

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

November 23, 2020

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
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 November 23, 2020.
- 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, Rick Kaufman, Andy Kubas, Jake Winchell, and Rod Zivkovich.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Nelly Korman moved, Tom Bennett seconded, to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC Reports were given by Student Representatives to the School Board. Tristan Phay reported on Kennedy High School activities. Last week was spirit week (virtual), fall sports ended, student government hosted a clothing drive and wrote thank you postcards to teachers, a discussion forum is starting featuring guest speakers on various topics and lunch table Fridays has started which gives students an opportunity to talk and interact with each other for fun. It is the end of the trimester and finals are taking place. Tristan encouraged everyone to mask up, social distance, wash your hands and be thankful for the little things.
- Juma Waganda reported on Jefferson High School activities. Fall sports are over and hopefully winter sports will have a season with the new executive orders in place. National Honor Society partnered with the ACLU on a service project, spirit week (virtual) was held in late October as was the homecoming ceremony—Carter Hansen named king and Juma Waganda named queen. For the health of the student body, especially mental health, motivation is difficult. Juma encouraged students to work hard and do your best, especially because of finals. She gave a shout out to principal Dr. Anderson and the staff for continuing to work very hard for the students.
- Public Chair Nelly Korman reviewed the procedure for Bloomington residents, district staff, students and parents to submit a comment to the School Board as virtual meetings are conducted. The information can be found on the District's website on the School Board page along with the link to the form for submitting comments.

For tonight's meeting, the School Board received seven (7) comments regarding winter sports and activities; which will be addressed as part of tonight's presentation on Pausing Winter Sports, and one (1) comment regarding the Early Learners Academy schedule, which was read.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting on November 9, 2020.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Retirement, Resignation, Employments, Change of Status. Classified Personnel: Resignation, Employments, Changes of Status.
- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 confirms the appointments of the Pathways Advisory Committee (PAC) citizen members roster for the 2020-2021 school year as attached (on file).

Personnel Actions

Pathways Advisory
Committee Membership
2020-2021

2. *Grant Application*

MSHSL Foundation

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 authorizes the Administration at Kennedy High School and Jefferson High School to submit a grant application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation requesting financial support for high school youth to participate in athletics and fine arts programs. The School Board supports the resolution attached to the grant application to offset student activity fees.

3. *Agreements/Contracts*

HTC/PSEO/BCCA
Nursing Assistant/
Home Health Aide
Amendment

a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Customized Training Income Contract between the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on behalf of Hennepin Technical College and Independent School District 271 to provide Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide instruction to adult students attending Metro South. The contract is effective December 1, 2020 through March 4, 2021. FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board authorizes Alison Wilcox, Career Pathways Coordinator, to sign the Customized Training Income Contract on behalf of the District.

CSTMN Transportation
COVID-19 Addendum 2

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a COVID-19 Second Addendum to the CSTMN Transportation Contract for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Park Adam Transportation
COVID-19 Addendum 2

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a COVID-19 Second Addendum to the Park Adam Transportation Contract for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Septran Transportation
COVID-19 Addendum 2

d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a COVID-19 Second Addendum to the Septran Transportation Contract for the remainder of the 2020 -2021 school year.

4. *Finance*

Finance Reports

a. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for October 2020.

Receipts &
Disbursements

b. Receipts and Disbursements for October 2020.

Nelly Korman moved, Beth Beebe 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.

VI. PART B

MDH Emergency
Contract for
Testing Site

Dawn Steigauf moved, Mia Olson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Emergency Contract between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Health, and Independent School District 271 to provide a free community-based testing site for medical professionals to provide COVID-19 specimen collection services. The contract is effective November 23, 2020 through December 30, 2020. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The State of Minnesota Emergency Contract will provide a free public walk-up indoor testing venue for COVID-19 testing at Ridgeview Elementary School. Testing will be by appointment only and will be available from 12:00 pm– 6:00 pm. November 23, 24, 30 and December 1-4, 8-12, 14-18, 21-22 and 28-30. This saliva test site will be staffed by state personnel and members of the Minnesota National Guard. Setup will begin at 11:00 a.m. and breakdown will conclude at 7:00 p.m. each day. The State will have full use of the gymnasium and restrooms for a community testing site, access to a storage room within the gymnasium for testing supplies and room 306 will be used as a break room. The State will pay the district for the use of the gymnasium, break room as well as custodial overtime for testing on Saturday, December 12. The District will be responsible for initial cleaning of the site prior to the testing event as well as custodial services for nightly sanitation throughout the term of the contract. The District's legal counsel and insurance agent have reviewed the attached contract.

Donations

Mia Olson moved, Beth Beebe seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts donations as indicated in the background in the amount of \$10,000. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

A list of donations is scrolled at the end of the meeting. Donation of \$1,000.00 to Jefferson High School from Education Foundation of Bloomington for Jag Den, supplies for students. Donation of \$3,500.00 to Jefferson High School from Kopp Family Foundation for Random Acts of Kindness to help students in need. Donation of \$5,000.00 to Kennedy High School from Education Foundation of Bloomington for KHS pantry. Donation of \$500.00 to ISD #271 Food Service Department from Ms. Julie O'Hara for the Food for Thought program in memory of Mary Hazel.

School Calendar
2021-2022

Jim Sorum moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The calendar for the 2021-2022 school year was developed through the District Calendar Committee. The committee consists of representatives from the bargaining units, as well as, parents, administration and the Office of Educational Equity. The calendar reflects both a start date after Labor Day and the elementary assessment days, held at the start of the school year. The elementary teachers will have a full day of professional development on April 29, 2022 in exchange for the early assessment day held during back-to-school week. This calendar has been vetted with multiple stakeholder groups. The Administration recommends approval of the calendar.

Board members discussed the use of distance learning days should there be a need due to snow/inclement weather days. Bloomington Public Schools plans to implement remote learning days in place of inclement weather days in 2020-2021.

School Calendar
2022-2023

Tom Bennett moved, Heather Starks seconded, that the School Board of of Independent School District 271 approves the calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The calendar for the 2022-2023 school year was developed through the District Calendar Committee. The committee consists of representatives from the bargaining units, as well as, parents, administration and the Office of Educational equity. The calendar reflects both a start date before Labor Day and the elementary assessment days, held at the start of the school year. The elementary teachers will have a full day of professional development on April 28, 2023 in exchange for the early assessment day held during back-to-school week. This calendar has been vetted with multiple stakeholder groups. The Administration recommends approval of the calendar.

BARC Update

Superintendent Les Fujitake provided an overview and timeline of the meetings with BARC since June. The Bloomington Anti-Racist Coalition, which consists of current and former students, has three demands of the District—more inclusive curriculum, ending the liaison program with the Bloomington Police Department and renaming Jefferson High School. Student voices are valued. District leaders (Superintendent, School Board Chair, Community Relations Executive Director, Learning and Teaching Executive Director and Curriculum Director), have met with BARC seven times since June to address concerns. The Superintendent values equity and will continue to work on improvement noting that it is important to respond with a well thought out plan rather than react. Changes have occurred and will continue. Priorities need to be considered—District is focused on returning students to school and dealing with financial challenges. Speakers provided updates on the three BARC demands.

Inclusive Curriculum: Andy Kubas, Executive Director of Learning and Teaching, outlined concerns expressed by BARC and the meeting discussions that took place including changes in curriculum and materials noting that students need to see themselves in the curriculum being offered. The District already had been working to add more diverse books and authors to the curriculum. BARC shared a list of books and authors as well. The District is working towards offering an ethnic studies class, a process that will take time. A class would need to be designed, standards need to be developed, a teacher is needed who is interested in leading such a class and is licensed to do so and we need students interested in taking the class. Mr. Kubas indicated that the Minnesota Department of Education is studying Social Studies standards. The District is already working to incorporate absent narratives and primary source documents in its history teaching. Mr. Kubas indicated that the District is committed to doing this work.

Police Liaison Program: Police Chief Jeff Potts discussed the school liaison program that has been in place for more than 20 years and the role of liaison officers in our schools. Detectives are assigned part-time to the 10 elementary and three middle schools, and a full-time detective is assigned to each high school.

Liaison officers receive specialized training for this program. Different than schools that have a school resource officer program, the detectives do not wear a standard police uniform and are not there for the purpose of law enforcement or act as disciplinarians. Liaisons at the high schools are there to serve as a resource to students, parents, staff and to build positive relationships. They provide a quick response to an emergency or medical situation in the building. year is embedded social worker services for those students or families need that resource. In 2019, nearly every case liaison officers were involved with that required law enforcement was initiated by a staff or family member. New this Dr. Jaysen Anderson, Jefferson High School Principal, stated that the Bloomington police liaison program is different than programs in other schools in which he has worked. He reiterated that the officers build relationships, attend events, help with medical emergencies, and connect families with resources, if needed. Akram Osman, Kennedy High School Principal, started with the school district in July and high school students have been in distance learning since the start of the school year. Superintendent Fujitake indicated that BARC requested student arrest and citation data from the Police Department, which was provided. Representatives of the District and the Police Department have had conversations about the information. There will be a deeper review and analysis of the date. Last year's data shows a 50% reduction from 2017. *Renaming Jefferson High School*: Superintendent Fujitake indicated that the District does not have a process for renaming schools/buildings. He also noted that District leadership needs to make the choice to invest its time and limited capacity to establish meaningful and sustainable systemic changes, which already is in progress.

Pause on Winter Sports and Activities Update

Superintendent Fujitake reviewed the timeline of actions regarding sports and activities—Board action on November 9 and the Governor's new Emergency Executive order in place for thirty days. Mr. Fujitake indicated that in consultation with the Board Chair, this topic would be on the December 14 School Board meeting agenda for discussion and possible action. With input and additional guidance from our health services supervisor, Bloomington Public Health, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Education and the Governor's office, the Board will take under advisement if the District's pause on winter sports and activities should end on December 18 to be in alignment with the Governor's current Executive Order 20-99.

Jon Anderson, Kennedy High School Athletics and Activities Director, clarified that no winter sports would begin prior to December 19 and that the MSHSL has provided a specific list of what coaches and what players can and cannot do regarding the pause on winter sports. He also reported that there is no virtual coaching beginning for winter sports.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

School Board members reported on various meetings and school activities. Mia Olson attended a meeting of the Special Education Community Advisory Council. Beth Beebe reported on the BSAC meeting with the high school representatives, the Insurance Committee meeting, an MSBA professional development session focusing on equity in light of distance learning, and the upcoming MSBA pre-delegate assembly to consider legislative priorities for the 2021 legislative session; the delegate assembly will take place on December 2. Jim Sorum reported on the Insurance Committee meeting and the Community Education Advisory Committee. Nelly Korman attended meetings of MSBA, pre-delegate assembly, AMSD, DDAC and staff member affinity Groups.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake that the Minnesota Department of Health has launched a community COVID-19 testing site at Ridgeview Elementary School starting today. The saliva test site will be staffed by state personnel and members of the Minnesota National Guard. Testing will be conducted weekdays from Noon to 6 p.m. in the school's gymnasium through December. More information is available on the MDH website, including the full schedule of testing dates.

Superintendent Fujitake expressed appreciation to Dennis Kane and members of the Bloomington Public Schools Advocacy Council, and our Bloomington legislators for participating in the virtual legislative forum last Monday, November 16, which can be viewed on BEC TV.

Superintendent Fujitake shared that this is the season of giving thanks; he expressed his sincere gratitude to the entire Bloomington Public Schools community for their patience, understanding and support of our efforts to keep children safe, engaged and learning this school year.

Chair Nelly Korman expressed appreciation to all staff, administration, students, and parents for all the hard work as we work our way through the pandemic.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Beth Beebe moved, Jim Sorum seconded, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Dawn Steigauf, Clerk