

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

February 27, 2023

- 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 Heather Starks at 7:00 p.m. on February 27, 2023, in the Arlene Bush Board Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 West 106th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Chair Starks 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: Heather Starks, Chair; Dawn Steigauf, Vice Chair; Mia Olson, Clerk; Matt Dymoke, Treasurer; Beth Beebe, Tom Bennett and Nelly Korman.
- Attorney Present: David Holman.
- Administration Present: Eric Melbye, Jenna Mitchler, Rick Kaufman, Jake Winchell, and Rod Zivkovich.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- Heather Starks moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to approve the agenda with the addition of a Public Schools Week Proclamation under Recognitions. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITIONS
- National Merit Scholar Finalists
- The School Board recognized three National Merit Scholar Finalists. Jefferson High School Principal Dr. Jaysen Anderson introduced Jefferson students Charlie Grant and Adam Lueth, and Maisie Pederson from Kennedy High School. Students shared plans for the future. Dr. Anderson highlighted the students' accomplishments. 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. They represent the academic top one percent (1%) of all high school students in the country.
- Support Services Employees
- Tonight, we recognized the dedication and commitment of our support services employees. Dave Kusinski, Assistant Director of Building and Grounds, has served the district for 36 years. Mr. Kusinski highlighted the excellent work of the custodial and maintenance staff and especially Dawn Williams and the grounds crew. Parking lots, turf fields, stadium, school grounds and snow removal are a few of the major responsibilities of the grounds crew. This year has been especially challenging with the record snow.

Lisa Foust, Director of Transportation, and Lisa Gruit, department lead for driving, routing and dispatching, shared that there are 130 professionals in the department including bus drivers, bus aides, stand-by drivers, routers, dispatchers, clerical, shop personnel and managers who safely transport 9,000 students daily. Lisa Foust highlighted two table top exercises that Homeland Security conducted with the Transportation Department. The end result was the District was awarded certification that only four or five school districts in the nation have received.

Rynetta Renford, Food Services Director, provided highlights of the exemplary work of the food service staff who number about 60 in total. Often times supply chains times remain a challenge as does a shortage of staff. The department continues to offer healthy choices and a variety of choices. New products are being introduced as well as products made by food service staff.

On behalf of the School Board, Chair Starks expressed appreciation to all of the employees for all of the behind the scenes work that takes place every day.

Student School
Board Representative
Reports

Kelly Olson reported on Kennedy activities including wrestling, swimming, hockey, girls & boys basketball, Flyers floor hockey, speech team, Kolleens, Rhythm in Gold, Siri Anderson Region AAA award winner, Todd Walsh selected as swim coach of the year and Chuck Vavrosky selected 5AA coach of the year for wrestling.

Janie Andersen reported on Jefferson activities including the ending of trimester two and preparation for finals on Friday, Cheer Team national winners, Nordic Ski at state, show choir competitions, senior student athletes on signing day, girls and boys basketball, and the upcoming multicultural black student union event.

Public Schools Week
Proclamation

Dawn Steigauf moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 honors the Proclamation from the Governor of the State of Minnesota declaring February 27 through March 3, 2023, as Public Schools Week. Motion carried unanimously.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Eric Melbye reported on district activities. The Jefferson High School Cheer Team won another national championship. The team has been invited to be recognized at a School Board meeting.

Having more than any other school district in the state this year, we have 10 teachers who have been nominated for Education Minnesota Teacher of the Year: Jill Andersen, Ridgeview grade 3; Serena Christensen, Washburn grade 2; Kristina Ebert, Valley View Middle Science; Beth Kiene, Jefferson Science; Angela Mahowald, Hillcrest grade 5; Ryan Pedersen, Jefferson Art; Scyler Shearer, Hillcrest Music; Ashly Tritch, Olson Middle Computer Science; Laurel Wiehe, Kennedy Social Studies; Jeff Zupfer, Normandale Hills Music.

One of the topics at the February 13 study session was special education programming. A few highlights from information that evening. The District has fantastic special education programming, leadership, and staff who work with all of the students and families to provide the best programming possible. Beyond highlighting some of the programming we also discussed the fact that post-covid, we are seeing increasing referral and identification rates in the district.

One area in particular is speech/language services. This is not surprising given the disrupted learning environments of the past few years and the fact that there was a lot of masking over that time. While our numbers are increasing in the short term, I am hopeful that we can serve these students and hopefully get back to more traditional speech language numbers in a couple of years. While the pandemic can explain some of the increase in special education numbers we also need to constantly study our data and make adjustments to core instruction as we work to continually improve. One last takeaway is that we continue to work closely with our intermediate district service partners to get students into the most appropriate settings. This is a challenge due to staff shortages and waitlists. All of this information reinforces that the Board's legislative priorities are the correct ones. Increasing special education numbers and level of need will only increase our cross-subsidy, which we are hopeful the Legislature will address this spring.

The first of three in-person, all-day strategic planning sessions was held on February 7. This session was the Data Retreat. The next session is tomorrow, February 28th. This session will focus on Visioning. We have a dedicated page on our website with all the strategic planning information--readings, powerpoints, data and the work output from each session. I want this to be and believe it is a very transparent process. The page also includes links to surveys which will be open after each all-day planning session for staff, students and the public to provide feedback on the work to date. That survey information is then brought back to the main team for process and incorporation into our final product. Following each of the strategic planning meetings, the School Board will engage in a professional development session with the consultants.

One goal of the curriculum review process is to provide parents/guardians, students and other interested members of the community an opportunity to view and give feedback on potential instructional materials. Currently, K-12 English Language Arts is the content area in the curriculum review process, therefore we will have the potential K-12 ELA instructional materials available to view and provide feedback. Open houses review the ELA materials were held February 15, 16, and 17th. One final date has been added—March 2nd from 4:00 to 7:30 pm in the boardroom at ESC.

Dawn Steigauf moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, to establish professional development sessions conducted via zoom starting at 5:00 pm on the following dates: March 6, March 30 and April 20. Motion carried unanimously.

The School Board will host a virtual legislative forum with our Bloomington legislators at 7:00 pm on March 1. Motion to establish the forum made by Dawn Steigauf and seconded by Beth Beebe. The virtual legislative forum will be carried live by BEC TV. Motion carried unanimously.

The School Board continues its professional development related to governance. The next sessions are scheduled for March 20 and May 1 at 5 pm. Matt Dymoke moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to establish these sessions. Motion carried unanimously.

The School Board and City Council plan to meet on Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be hosted by the School Board and carried live by BEC TV. Matt Dymoke moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, to establish this joint meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PART A

1. *Board Business*

Minutes

Notes

Personnel Actions

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting January 23, 2023.
- b. Listening Session Notes February 13, 2023.
- c. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Employments, Change of Status. Independent Personnel: Resignation, Position Elimination. Classified Personnel: Terminations, Retirements, Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.

2. *Policy Approval*

Policy 524

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves no change to Policy 524, Computer System and Internet Acceptable Use.

3. *Field Trips*

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

4. *Contracts/Agreements*

Community Partners

Weaving Cultures

K12 Insight

Child Trends Research

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Community Partners Agreement between SteppingStone Creative Learning at Park Square Theatre and Independent School District 271 to provide The Language of Shakespeare Workshop to Metro South Adult Basic Education students.
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Contract for Training between Weaving Cultures, LLC and Independent School District 271 to provide training to Metro South Adult Basic Education students. Weaving Cultures, LLC will provide a 40-hour interpreter course which satisfies regional customer requirements for training interpreters providing services to state agencies and hospitals. This is a nationally recognized course taught in many states and is also accepted for medical certification processes for National Accreditation.
- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Agreement with K12 Insight for *Let's Talk*, a cloud-based feedback and engagement tool for stakeholders during the strategic plan development and roll-out processes at a cost not to exceed \$24,512.50, and authorizes Rick Kaufman, Executive Director of Community Relations and Emergency Management, to sign the Agreement that is in effect from March 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Memorandum of Understanding and a Data Use and Security Agreement with Child Trends for the purposes of research and for collecting data in the area of secondary student Math engagement.

- ADHD Life Tools e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Consulting Agreement between ADHD Life Tools and Independent School District 271 to implement a Learning Lab at Oak Grove, Olson and ValleyView Middle Schools.
- Fraser Child & Family Center f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves agreement between the Fraser Child and Family Center and Independent School District 271 effective February 15, 2023 through June 1, 2023.

5. *Finance*

- Finance Reports a. Statements of Revenues and Expenditures January 2023.
- Receipts & b. Receipts and Disbursements January 2023.
- Disbursements

Matt Dymoke moved, Dawn Steiguaf 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

AIPAC Resolution
of Non-Concurrence
2022-2023 Report

Dr. Mitchler, Assistant Superintendent, presented information from the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) regarding the determination of non-concurrence for this year in accordance with State Statute 124D.78. Gina Aulwes, AIPAC Chair; along with Jennifer Tangness and Louis Garrett, AIPAC Committee Members; shared the concerns of parents that adequate progress is being made and presented recommendations for continuous improvement.

We, the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC), voted to submit a resolution of non-concurrence on January 25, 2023 for the 2022-2023 school year. AIPAC has presented the School Board concerns about the lack of achievement and engagement of our Native students for many years dating back to 2011. We acknowledge the leadership Dr. Mitchler has brought to our recommendations; however, we still have concerns as we have not seen adequate progress. A significant number of our Native students continue to struggle and the Achievement Gap is still significant. The American Indian Education Program has a staff of two to work with more than 265 students spread across 15 school buildings—this is not nearly enough support to meet the needs of our children and to provide teachers with cultural resources.

Recommendations:

1. Increase American Indian Education Program staff who are culturally proficient in Native American knowledge and community to provide more direct services to American Indian students.
2. Actively recruit and hire licensed and non-licensed American Indian staff across the district.

Dr. Mitchler shared the next steps that include: Collaboration with district departments to plan next steps with regard to each recommendation, response from the School Board and district within sixty (60) days, and data collection and progress monitoring throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

Intent to Issue General
Obligation Alt Facility
Refund Bonds,
Series 2023A

Matt Dymoke moved, Tom Bennett seconded, the following:
RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District 271, State of
Minnesota, as follows:

The School Board hereby finds and declares that it is necessary and desirable and in the best interest of the District to issue its General Obligation Alternative Facilities Refunding Bonds, Series 2023A in the approximate principal amount of \$14,975,000 (the Bonds) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475. The proceeds of the Bonds will be used, together with any additional funds of the District which might be required, to refund in advance of maturity and prepay on May 17, 2023, the 2026 through 2034 maturities aggregating \$16,175,000 in principal amount, of the Districts \$16,275,000 General Obligation Alternative Facilities Bonds, Series 2013A, originally dated as of June 4, 2013 (the Refunded Bonds). The purpose of the refunding of the Refunded Bonds is to achieve a debt service savings.

The District will conform to all aspects of the attached Certification of Minutes.

BOND SALE GUIDELINES

- 1) **Sale.** The District has retained Ehlers & Associates, Inc. (Ehlers) in Roseville, Minnesota, as its independent financial advisor for the Bonds. Ehlers is authorized to solicit proposals in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.60, Subdivision 2(9). If the issuance of the Bonds is approved, the School Board shall meet at the time and place specified in the Official Statement to receive and consider proposals for the purchase of the Bonds.
- 2) **Official Statement; Tabulation of Proposals.** Ehlers is authorized to prepare and distribute an Official Statement and to open, read and tabulate the proposals for presentation to the School Board.
- 3) **Minnesota School District Credit Enhancement Program.** (a) The District hereby covenants and obligates itself to notify the Commissioner of Education of a potential default in the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds and to use the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to guarantee payment of the principal and interest on the Bonds when due. The District further covenants to deposit with the Bond Registrar or any successor paying agent three (3) days prior to the date on which a payment is due an amount sufficient to make that payment or to notify the Commissioner of Education that it will be unable to make all or a portion of that payment. The Bond Registrar for the Bonds is authorized and directed to notify the Commissioner of Education if it becomes aware of a potential default in the payment of principal or interest on the Bonds or if, on the day two (2) business days prior to the date a payment is due on the Bonds, there are insufficient funds to make that payment on deposit with the Bond Registrar. The District understands that as a result of its covenant to be bound by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, the provisions of that section shall be binding as long as any Bonds of this issue remain outstanding.

(b) The District further covenants to comply with all procedures now or hereafter established by the Departments of Finance and Education of the State of Minnesota pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, subdivision 2(c) and otherwise to take such actions as necessary to comply with that section. The chair, clerk, superintendent or business manager is authorized to execute any applicable Minnesota Department of Education forms.

Motion carried unanimously.

As discussed last fall, the District's 2013A bond is eligible for refinancing. At that time, rates had risen to where it was not economically feasible. However, rates have stabilized at this time, and our financial consultant is recommending refunding this bond would likely produce debt service savings. Refunding our General Obligation Alternative Facilities Bonds, Series 2013A issue may produce debt service savings of approximately \$100,000.

Bid Award/NH
Asbestos Abatement

Tom Bennett moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a bid of \$336,660.00 for asbestos abatement at Normandale Hills Elementary School from Dennis Environmental Operations of St. Paul, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

This project is identified in our 2022-23 Alternative Facilities Plan and consists of asbestos abatement at Normandale Hills Elementary School. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. Our attorney and insurance agent have reviewed the AIA standardized contract.

Bid Award/Reroofing
KHS & OGMS

Tom Bennett moved, Matty Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a bid of \$2,623,000 for reroofing at Kennedy High School and Oak Grove Middle School from McPhillips Bros. Roofing, of St. Paul, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

This project is identified in our 2022-23 Alternative Facilities Plan and consists of reroofing at Kennedy High School and Oak Grove Middle School. Funding for this project is from the Alternative Facilities Fund. Our attorney and insurance agent have reviewed the AIA standardized contract.

Naming Auditor

Matt Dymoke moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 renews Bergan KDV, Ltd. to perform a general financial audit conforming to State and Federal guidelines. The renewal is for four years starting in 2023-24 and the fee will be \$42,500, a 6.6% increase the first year and a 4% increase per year, the following 3 years through 2026-2027. Motion carried unanimously.

The proposed four-year audit fees represent an annual fee increase the first year of 6.6% and a 4% increase each year after through 2026-2027. Current year (2022-23) audit fees are \$45,500.00. Bergan KDV, Ltd. has been the auditor since 1995-1996.

Donations

Beth Beebe moved, Nelly Korman seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves donations as indicated in the background in the amount of \$20,869.16. Motion carried unanimously.

MONETARY—Donation of \$1,290.32 to Poplar Bridge Elementary School from PB PTSA for field trip transportation for Grades K-4. Donation of \$500.00 to Westwood Elementary School from an anonymous donor through The Blackbaud Giving Fund to be used at the principal's discretion. Donation of \$469.15 to Oak Grove Middle School from OGMS PTSA to help pay for the 7th Grade pizza party and to help purchase shelving in Restorative Room #128. Donation of \$250.00 to Jefferson High School from Women's Ministries Redemption Lutheran Church for Jag Den for students and families in need. Donation of \$4,029.69 to Jefferson High School from Jefferson Band Booster Club (JBBC) for the Band Escrow Account. Money is from December Raise Right fundraiser and Kittleson & Gertens Winter fundraisers. Donation of \$330.00 to Kennedy High School from Mr. & Mrs. Charles Colquitt to be used at the principal's discretion. Donation of \$1,000.00 to ESC Community Relations Department from the Education Foundation of Bloomington to use towards scholarships for seniors to attend the Senior Achievement Awards dinner. Donation of \$1,000.00 to ESC Community Relations Department from My Credit Union to use towards scholarships for seniors to attend the Senior Achievement Awards dinner. Donation of \$1,500.00 to ESC Community Relations Department from MOAC Mall Holdings LLC to use toward scholarships for seniors to attend the Senior Achievement Awards dinner. Donation of \$250.00 to ESC Community Relations Department from the Optimist Club of Bloomington to use toward scholarships for seniors to attend the Senior Achievement Awards dinner. Donation of 10,000.00 to ESC Food Service Department from the Education Foundation of Bloomington for the Food for Thought program.

VALUE IN KIND—Donation of ten \$25.00 Walmart gift cards to Kennedy High School from Women's Ministry of Redemption Lutheran Church for Kennedy Community Alliance to use for students in need. Total value of \$250.00.

Kids' SAFARI
Fee Increase

Nelly Korman moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the proposed fee increase for Kids' SAFARI and the Camp SAFARI program effective for the 2023-2024 school year and summer of 2024, respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

Kids' SAFARI is the before and after school child care program for children in kindergarten through grade 5, offering enrichment opportunities designed to meet the needs of children and families. Camp SAFARI is a full-day child care program offered during the summer for children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. Administration is proposing fee increases for Kids' SAFARI and Camp SAFARI programming. The proposed fees are competitive with other local school programs. The last fee increase was in the 2021-2022 school year. Upon approval, the proposed rates listed below are effective for the 2023-2024 school year and summer of 2024.

Girls Lacrosse
Coop Sponsorship
KHS & United Christian
Academy

Nelly Korman moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a Girls Lacrosse Cooperative Sponsorship between Kennedy High School and United Christian Academy effective with the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

United Christian Academy (UCA) has some interest from girl athletes in being able to participate in Lacrosse at the high school level. With the large start-up costs of any program, especially Lacrosse when it comes to equipment, facilities, coaches and a large number of girl athletes needed, UCA is unable to provide the opportunity on its own for students who want to play.

A co-op is needed with an established program, Kennedy High School, in order to further promote the sport over the next couple of years. UCA plans to stay in this co-op until it is no longer beneficial to both schools. The goal is to increase participation from the UCA side to help Bloomington Kennedy to have both a JV and Varsity program, as well as have the long-term goal of making a stand-alone program if interest continues to rise. UCA sees this co-op as being mutually beneficial. The application will be submitted to the Minnesota State High School League for approval.

Graduation Fee
2023

Beth Beebe moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the graduation fee of \$60.00 per student for Kennedy High School and Jefferson High School for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

District administration, in consultation with high school administration, recommends no increase to the graduation fee for students who will graduate in June 2023. The fee remains at \$60.00 per student. Per MN Statute 123B.37, graduation fees are not charged for caps, gowns and diplomas.

Student Parking
Fees 2023-2024

Dawn Steigauf moved, Tom Bennett seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Student Parking Fees for Kennedy High School and Jefferson High School at the rate of \$270 per year (\$90 per trimester) for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Bloomington high school students are charged a trimester fee of \$90.00 to park their vehicles on school parking lots, or a total of \$270 per year. Administration recommended that the parking fee remain unchanged for the 2023-2024 school year for the following reasons: (1) Since students often pay this fee, there is a large elasticity of demand. As price increases participation decreases. Therefore, there is often a zero sum gain when increasing these prices. (2) More students are taking PSEO and Career & College Courses and there will be more internship opportunities. Often students need to use cars to participate in these programs. Increasing parking fees will counter our encouragement of students to participate in these programs. (3) The fees help to pay for the cost of the parking lot attendant and maintenance. (4) Student financial hardships are considered on an individual basis.

Student Instrument
User Fees 2023-2024

Dawn Steigauf moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Student Instrument Rental User Fees for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Activities have a strong correlation to academic success. When students are engaged in activities, they have a more positive attitude toward school. Administration recommended that the current Instrument User Fees remain the same for the 2023-2024 school year. Fees are used for high school uniforms and instrument replacement.

Student Athletic
Fees 2023-2024

Dawn Steigauf moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Student Athletic Fees for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Jefferson and Kennedy Activity Directors and Administration have reviewed student athletic fees and recommend no change 2023-2024 school year. Student and family maximum fees were eliminated effective with the 2020-2021 school year.

Student Activity Fees 2023-2024

Dawn Steigauf moved, Nelly Korman seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Student Activity Fees for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Jefferson and Kennedy Activity Directors and Administration have reviewed student athletic fees and recommend no change 2023-2024 school year. Student and family maximum fees were eliminated effective with the 2020-2021 school year.

Student/Adult Admission Fees for Activities 2023-2024

Dawn Steigauf moved, Beth Beebe seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves Student/Adult Admission Fees for Activities for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration recommends that the current Student/Adult Admission Fees for Activities remain the same for the 2023-2024 school year.

Middle School Sports Addition

Mia Olson moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves adding the middle school sports of Boys and Girls Soccer beginning Fall 2023 and Co-ed Wrestling beginning Winter 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

As part of right sizing the budget in the 2019-2020 school year, the decision was made to eliminate middle school sports except for Track and Field. Post-COVID there is a need for structured after-school activities to keep students positively engaged and find ways to improve school climate and enhance students' sense of belonging. The community and the Bloomington Police Chief support more structure for after-school activities. Upon approval of the above-stated proposal, a further part of our plan is to monitor Volleyball participation through the Galaxy program and consider a recommendation for 2024-2025.

Estimated costs for the middle school sports proposal include transportation, coaching, administration and equipment in the amount of \$70,000 for 2023-2024. Funding would come from a \$50,000 grant from the Bloomington Noon Rotary Foundation and ESSER funds of \$100,000 over the next two years. It is planned to monitor participation and create metrics for success to drive programming with funding requests to begin for the 2025-2026 school year.

The School Board discussed the middle school sports proposal at its February 13 study session. Upon approval of the proposal from the School Board, staff will begin the process to secure equipment, leadership, coaches, a conference and scheduling.

Policy Review

Matt Dymoke, Chair of the Board Policy Committee, provided an overview of the three policies reviewed by the committee on February 21 and now are being brought to the Board for information and discussion. Heather Starks and Tom Bennett are the other two members of the committee. The policies have been reviewed and approved by legal counsel David Holman.

Policy 806 **Policy 806, District Crisis Management – Rick Kaufman**
Recommendation: NO CHANGE
Policy 303 was adopted February 27, 2017, and is being reviewed now as part of the five-year policy review cycle. Policy 303 follows the MSBA model policy. No changes are being recommended.

Policy 904 **Policy 904, Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Non-School Persons – Rick Kaufman**
Recommendation: NO CHANGE [Regulation Change Only]
The purpose of Policy 904 is to set requirements for the distribution of materials by non-school persons and organizations on school district property. This policy is based on MSBA model Policy 904. It is being brought forward as part of the five-year review cycle. Administration recommends no change to the policy. Minor language edits were made to the regulation and the submission period was changed from five (5) days prior to event to seven (7) days prior to event. The latter aligns with our approval process for Peachjar.

Policy 904.1 **Policy 904.1, Distribution of Noncurricular Materials by Students – Rick Kaufman**
Recommendation: NO CHANGE [Regulation Change Only]
The purpose of Policy 904.1 is to protect the exercise of students’ free speech rights, taking into consideration the educational objectives and responsibilities of the district. This policy is based on MSBA model Policy 904 and adapted to address materials distribution by students. It is being brought forward as part of the five-year review cycle. Administration recommends no change to the policy. Minor edits were made on the regulation—correct use of a word and in the two sections (Guidelines and Definitions).

Note: The numbering of policies 904 and 904.1 were interchanged so the District’s numbering matched that of MSBA for policy 904.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS Dawn Steigauf reported on the Special Education Community Advisory Council meeting presentation and the upcoming Caring Awards. Mia Olson reported on the Early Learning Parent Advisory Council meeting and upcoming activities, the PTSA Council meeting and the food drive scheduled for April, and the DDAC meeting. Tom Bennett reported on the District 917 organizational meeting of the Board; he is the Vice Chair. The Board now is organized on the calendar year. He also highlighted to Olson Elementary School carnival he attended. Nelly Korman reported on legislative activities including the Board’s virtual forum on March 1, AMSD Day at the Capitol on March 8, MSBA Day at the Capitol on March 20 and the letter to the editor in the Sun Current submitted by Heather Starks. Nelly Korman, Mia Olson and Matt Dymoke comprise the membership of the Board’s Legislative Committee. Several School Board members highlighted the Office of Educational Equity event in recognition of Black History Month.

IX. OTHER None.

X. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the School Board, Chair Heather Starks adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Mia Olson, Clerk