

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

March 14, 2022

I. ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, and there being a quorum present, the School Board meeting of Independent School District 271 was called to order by Chair Tom Bennett at 7:00 p.m. on March 14, 2022, in the Arlene Bush Board Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Chair Bennett acknowledged that Bloomington Public Schools rests on the traditional, ancestral and contemporary land of the Dakota. The name of our state is Mni Sota Makoce, Land where the waters reflect the skies or clouds. Mni means water; Sota means clear, but not perfectly so, cloudy. Makoce means a place, land, or country. Recognizing the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory we reside on and a way of honoring the Indigenous people.

Members Present:

Tom Bennett, Chair; Heather Starks, Vice Chair; Nelly Korman, Clerk; Mia Olson, Treasurer; Beth Beebe, Matt Dymoke, and Dawn Steigauf.
Student Representatives: Janie Andersen and Mya Marube.

Attorney Present:

David Holman.

Administration Present:

Eric Melbye, Mary Burroughs, Rick Kaufman, and Jennifer McIntyre.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Matt Dymoke moved, Nelly Korman seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

JHS Cheer Team

The School Board recognized and presented Certificates of Achievement to students being recognized. The Jefferson High School Cheer Team earned its sixth National Championship. Principal Dr. Jaysen Anderson introduced Co-Coach Rachael Brown who highlighted the competition event sharing that of the six championships, this is the third consecutive year. Team members were introduced as they received their certificate.

National Merit Scholar Finalists

Principal Anderson introduced Jefferson High School National Merit Finalists Alexander Kiner, Jamie Melville and Joseph Shetaye. The National Merit Scholarship Program is one of the most well-known organizations in academic excellence. These students rank among the most successful students in the country.

Congratulations to Kennedy High School National Merit Finalist, Isaac Stein, who was unable to attend the meeting.

ISD 917 Dr. Michael Favor, Superintendent of Intermediate School District 917, shared the mission, vision and core values along with programs and services offered by District 917, including an overview of Career and Technical Education (CTE), Dakota County Alternative Learning School (DCALS), and Special Education (SPED). For this school year, in special education programming, there are 65 Bloomington Public Schools students participating in center-based programs (CASE, TESA, DASH, DHH, SUN, IDEA, TEA) and 71 students receiving itinerant services. For DCALS, 25 students are participating and 2 participate in CTE programs.

OGMS Musical Oak Grove Middle School will be presenting *The Sponge Bob Musical* March 17-19. A video promotion was shared with the School Board courtesy of Music teacher Bryan Blessing and play director Kevin Doheny.

Student Board Representative Reports Student School Board Representative Reports were given. Janie Andersen reported it is the end of the trimester and students enjoyed having a visit from therapy dogs, William and Mr. T, during finals. An informal dance was held Friday night in celebration of the end of the trimester. Both the girls and boys basketball teams won their first section games and lost in semifinals. Congratulations to Emily Roach who scored her one thousandth point, which only has been done by six other students. The Jets qualified for the adapted floor hockey state tournament. John Clarke was selected for UA Ski Team All American honors. Show Choirs perform this weekend. Grace Shuck is the recipient of the Athena Award.

Mya Marube—Zachary Greenhouse qualified for the state wrestling tournament. Spring sports are starting for badminton, boys and girls track, baseball, golf, boys tennis and boys and girls lacrosse. The Activities Hall of Fame induction is Friday night. Rhythm and Gold celebrates its 25th anniversary with a performance on Saturday night that will include an alumni number. Senior shirts will be available for sale this week. Student government is planning another spirit week and possibly a pep test.

Ms. Marube and Ms. Andersen highlighted their school promotional efforts for the district food drive being conducted March 21-25 that includes working with student government and making posters.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Congratulations to Teacher of the Year Semifinalists Angela Fritzlar, Ridgeview Elementary Autism Spectrum Disorder teacher, and Nikki Jordan, Kennedy High School vocal music teacher, who have been selected as two of 25 semifinalists. Semifinalists were selected from a group of 77 nominations by a panel of 22 education, community and business leaders. The panel will select a group of 10 finalists and the teacher of the year winner will be announced in May. Last week was School Social Workers recognition week. The District has 31 social workers who passionately support the mental health and complex needs of our students, families and caregivers, while simultaneously supporting our colleagues. An update on student social emotional wellbeing will be presented at the April 11 School Board meeting. Rick Kaufman and I met with Olson Middle School student Wes Friberg in response to his email questioning the decision to remove the mask mandate.

Five students from Oak Grove Middle School are members of a *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge team that won a state championship last month. Team #41748 "Artificial Intelligence" won the "Champion Award" and will travel to Houston, Texas in April to compete in the World Championship. Students are: Ben Yehl-Kennard, Braeden Armstrong-Johnson, Siena O'Keefe, Omera Syed, and Benjamin Farrell.

Staffing season is underway. ESSER funds are being used to stabilize staffing and meet the intense needs of many students due to COVID-19 and learning model shifts. The ESSER funds are critical to this work, but increased and ongoing state funding is necessary to sustain our programs and staffing. Advocacy for increased state funding is needed, in particular special education and English Learner cross-subsidy funding.

Attended the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. Governor Walz spoke about the historic state surplus and the bipartisan efforts to address a number of issues with the surplus, including education funding. Mayor Tim Busse also had a role at the annual meeting. Attended the MASA/MASE conference. A number of break-out sessions focused on successfully leading school districts after the past two pandemic years. The theme this year of Reconnect, Refocus and Relationships was spot on and will need to carry over into next year. Staff and student wellness were common themes throughout the conference.

Administration recommends a School Board retreat be held Monday, April 4, at 4 pm at Civic Plaza for the purpose of strategic planning. So moved by Dawn Steigauf and seconded by Heather Starks. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

Personnel Actions

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting February 28, 2022.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Retirement, Resignation, Employments.
Administrative Personnel: Resignation, Change of Status.
Classified Personnel: Resignation, Employments.

2. *Field Trip*

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the field trip per the attached list (on file).

3. *Contracts/Agreements*

St. Catherine University
Clinical Experience

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement for Clinical Experience between St. Catherine University and Independent School District 271 for the University Programs outlined in Exhibit A of the Agreement. The term of the Agreement is effective beginning February 17, 2022, and will renew automatically for succeeding academic years unless either party gives the other written notice on or before August 1 that it will not renew the Agreement for the academic year beginning the following September.

Ten7 Website Development

b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Website Development Agreement between Ten7 Interactive, LLC and Independent School District 271. This agreement provides Metro South Adult Basic Education with website development including design concept, site configuration and setup. The total project fee for services will be \$35,000. The term of this agreement is February 24, 2022 through completion of the project.

Ten7 Hosting & Updates

c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Hosting and Updates Agreement between Ten7 Interactive, LLC and Independent School District 271. This agreement provides that Ten7 will host, monitor, protect, provide storage and support of the Metro South Adult Basic Education website. The monthly fee for services will be \$780. The service period will begin on 7/1/2022 and it will end upon termination of the agreement.

Matt Dymoke 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.

VII. PART B
A&I Plan Budget
2022-2023

Heather Starks moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Achievement and Integration Plan budget for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of \$2,165,746.11. In the event of a decrease or increase in funding from the Minnesota Department of Education, the budget will be adjusted accordingly. Motion carried unanimously.

In accordance with Minnesota Statute, Minnesota's Achievement and Integration program was established to help close Minnesota's academic achievement gap and increase integration opportunities for protected class students. The Achievement and Integration Plan budget must be submitted annually for approval by the Minnesota Department of Education. This budget conforms to all state requirements and supports District efforts to reduce the achievement gap and increase integration opportunities.

Dinna Wade-Ardley, Director of the Office of Educational Equity, shared an overview of the plan's budget for 2022-2023 that includes direct services to students, professional development for staff, and administrative/indirect costs.

Special Education Program Update

Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Special Education, and Ruth Murray, Special Education Supervisor, updated the School Board on services provided to students and families through the Special Education Department along with new learning and growth from the impact of the last two years. A few highlights from the report: Staff totals 473 including teachers, paraprofessionals, specialists, psychologists/social workers, due process clerks/clericals, TOSAs and Administration. Overview—1,819 students receive services of which 47 attend a non-public school, 1,772 attend one of our district programs/schools, 17.5% of total enrollment receives some type of special education services, 14% of total enrollment take ECSE and 18-21 transition programming. We serve 105 students/families from birth to two years old; 200 students are 3-5 years of age; there are 1,350 students in grades K-12 and 120 students ages 18-21. There is a continuum of services provided from birth to age 21.

Partners in providing specialized school/program include Intermediate School Districts 917 and 288. Special Education services are student and family focused beginning at birth. Early intervention services in home and community provided for youngest learners and their families; preschool programs available for 3 and 4 year olds. Work experience and transition program is provided for 18-21 year olds through internships, job shadowing, community based learning and post-secondary programs and training.

As part of growth from new learning, flexibility in the delivery of services and meetings is key—video conferencing was maintained and virtual services continue in birth to 3 home visits, speech-language, occupational therapy, mental health, non-public schools and homebound. Location of where services are provided reduced staff travel time and amount of time students are out of the classroom, increased staff and student engagement, family access and engagement, family and staff collaboration and individualized education services with reduced transitions. Compensatory Education services—offered individualized meetings with each family, small group and individualized instruction for students, focus on mental health services and social emotional learning. Enrichment day camps were provided summer 2021 and are proposed for summer 2022, as well as extended school year services.

Custodial/Maintenance/
Transportation
Contract 2021-2023

Mia Olson moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves and ratifies the 2021-2023 Negotiated Contract between the School District and the Custodial, Maintenance and Transportation Employees SEIU Local #284. Motion carried unanimously.

The District and The Custodial, Maintenance and Transportation Employees SEIU Local #284 reached a tentative agreement for the 2021-2023 Master Contract on January 19, 2022, and membership ratified the tentative agreement on February 24, 2022. The tentative agreement includes salary improvements of 2.45% for 2021-2022 and 2.0% for 2022-2023. In addition, the tentative agreement includes the following:

- Previously agreed to out-of-network, out-of-pocket maximums per IRS regulations, as well as the District's contribution for health insurance (7.2)
- Addition of earned personal leave for transportation employees (8.3.1)
- Additional two days of vacation for those earning vacation beginning 7/1/2022 (8.4)
- After 18 years of service, increased 403b match by 1% (10.1)
- Market adjustment to schedules A, B, C both years
- Addition of a \$0.50 stipend for floater positions
- Language clarification throughout contract and "Housekeeping" changes
- Addition of an MOU on Uniforms/Boots

Bid Award/
JHS Reroofing

Matt Dymoke moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a bid of \$485,882 for partial reroofing at Jefferson High School from Flynn Midwest, of Plymouth, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

This project is identified in our 2021-22 Alternative Facilities Plan and consists of reroofing at Jefferson High School. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. Our attorney and insurance agent have reviewed the AIA standardized contract.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Beth Beebe participated in AVID grade 10 interviews at Kennedy High School and attended a Jefferson basketball game. Mia Olson reported on the Early Childhood Education Parent Advisory Committee meeting. The speaker was a nurse from Bloomington Public Health. The committee will be sponsoring a fundraiser to purchase gym equipment for Pond and Southwood. She encouraged contacting legislators to support full funding of public education. Nelly Korman highlighted the City of Bloomington Latino Festival. She reported the Board Legislative Committee is meeting this week to track bills in support of public education and those impacting Bloomington Public Schools. Matt Dymoke reported on the Community Education Advisory Committee meeting. He noted the City of Bloomington is working on a Health and Wellness Center. Dawn Steigauf reported contract negotiations for food service employees has begun. The PTSA Council meeting featured speakers on summer programming available through Community Education and the City of Bloomington. The Special Education Community Advisory Committee is offering a training session this Month. The Disability Awareness Walk will be May 15. The Special Caring Awards event will be April 28; nomination forms soon will be available. A "Bikes for Bloomington" event is forthcoming. A community COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be held on March 23 at Oak Grove Elementary School.

IX. OTHER

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the School Board, Chair Tom Bennett adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Nelly Korman, Clerk