

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

December 14, 2020

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA
GOOGLE MEET AND LIVE STREAMED ON BEC-TV
www.bectv.org**

- 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 December 14, 2020.
- Members Present on Roll Call Nelly Korman, Chair; Tom Bennett, Vice Chair; Dawn Steigauf, Clerk; Beth Beebe, Treasurer; Directors Mia Olson, Jim Sorum and Heather Starks; Student Representative Juma Waganda.
- 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, Mia Olson seconded, to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/STAFF/PUBLIC
- The School Board recognized Darringer Funches as a recipient of the 2020 Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award from the City of Bloomington Human Rights Commission. This award is presented to an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to ensuring the rights of people in Bloomington. Omar Bonderud was the first Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission that was formed in 1968. Mr. Funches is a Paraprofessional at Valley View Middle School.
- The School Board recognized the Kennedy High School Boys Soccer Team. Activities Director Jon Anderson shared that the team earned the Section Championship this fall. They would have been in the State Tournament this year, but there was no State Tournament. Head Coach Dan Bushendorf highlighted the season and accomplishments of the team and its members.
- Student Board Representative Reports Juma Waganda reported on Jefferson High School Activities—National Honor Society sent cards to children in a St. Paul hospital. She acknowledged efforts of students and staff in doing their best despite motivation being difficult at this time of pandemic.
- Public Three people submitted comments to the School Board. One was regarding The pause on winter sports, which is on the agenda tonight. Two persons addressed the non-settlement of the paraprofessional 2019-2021 contract—William Schwandt, President of the Bloomington Federation of Paraprofessionals, and Mary Jo Lacquegnies.

Nelly Korman moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to amend the Part A agenda by removing item “j.” Services Agreement with Gimkit. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held November 23, 2020.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Employments. Independent Personnel: Employments, Change of Status. Classified Personnel: Retirements, Resignations, Employment, Changes of Status.

Personnel Actions

2. *Grant*

LCTS Grants from
Hennepin South
Services Collaborative

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts an LCTS grant for \$15,000 from the Hennepin South Services Collaborative (HSSC) to fund the Youth Voice program during the 2021 calendar year.

3. *Agreements/Contracts*

Second Amendment
Research Agreement
Bloomington Public Health

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Second Amendment to the existing Research Agreement with the City of Bloomington acting through the Public Health Division. The term of the Research Agreement is from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2021.

RecDesk, LLC

- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves renewing the agreement between RecDesk, LLC and Independent School District 271 for use of RecDesk software at the District activity centers for membership management. The agreement is effective December 1, 2020, through November 30, 2021 This agreement may be renewed for additional one-year terms.

Pear Deck, Inc

- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with Pear Deck, Inc. for a license for Pear Deck in the amount of \$16,400.

IXL Learning

- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with IXL Learning for a site license or IXL in the amount of \$41,556.

Newsela

- e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with Newsela for a license in the amount of \$25,000.

Nearpod/Flocabulary

- f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with Nearpod for a license to Flocabulary in the amount \$15,500.

Guided Readers

- g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with ExploreLearning for a teacher license for Guided Readers in the amount of \$32,290.

ExploreLearning

- h. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with ExploreLearning for a site license for Gizmos eLearning science lab in the amount of \$37,050.

Argosy-Visible Body

- i. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the services agreement with Argosy for a license for Visible Body in the amount of \$27,300.

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.

VI. PART B

Committed Funds

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

Committed Funds:

1. \$123,495 for Wellness Dollars
2. \$119,531 for Band Uniform and Instrument Replacement
3. \$527,411 for Athletics and Activities
4. \$324,018 for Staff Development
5. \$813,717 for Site Department Carry Over Funds

On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Committed Funds:

1. **Wellness**-These committed funds are provided by our health insurance provider to develop district wellness programs.
2. **Uniform and Instrument Replacement**-The District established a committed fund balance for high school uniforms and instrument replacement. These funds are generated through fees. The net of fees and expenditures results in an adjustment to the designation.
3. **Athletics and Activities**-These committed funds are unspent athletic and activity funds at secondary schools. This tracks success of program revenue less expenditures and helps programs determine fees charged and programs added or deleted.
4. **Staff Development**-This is a commitment to set aside unspent Staff Development funds.
5. **Site Department Carry-Over Funds**-This commitment is funds for site-controlled fees and/or donations.

Assigned Funds

Mia Olson moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves assigned funds in the area specified as follows: Assigned Funds: \$3,000.00 Q-Comp Collaborative. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Assigned Funds: Q-Comp Collaborative- Collaborative of Q-Comp Districts to accumulate funds to hold conferences.

Operating Transfers/
Community Service &
Internal Service Funds

Mia Olson moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the operating transfers of \$321,522 from the General Fund to certain programs in the Community Service Fund for fiscal year 2019-2020. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

The annual process of financially closing a school year requires District Administration to make recommendations to the School Board to transfer resources between our District's accounting funds. The transfer to Community Service Fund was to provide revenue to offset General Fund cost associated with Pond and Southwood programs.

Audit Report
2019-2020

Beth Beebe moved, Tom Bennett 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, 2020. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

BerganKDV, Ltd. has completed a general financial audit for 2019-2020 conforming to State and Federal guidelines. Matt Mayer, BerganKDV Audit Partner, presented highlights of the independent audit report indicating an unmodified 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 operations and its financial health. There are no weaknesses or significant deficiencies to the District's internal controls. Typically, a single audit is completed but is delayed this year pending Federal guidance for CARES funds.

Mr. Mayer reviewed General Fund budget and actuals, resident student ADMS, average daily membership and pupil units, sources of revenue and expenditures stating approximately 69% of the General Fund budget is expended for classroom instruction, 3% for administration, 3% for district support services, 8% for pupil support services, 8% for instructional support services and 9% for sites/buildings/equipment and other. 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. The District's spending was flat and came in under budget. The District's fund balance is within the 5-8% parameter set by Board policy.

2020-2021 Mid-Year
Budget Adjustments

Tom Bennett moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Budget Board of Independent School District 271 approves adjusting the 2020-2021 budget for all funds by increasing revenues by \$30,557,561 and increasing expenditures by \$4,938,641. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Annually, Administration proposes adjustments to update our current year budgets. The four major budget adjustment categories are: Prior year carry over, Updated information, Grants/Donations/Revenue and Other. A worksheet (on file) reflects revised budgets by fund.

Property Tax
Levy Certification
Final 2020
Payable 2021/
Public Comment

Heather Starks moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board Independent School District 271 approves the proposed final property tax levy for the 2020 payable 2021 levy of \$62,366,022. 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. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Rod Zivkovich, Executive Director of Finance and Support Services, reviewed the levy process and timeline. He then provided an overview of the 2020-2021 adopted budget including revenues by source and expenditures by program for all funds.

PROPOSED 2020 PAYABLE 2021 LEVIES

Referendum	\$19,794,883
Referendum Other	9,042,377
Other	19,226,068
Community Services	1,958,531
Debt Services	12,344,163
Proposed Certified Levy	<u>\$62,366,022</u>

Tonight’s 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 2020.
- Mailing by the county auditor of Truth-in-Taxation statements in November 2020.
- Presentation of Fiscal 2020-2021 Budget and Proposed 2020 Payable 2021 Levy.

No one from the public addressed the School Board for public comment regarding the proposed property tax levy.

COVID-19 Update/
Athletics & Activities

A COVID-19 update was presented to the School Board by Hannah Hatch, Supervisor of Health Services, and Dr. Nick Kelley, Public Health Administrator for the City of Bloomington. The fourteen-day case rate per 10,000 information was shared for Hennepin County and Bloomington. As of December 7, Bloomington was at 122.6. Data trends by age groups and months were presented. State guidance in the Safe Learning Plan provides that rates at 50+ Indicate distance learning for all students, which places activities on hold. A vaccine has been authorized by the FDA and a second one is anticipated to be authorized next week. Priority for administering the vaccine beyond healthcare workers and residents of long-term care facilities is still under review. The Executive Order by Governor Walz placing a hold on all youth sports and activities expires on December 18. The Governor is speaking on December 16 and will be providing more information following the impact of the Thanksgiving holiday. Activities Directors Jon Anderson and Chad Nyberg shared MSHSL timelines and indicated the development of three planning models for winter season. They also emphasized that the return to athletics and activities for our school district have been followed per guidance of Bloomington Public Health, the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Education. There was discussion of meeting on January 4 to further discuss and take any necessary action. If the Governor extends the order to pause, no need to meet.

WBWF Annual
Report 2019-2020

Dawn Steigauf moved, Mia Olson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the World’s Best Workforce Annual Report for the 2019-2020 school year. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Andy Kubas, Executive Director of Learning and Teaching, indicated that Minnesota’s World’s Best Workforce (WBWF) law requires school districts to report annually to the public results and and progress made on the school district’s Strategic Plan during the previous school year, which includes components that address the WBWF as well as Achievement and Integration report information.

The annual public meeting was held tonight at 6 pm. The Pathways Advisory Committee has reviewed and approved the curriculum content that appears in the report that will be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education by December 15 as required. A link to the report will be provided on the District website.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

School Board members reported on various meetings and activities— Dawn Steigauf attended meetings of the Education Foundation of Bloomington and the Pathways Advisory Committee— PAC received and reviewed the WBWF Report and discussed new class suggestions, She noted that Social Studies standards are up for review and the MDE is taking feedback. Mia Olson highlighted the Special Education Advisory Committee. A Wellness and Mental Health forum is being offered at two times (same content) on December 15 at 12:30 pm and December 16 at 6 pm; an opportunity for networking and to learn about available resources. Beth Beebe attended the AMSD meeting— discussion included an educational amendment being proposed by Neel Kashkari and Alan Page and the consequences of it passing has significant impact on school districts.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake asked Mary Burroughs, Executive Director of Human Resources, to give a status report on negotiations with the Paraprofessional unit. She reported that negotiations began October 2019. After several sessions, mediation was entered into in February 2020. Although slightly delayed due to COVID-19, three mediation sessions were held. The final session was in June at which time the District presented its last/best/final offer, which means the District gave its last/best financial offer. The offer was in line with the other six bargaining units for 2019-2021 contract period and included increases in both wages and benefits. Since June, the unit has been in contact twice wanting to continue negotiating the 2019-2021 contract. Each time the response has been that the District is willing to meet to discuss any contract language items, non-monetary items or how to reallocate the funds offered in the last/best/final offer; the District is not increasing its last/best/final financial offer. There was no response from the unit on meeting dates. Additionally, there were demands regarding bargaining conditions related to COVID. Meet and Confer sessions were held and an offer extended to the unit to continue to meet regarding those items. In response to a public comment from tonight, Ms. Burroughs indicated that Paraprofessionals are not without a contract. Terms and conditions of the contract remain in place for both the Paraprofessionals and the District to which both parties must abide to what has been agreed to.

Administration requests a motion to establish a virtual closed session of the School Board on Tuesday, December 15, at 6 pm. The meeting will be closed as permitted by law to discuss the District's labor negotiation strategy related to the District's negotiations with all bargaining groups. So moved by Tom Bennett and seconded by Dawn Steigauf. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Administration requests a motion to establish a virtual School Board study session on Monday, January 4, at 6 pm to discuss organizational matters for 2021. So moved by Beth Beebe and seconded by Mia Olson. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Administration requests a motion to establish a virtual Special School Board meeting on Monday, January 4, at 7 pm to re-evaluate model movement planning along with the pausing of programs and activities. So moved by Beth Beebe and seconded by Heather Starks. Beth Beebe moved, Tom Bennett seconded, to amend the motion to reflect a start time of 7:30 pm. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye on the amendment. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye on the original motion as amended.

On behalf of the entire District team, Superintendent Fujitake wished the School Board and the entire school community a happy, healthy and safe holiday.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Nelly Korman moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Dawn Steigauf, Clerk