

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

**September 25, 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 September 25, 2023, in the Arlene Bush Board Room at the Educational Services Center, 1350 W. 106<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Administration Present: Eric Melbye, Jenna Mitchler, Jennifer McIntyre, and Rod Zivkovich.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- Recited.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- Matt Dymoke moved, Beth Beebe seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. RECOGNITION
- Laura Schmit, Director, Jefferson Theater Company, introduced members from the cast of “Little Women” which will be presented at Jefferson High School September 27 – October 1. Cast members included Gabrielle Stockton, Holleigh Stockton, Ava Lawler, Kerris Vaupal, and they performed a brief excerpt from the play.
- STUDENT SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES
- A video prepared by our Community Relations Department was played, introducing the new School Board Student Representatives, Kenneth Adah, Kennedy High School, and Dhruvika Uppal, Jefferson High School.
- OATH OF OFFICE
- Kenneth Adah, Kennedy High School Junior, and Dhruvika Uppal, Jefferson High School Senior, were sworn in by David Holman, Legal Counsel, as Student Representatives to the School Board of Independent School District 271, Bloomington Public Schools for the school year 2023-24.
- Both Kenneth and Dhruvika read prepared reports highlighting activities and events at their respective schools.
- V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Melbye reported the dates and activities planned for Kennedy High School’s Homecoming on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, and Jefferson High School’s Homecoming on Friday October 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Melbye reported Bloomington Public Schools is the first ever Amazon boot-up site in Minnesota. We will not only be hosting scratch PD for our own Digital Learning Specialists, but also tech integrationists from area school districts, thus

cementing our place in history as Minnesota's leading K-12 computer science program. Dr. Melbye reminded the public that, as part of Minnesota's Free School Meals Program, starting in the 2023-24 school year all students can have one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school. However, the Application for Educational Benefits is still important for students who may qualify for benefits such as reduced fees for transportation, athletic programs, academic or extracurricular activities, and to help school qualify for education funding, discounts and other meal programs that benefit all students. All families are encouraged to apply or opt out unless Bloomington Schools has notified them by letter or email that they qualify for educational benefits for this school year. Dr. Melbye acknowledged that there has been a fair amount of concern and confusion regarding new legislative language and how it impacts school resource officers, or in our case, school liaison officers to do their jobs. It has caused law enforcement agencies in a number of counties and municipalities to pull SRO/SLO services from schools. Fortunately, the Bloomington Schools and Bloomington Police Department have a history of strong collaboration and trust, and we have maintained our School Liaison Office program throughout the Fall, and he was happy to report that, with the further clarification the Attorney General Ellison published last week, we will continue to have Bloomington Police Department School Liaison Officers working with students and staff in our secondary buildings. Dr. Melbye also heard, anecdotally, that many other area agencies that pulled out of schools are returning.

Dr. Melbye asked for a motion to establish professional development sessions of the School Board on Monday, October 16, 2023, Monday, November 20, 2023, and Monday, December 4, 2023, at 5:00 pm with TeamWorks International in order to continue work on governance. So moved by Matt Dymoke, seconded by Dawn Steigauf. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Melbye asked for a motion to establish a closed session of the School Board on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, following the Study Session, pursuant to M.S. 13D.03 to discuss the District's labor negotiations strategy for District bargaining groups. So moved by Matt Dymoke, seconded by Dawn Steigauf. Motion carried unanimously.

## VI . PART A

### 1. *Board Business*

Minutes

Personnel Actions

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting August 14, 2023.
- b. Licensed Personnel: Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.  
Independent Personnel: Changes of Status.  
Classified Personnel: Resignations, Employments, Changes of Status.  
Transportation 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Averaging.

### 2. *Policy Approval*

Policy 203

Policy 550

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approved revised Policy 203, School Board Meetings.
- e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 Approved Policy 550, Student Handbooks.No change, regulation change only.

### 3. *Grants*

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts an Amended Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education Grant from the Minnesota Department of Education.
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts

- a Grant from Hennepin South Services Collaborative.
- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a Grant from Walser Foundation.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a Youth Activities Grant Agreement for Hillcrest Community School.
- e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a Comprehensive State Literacy Development Grant.

#### 4. *Contracts/Agreements*

- a. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a College in the Schools at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Memorandum of Agreement.
- b. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts an Agreement with InSports Foundation.
- c. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts an Agreement with Pathways Advisory Committee.
- d. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a Proposal with H&B Specialized Products to Install Volleyball Skymasters at Kennedy High School Activity Center.
- e. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts a Services Agreement with IMEG for Activity Center Roof Structure Review at Kennedy High School and Jefferson High School Activity Centers.
- f. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts an Agreement with True North Consulting Group for Fiber Design Development (Phase 2 Design).
- g. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Student Teaching Agreement with St. Catherine's University. This Agreement will be in effect 2023-2026.
- h. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Student Teaching Agreement with St. Mary's University. This Agreement will be in effect 2023-2026.
- i. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Consulting Services agreement with TeamWorks International.
- j. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Agreement with the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development for ELCII (Early Language Comprehensive Individualized Instruction).
- k. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Health for the Healthy Kids Minnesota Program.
- l. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the Memorandum of Agreement with COMPAS for 2023-2024.
- m. RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 accepts the CEL Public Relations Agreement.

#### 5. *Finance*

- a. Approved Booster Clubs 2023-2024.
- b. Tuition Rates 2023-24
- c. Finance Reports August, 2023
- d. Receipts and Disbursements August, 2023

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

1. Tom Bennett moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the Bid Award for the Oak Grove Middle School Dish Room Renovation and Valley View Middle School Freezer Buildout. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Nelly Korman moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approve all Donations.
3. Matt Dymoke moved, Nelly Korman seconded, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approve the Proposed Preliminary 2023 Payable 2024 Property Tax Levy.
4. Dawn Steigauf moved, Matt Dymoke seconded, the General Liability Package Insurance Renewal includes Commercial Property and Casualty, Equipment Breakdown, Auto, Umbrella/Excess, Educators Errors and Omissions and Employment Practices Liability, Employee Fidelity, Storage Tank Environment Impairment Liability, Identity Fraud Expense Coverage, Cyber Risk Coverage, and International Package.
5. Policy Review
  - a. Matt Dymoke introduced the Executive Summary of the September 13, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting where the following policies were reviewed:
    1. Revised Policy 406, Public & Private Personnel Data, presented by Mary Burroughs, Executive Director of Human Resources Bloomington Public Schools.
    2. Revised Policy 419, Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices, presented by Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Student Services, Bloomington Public Schools.
    3. Policy 516 Student Medication/Medical Treatment or Procedures, presented by Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Student Services, Bloomington Public Schools.
    4. Revised Policy 806, District Crisis Management Policy, presented by Dr. Eric Melbye, Superintendent.
    5. Revised Policy 906, Volunteers, presented by Emily Gagnon, Coordinator of Volunteer Experiences, Bloomington Public Schools.
6. Mia Olson moved, Matt Dymoke seconded that the School Board Goals for 2023-24 are accepted as follows:
  1. Goal 1: Support Implementation of Year One of New Strategic Plan
  2. Goal 2: Realignment of Equitable Resources
  3. Goal 3: Continue Work on Board Committees and District/Outside Councils
  4. Goal 4: Review & Update Community Engagement Plan (Family Partnership
  5. Goal 5: Approve Plan for New Stadium(s)
7. Beth Beebe moved, Dawn Steigauf seconded that the Superintendent's Goals for 2023-24 are accepted as follows:
  1. Goal 1: Support implementation of year one of the new strategic plan.
  2. Goal 2: Realignment of equitable resources.
  3. Goal 3: Continue work on Board committees and district/outside councils.
  4. Goal 4: Review and update Community Engagement Plan (family partnerships).
  5. Goal 5: Approve plan for new stadium(s).

VIII.

BOARD  
MEMBER  
REPORTS

Matt Dymoke shared that the Education Foundation of Bloomington had it's first meeting last week. Innovative Grants for classroom teachers will be opening soon. Up to \$1,000 will be available for innovative projects in their classrooms. The Policy Committee will keep working on

the many legislative changes. They meet in October. The Finance and Facilities Committee meets Friday with Rod Zivkovich and will continue work started last week in the Professional Development meeting. Also, this week is the first meeting of the Community Ed Advisory Committee. Mia Olson attended the Bloomington Parent and Family Advisory Council (formerly known as the PTSA). PTA members from all Bloomington Public elementary schools, middle schools and high schools are still included, but voting member organizations now also include the Early Learning Advisory Council and New Code Academy. The next meeting on October 4's topic is "Bloomington Forward" and will be offered hybrid, either in-person at ESC in Room 610, or online. A good way to get school updates from all the schools and programs. Beth Beebe attended the Valley View Elementary Fall Carnival. There was really good family turnout, with as many as 50 volunteers, including high schoolers. The BBQ food, help with set-up and take-down was provided by Hometown Church. Director Beebe also recently participated in an on-line seminar or "critical conversations". Nelly Korman shared that the next Legislative Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 8, in preparation for the next Legislative session. Dawn Steigauf recently attended the Special Ed Community Advisory Council meeting where they reviewed last year and set goals for this coming school year. She attended the "Falcon Connection", which was well attended by families. Each grade level made presentations, food trucks were available, as well as Tech help for families. Beth Beebe is personally submitting a resolution to the MSBA for the delegate assembly on the way our MCA test scores are calculated. Nelly Korman said there is also a resolution being written for the MSBA on behalf of the School Board and Bloomington School District which the Superintendent is helping to draft, relating to Special Education. Chair Starks, along with several other Board Members attended both Jefferson and Kennedy High School Hall of Fame ceremonies. She also attended the MSBA Advocacy Tour. She and Superintendent Melbye visited the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, regarding truancy. Governor Walz and Education Commissioner Willie Jett visited several Bloomington Schools on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Chair Starks thanked the Board Members for visiting and being active in their ambassador schools.

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 pm.

Mia Olson, Clerk