that we especially appreciated the work of our Office of Educational Equity staff who helped plan the event along with Jackie Johns, Tim Rybak and others, and for their efforts to reach out to our community with an invitation to participate.

VII. OTHER

Chair Nelly Korman repeated information regarding the new process for Recognition of the Public beginning September 28, 2020. Information to be posted on the District website next week and shared through other communication channels.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Tom Bennett moved, Beth Beebe seconded, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Dawn Steigauf, Clerk