

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

April 26, 2021

- 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 April 26, 2021.
- Chair Korman announced that the School Board meeting tonight is being conducted remotely via Google Meet; it is being live streamed by BEC TV and will be replayed per the usual BEC TV replay schedule.
- Chair Korman stated: Please consider that while most of us in this meeting or viewing this meeting are not in the same room – all of us, wherever we are in Bloomington or the Metro Area are on the traditional, ancestral and contemporary land of Indigenous people. Bloomington Public Schools rests on Dakota land ceded in the Treaties of 1837 and 1851.
- Members Present on Roll Call: Nelly Korman, Chair; Dawn Steigauf, Vice Chair; Heather Starks, Clerk; Beth Beebe, Treasurer; Directors Tom Bennett, Mia Olson, and Jim Sorum.
- Attorney Present: David Holman.
- Administration Present: Les Fujitake, Jenna Mitchler, Mary Burroughs, Dave Heistad, Rick Kaufman, Jennifer McIntyre, 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
- Asian Pacific American Month Proclamation
- District Cultural Liaisons Hung Phung and Chinda Gregor accepted the proclamation.
- Teachers
- Dr. Jenna Mitchler, Assistant Superintendent, joined by several leaders, recognized the incredible work of teaching staff in the Bloomington Public Schools. She also highlighted the important work of our counselors and PGP Coordinators. Jake Winchell, Executive Director of Community Education, expressed appreciation to Early Childhood and Adult Basic Education staff for their work with all of its challenges. He invited Sarah Moline to highlight Early Childhood teachers and Kellie McGowan to highlight teachers in the Adult Basic Education program that serves Bloomington, Edina, Eden Prairie and Richfield.

Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Special Education, highlighted the exemplary work of special education staff that include social workers, psychologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech pathologists.

Health Services Hannath Hatch, Supervisor of Health Services, recognized the outstanding work by our nurses who have gone above and beyond in serving students and families as well as staff during the COVID-19 pandemic that included many hours of contact tracing.

Student Board Representative Reports Juma Waganda reported on Jefferson High School activities—spring sports Jefferson Theater, student government food drive, statewide student walkout, prom and graduation. Tristan Phay reported on Kennedy High School activities—spring sports, pre-SAT test on Saturday, prom, Green Club, Kennedy High School Theater. Tristan reported on tonight’s BSAC meeting at which Ms. Beth Flottmeier was the guest speaker.

Public None.

V. PART A

1. *Board Business*
Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting April 12, 2021 and the Special Board Meeting April 19, 2021.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Retirements, Correction to Retirements, Resignations, Leave of Absence, Employments, Change of Status.
Classified Personnel: Retirements, Correction to Retirements, Changes of Status.

Personnel Actions

2. *Contracts/Agreements*

Student Teaching
MN State Moorhead

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with Minnesota State University Moorhead. The Agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

Student Teaching
St. Scholastica

- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Student Teaching Agreement with the College of St. Scholastica. The Agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

AmeriCorps
Elementary Summer
School

- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement between AmeriCorps with Reading & Math, Inc. and Independent School District 271 with respect to the assignment of eight (8) Emergency Response Members to perform services for Bloomington Elementary Summer School by assisting in the delivery of programming. The Agreement is effective on the date it is executed through August 31, 2021.

AmeriCorps
Community Education
Summer Camp

- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement between AmeriCorps with Reading & Math, Inc. and Independent School District 271 with respect to the assignment of one (1) Emergency Response Member to perform services for Bloomington Community Education by assisting in the delivery of summer camp youth programming. The Agreement is effective on the date it is executed through August 31, 2021.

MOU/Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area

e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area and Independent School District 271 on behalf of Metro South Adult Basic Education to establish an agreement concerning their respective roles and responsibilities for coordination of services in the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area (LWDA 09). The Memorandum of Understanding is effective on the date it is executed through June 30, 2022.

T-Mobile Cell Tower Second Amendment

f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Second Amendment to the lease agreement with T-Mobile for maintenance and upgrades at the Kennedy High School cell tower.

Naviance

g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Naviance by Hobsons Sales Order Form for high schools that includes the Addendum to the Terms of Service between Independent School District 271 and Hobsons effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

3. Finance

Finance Reports Receipts & Disbursements

- a. Statement of Revenues and Statement of Expenditures for March 2021.
- b. Receipts and Disbursements for March 2021.

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 Donations

Dawn Steigauf moved, Mia Olson seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts donations, as indicated in the background, in the amount of \$500. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

VALUE IN KIND—Donation of a trashcan and recycling bin to Hillcrest Elementary school from Hillyard, Inc. An estimated value of \$500.00.

Safe & Supportive Schools Update

Dr. Jenna Mitchler, Assistant Superintendent, provides the leadership for the Safe and Support Schools plan. An update was given to the School Board. Additional presenters included Ms. Dinna Wade-Ardley, Dr. Molly Coyne and Dr. Dave Heistad. The plan aims to close gaps and raise achievement for all students through building a safe and supportive school system. The update highlighted components of the plan including: Cultural Proficiency, Restorative Practices, Social and Emotional Wellness, Recruit and Retain Diverse Staff, Design Thinking Process, Site Improvement Plans, Safe and Supportive Schools Sessions for Leaders, Cabinet Goals and Action Plans, Review and Revise Curriculum, Reports to the School Board. Principals Joan Maland and Akram Osman shared insights on this work. Dr. Heistad provided information regarding the metrics of the Pathway Milestones that includes pre-school ready, kindergarten ready, on course elementary success, middle school ready, high school ready and career and college ready. Dr. Mitchler reviewed the stakeholder engagement timeline that takes us through May 2022.

Non-Renewal
Probationary
Teachers

Heather Starks moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, that the teaching contract of each of the named probationary teachers, listed below, in Independent School District No. 271, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2020-2021 school year, June 30, 2021, and is not renewed for the 2021-2022 school year; and be it

RESOLVED further, that the Clerk of the School Board shall issue written notice to said teacher regarding non-renewal of the teacher's contract as provided by law, and that said notice shall be substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF TERMINATION

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, held April 26, 2021, a resolution was adopted by a majority roll call vote giving action that your teaching contract will not be renewed effective at the end of the school year, June 30, 2021, and is not renewed for the 2021-2022 school year. Said action of the Board is taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40.

You may officially request that the School Board give its reason for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. However, such request must be received within ten (10) days after the receipt of this notice.

I move the approval of a separate resolution to non-renew all of the named probationary teachers and vote as one: Lael Booth, Frank Cacich, Mandy Cassler, Rebecca Hanten, Kent Harrison, Amy Johnson, Nora Landry, Morgan Meuer, Matthew Petersen, Julie Schulz, Khoriana Vaerconum, Julie Yohnke, Matthew Young.

On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

This action, as recommended, is a final action. Any subsequent action to return probationary teachers between now and the effective date of non-renewal based on course needs, retirements or resignations, will be brought to the School Board as rescission of this action for individually named teachers.

Proposed Placement
of Tenured Teacher
on Partial Unrequested
Leave of Absence

Heather Starks moved, Beth Beebe seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 adopts the following resolution proposing to place a tenured teacher on partial unrequested leave of absence:
Julio Batres:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE PROPOSAL OF PARTIAL UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT OF A TENURED TEACHER

WHEREAS, Julio Batres is a tenured teacher in Independent School District No. 271; Therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, that it is proposed that Julio Batres, a teacher of District No. 271, be placed on a partial unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for 0.433 FTE, while retaining 0.400 FTE Spanish Teacher position in the District, effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year on June 30, 2021, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40 subd. 14 and the negotiated leave policy of the District.

RESOLVED further, that the Clerk of the School Board shall issue written notice to said teacher regarding the proposed placement on partial unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits as provided by law and said notice shall be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLACEMENT ON
PARTIAL UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, held April 26, 2021, consideration was given to your proposed placement on partial unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for 0.433 FTE, while retaining 0.400 FTE Spanish Teacher position in the District, as a teacher of Independent School District No. 271, and a resolution was adopted by a majority vote of the Board, proposing your placement on partial unrequested leave of absence effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year on June 30, 2021, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40 subd. 14, and the negotiated unrequested leave policy of the District, upon the grounds described in said statute and which are specifically as follows:

Reduction of student enrollment in licensure area.

Under the provisions of the law, you are entitled to a hearing before the School Board provided that you make a request in writing within fourteen (14) days after receipt of this notice. If no hearing is requested within such period, it shall be deemed acquiescence by you to the School Board's proposed action.

On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Proposed Placement
of a Tenured Teacher
on Unrequested
Leave of Absence

Heather Starks moved, Beth Beebe seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 271 adopts the following resolution proposing to place a tenured teacher on unrequested leave of absence: Mariah Niver.

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE PROPOSAL OF UNREQUESTED LEAVE
OF ABSENCE OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT OF A TENURED TEACHER**

WHEREAS, Mariah Niver is a tenured teacher in Independent School District No. 271; Therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, that it is proposed that Mariah Niver, a Spanish Teacher of District No. 271, be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for 1.0 FTE teacher effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year on June 30, 2021, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40 subd. 14 and the negotiated leave policy of the District.

RESOLVED further, that the Clerk of the School Board shall issue written notice to said teacher regarding the proposed placement on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits as provided by law and said notice shall be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLACEMENT ON
UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 271, held April 26, 2021, consideration was given to your proposed placement on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for 1.0 FTE teacher of Independent School District No. 271, and a resolution was adopted by a majority vote of the Board, proposing your placement on unrequested leave of absence effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year on June 30, 2021, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40 subd. 14, and the negotiated unrequested leave policy of the District, upon the grounds described in said statute and which are specifically as follows:

Reduction of student enrollment in licensure area.

Under the provisions of the law, you are entitled to a hearing before the School Board provided that you make a request in writing within fourteen (14) days after receipt of this notice. If no hearing is requested within such period, it shall be deemed acquiescence by you to the School Board's proposed action.

On roll call vote, all directors voted aye.

Policy Review

Tom Bennett, Chair of the Board Policy Committee, reviewed each of the following policies that were reviewed and approved at the April 20th meeting of the committee and invited comments by School Board members. The policies were reviewed and approved by legal counsel, David Holman.

Policy 426: Nepotism in Employment– Mary Burroughs
Recommendation: No Change.

The policy is on the five-year cycle for review. The policy is not an MSBA mandatory policy; it does follow MSBA model policy with modification to conform to district format. There is no content or wording changes; the DEFINITIONS section was moved to be placed after the GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY to be consistent with MSBA model policy.

Policy 410: Family and Medical Leave – Mary Burroughs
Recommendation: No Change.

This policy provides for family and medical leave to school district employees in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) and also with the parenting leave under state law. This policy is mandatory and follows the MSBA model and must be reviewed annually. In that there have been no changes made by MSBA since the policy was last reviewed, no changes are recommended.

Policy 413: Harassment and Violence – Mary Burroughs & Dr. Jenna Mitchler
Recommendation: No Change to Policy—Regulation Revised

The policy follows the MSBA model with modifications. We followed the MDE sample and MSBA draft policy when we originally created the District policy and regulation. This policy was identified by Dr. Mitchler for review as part of the Safe and Supportive Schools Plan. The updated regulation includes early learning, as early learning is in alignment with our elementary programming.

Policy 616: School District Accountability – Andy Kubas

Recommendation: Revised.

This policy is an MSBA mandatory policy and follows the MSBA model with minor modification to align with District procedure. The General Statement of Policy has a word change. The accompanying regulation has minor word changes as well. A suggested edit by the Board Policy Committee was made to the Regulation under Membership B.1. It is reflected in the revision.

The policies reviewed and discussed will be presented for final action at the next School Board meeting under Part A (Consent Actions).

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Tom Bennett reported on Intermediate District 917—new Superintendent Dr. Michael Favor. Former Intermediate District 917 Superintendent John Christianson will fill in for Dr. Mark Zuzek for the remainder of the year due to a health issue. Jim Sorum reported on the Community Education Advisory Council meeting and highlighted Jefferson Theater Company’s upcoming performances of *Beauty and the Beast*. Beth Beebe reported on the BSAC meeting with the high school representatives. Heather Starks highlighted the value of the MSBA Friday chats.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Les Fujitake requested that the School Board authorizes to sign an Amendment to the Emergency Contract between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Health and Independent School District 271, to accommodate the vaccine clinic being held at Valley View Middle School April 30-May 1. So moved by Jim Sorum and seconded by Dawn Steigauf. On roll call vote all directors voted aye.

Congratulations to two Jefferson students who earned perfect scores on the ACT college entrance examine – Jamie Melville and Zachary Miller. Less than one-tenth of one percent of students taking the test earn a perfect score.

Congratulations to Kennedy senior Nicole Osness and Jefferson junior Joey Stedman who have earned National Gold Medals in the 2021 National Scholastic Art Competition.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Beth Beebe moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote, all directors voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Heather Starks, Clerk