

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Independent School District 279 School Board
January 26, 2010

CALL TO ORDER	A regular meeting of the Independent School District 279 School Board was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, in the Board Room at the Educational Service Center. Chairperson Nelson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL	The following members were present: Board members Tammie Epley, Lin Myszkowski, Dean Henke, John Nelson, Laura Cottingham, Kim Green, and Superintendent Susan Hintz.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by Kim Green.
ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Cottingham, to accept the printed agenda.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
AUDIENCE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE SCHOOL BOARD	The following community members addressed the Board during Audience Opportunity to Address the Board: Collette Guyott-Hempel, Harriette Krasnoff; and Teresa Lunt.
SUPT. REPORT	<p>The superintendent stated that <i>our mission is to inspire and prepare all students to achieve their dreams, contribute to community, and engage in a lifetime of learning</i>; these accomplishments are evidence that our students are achieving this mission. With assistance from Cabinet members Superintendent Hintz shared some “points of pride” that showcase some of the achievements that have taken place in our District 279 school community.</p> <p>Achieving Dreams 2009 Park Center High School graduate Ashlee Kephart was one of only 20 Americans—and the only Minnesota teenager--chosen to help carry the Olympic Torch on its way to Vancouver. Ashlee was nominated through the Cola Cola “Living Positively” program, which recognizes individuals who model positive leadership, volunteerism, and commitment to community.</p>

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Commitment to Community

Many students across our system are engaging in fundraising and volunteer projects to help earthquake victims in Haiti:

- Two schools are partnering with Feed My Starving Children to help meet the needs of disaster victims in Haiti. Sixth-graders at Zanewood Community School will pack meals in early February, and the Student Council at Rush Creek Elementary has designated March 15 –19 to raise money to help Feed My Starving Children meet the country’s basic food needs;
- Joni Sutton’s French class at Maple Grove Junior High is collecting money for the Red Cross to help aid disaster victims;
- Maple Grove Senior High is taking a multi-pronged approach to fundraising during their Sno-Daze celebration February 1-6:
- In exchange for online donations made at a special web site, hairdyingforHaiti.org, students will dye their hair wild and crazy colors, showcasing their creativity at a student assembly on February 5;
- A benefit concert will also take place on February 5 featuring three different Maple Grove student bands or groups;
- Tee-shirts are for sale with all proceeds benefitting Haiti disaster relief;
- And, in a remarkable gesture of generosity, an anonymous donor has agreed to match ALL funds raised.

North View Junior High students participated in the “Mother Bear” service learning project, which provides teddy bears for children with HIVV/AIDS in emerging nations. Students volunteered their time to help stuff the bears and add a signature fleece scarf to each one, similar to the scarves they made for children in Guatemala last month.

Elm Creek Kidstop hosted a donut/coffee/hot chocolate sale on January 20 and raised more than \$200 for the KS95 Change for Kids campaign, which benefits the Children’s Cancer Research Fund and Gillette Children’s Specialty Healthcare.

During Zanewood’s Multicultural Night in November, the sixth-grade boys’ leadership team collected 129 pounds of food for the Emergency Foodshelf Network.

Lifelong Learning

IB students at North View Junior High participated in a live videoconference with Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein on January 14. North View was the only school in our state selected to participate in the videoconference, during which students heard a first-hand account of what it was like to be a prisoner at Auschwitz. Student participants gained invaluable life lessons about hope, thanksgiving, perseverance, and giving back.

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The acclaimed Minnesota choral group, VocalEssence, is a regular partner with Birch Grove Elementary School for the Arts, and most recently collaborated with the school as part of a national initiative to celebrate the contributions of African-Americans and to learn about our shared heritage through studies of the arts. Patricia Brown, an artist with VocalEssence's WITNESS project, taught students a folk song from Ghana. The Birch Grove students will also attend a VocalEssence WITNESS Young People's Concert at the Ordway in mid-February.

As part of their character and culture studies, Kidstop students at Zanewood Community School focused on the themes of peace and justice by participating in a peace march on January 22. Leading up to the project, students observed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and studied the devastation in Haiti, compiling relevant quotes and writing poetry about peace. During the march, children circled the halls carrying signs promoting peace and sharing good wishes and kind words with everyone they passed.

Zanewood sixth-graders visited the University of Minnesota in November to participate in the Kids Connect program, designed to engage community youth in university life and foster an interest in higher education. This opportunity helps students gain the confidence and courage to pursue their academic goals and career aspirations.

Mission-driven employees

Palmer Lake Elementary Principal Tommy Watson is featured on the University of Minnesota's home page, describing his life story of overcoming obstacles in order to find success. The U of M web feature also includes an audio clip of students singing the Palmer Lake school song.

Congratulations to Barbara Rose, fourth-grade teacher at Birch Grove Elementary School for the Arts, who illustrated a recently published children's book called The Adventures of Sandora about a stick figure that comes to life. The book was written by Alice Goertzen, the mother of Mrs. Rose's best friend, and Sandora's adventures are based on stories from Mrs. Rose's childhood with Mrs. Goertzen's daughter.

Student Confidence, Courage and Competence

Nearly 400 students, parents and community members attended Zanewood's Multicultural Night on November 17. Attendees enjoyed multicultural food, visited booths hosted by community organizations, enjoyed entertainment by a Zanewood staff member, and visited the Media Center to sign up for a library card and receive a free Reading is Fundamental book. The evening also included a student talent show and a display of traditional clothing from many cultures, while members of the sixth-grade diversity team explained to the audience the significance of the clothing and where it is worn.

After winning the section True Team title, the Maple Grove boys' swim

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team went on to win the True Team State Meet on January 23.

Congratulations to the Park Center Music Listening Team 1 for earning a spot at the state music composition contest in February. The team qualified by taking second place out of 18 teams at the regional competition. The winning team consists of seniors Annie Gabriel and Stephanie Morse-Noland, and junior Emily Notturmo.

Adam Mickelson, a junior at Park Center Senior High, has been accepted to the Summer Leaders Seminar at the United States Military Academy at West Point next summer. The week-long program of academic classes, military training, physical fitness and intramural athletics allows students to experience cadet life at West Point. Adam is one of only 1,000 high school juniors in the nation to attend the program in 2010.

Christian Thompson, Park Center senior, was recently named a Channel 12 Standout Student, recognizing his accomplishments in academics and extracurriculars. Christian is an honor roll student, president of the National Honor Society, and a member of the senior class cabinet and he participates on the math team and Mock Trial. Currently, he is preparing for the lead role in the spring musical, "The Pajama Game."

The Park Center Pirates girls' basketball team has joined forces with the American Cancer Society, National Association of Basketball Coaches, and the Minnesota Girls' Basketball Coaches Association in the fight against cancer. During their game against the Blaine Bengals, parents, fans and community members will have the opportunity to purchase a t-shirt or bracelet, with all proceeds benefitting colon cancer research and awareness. Donations will be accepted throughout the game, and all fans will receive a blue ribbon to commemorate the fight against colon cancer.

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Director Myszkowski reported that she, Director Epley, and some district administrators attended the Blue Jean Ball at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Brooklyn Center. The "Blue Jean Ball" is an event that supports the Brooklyns Youth Council.

Director Green reported that she attended the Community Education Program Advisory Council (CEPAC) meeting. At this meeting Beth Carpenter, Gifted Education Coordinator, presented information on our district's gifted education program.

Director Epley reported that she and Director Green attended the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Leadership Conference that was held in Minneapolis. She shared that the workshops they attended were very informative.

Vice Chairperson Henke stated that he would like to see Advocating for PELRA Reform added to our district's Legislative Platform in the future.

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MISSION FORWARD TASK FORCE UPDATE	<p>Mike Looby, Executive Director of Community Engagement, shared that the Mission Forward Task Force had its first meeting and that they will continue to meet twice a month. Mr. Looby stated that Mark Fournier and Linda Yang are co-chairs of this task force; he introduced Ms. Yang who gave an update of the meeting that was held on January 25, 2010.</p> <p>In her update, Ms. Yang stated that all of the task force members were in attendance at this meeting and they are still in the process of brainstorming the topics they would like to undertake.</p>
REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA	Director Henke requested that item 8F <u>Approval: Bid by Lund Martin Construction Company, Inc. for controlled entry upgrades at eight schools (Birch Grove, Cedar Island, Fair Oaks, Palmer Lake, Arbor View, Edinbrook, Maple Grove Senior High, Osseo Senior High)</u> for further discussion.
CONSENT AGENDA	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Myszkowski, to approve items in the Consent Agenda as amended.</p> <p><u>Approval of the minutes of the organizational meeting of January 12, 2010</u></p> <p><u>Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2010</u></p> <p><u>Ratified Accounts Payable dated January 19, 2010</u></p> <p><u>Personnel</u></p> <p><u>Acceptance of the National School Lunch Equipment Stimulus in the amount of \$44,142 and authorize an expenditure and budget appropriation in the amount of \$44,142</u></p> <p><u>Surrogate Parent Appointments</u></p> <p><u>Student Trip</u></p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
ACTION ON ITEM(S) REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA	<p>After a brief discussion, motion by Nelson, seconded by Myszkowski to approve the Bid by Lund Martin Construction Company, Inc. for controlled entry upgrades at eight schools (Birch Grove, Cedar Island, Fair Oaks, Palmer Lake, Arbor View, Edinbrook, Maple Grove Senior High, and Osseo Senior High).</p> <p>The motion passed on a 5-1 vote with Director Henke voting no.</p>

GIFTS TO THE DISTRICT	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Epley, to approve the Gifts to the District totaling \$44,374.90.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SUPERINTENDENT HINTZ'S RETIREMENT	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Myszkowski, to approve the adoption of the resolution accepting Superintendent Hintz's retirement.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
LEADERSHIP TRANSITION	<p>The Board had a discussion on how to go about hiring our superintendent's successor. Dr. Kate Maguire, currently Assistant Superintendent of Leadership, Teaching and Learning, quickly emerged as the Board's recommended candidate. Additional discussion revolved around a process for collecting community feedback.</p> <p>Chairperson John Nelson announced three "Meet the Candidate" sessions whose purpose is to provide community members an opportunity to meet and learn more about the Board's candidate for superintendent. The sessions will be held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday, February 6, noon to 1:30 p.m., Brooklyn Park City Hall Council Chambers, 5200 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park • Wednesday, February 10, 8-9:30 a.m., Maple Grove Government Center, Emergency Operations Center (lower level), 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway N, Maple Grove • Thursday, February 11, 7-8:30 p.m. (recorded for later broadcast on Cable Channel 21), ISD 279 Educational Service Center, 11200 93rd Avenue North, Maple Grove <p>At the sessions, Dr. Maguire will share information about her background, qualifications, her interest in the position, and answer questions from the audience. Participants will be invited to complete comment cards, providing feedback to the School Board prior to its final hiring decision.</p> <p>The Board's decision to recommend Dr. Maguire is not a hiring decision; rather, she is presented as the Board's recommended candidate. After considering community and staff feedback gathered through a variety of sources, the Board intends to take action on Dr. Maguire's candidacy at its February 23 meeting.</p>
POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT	<p>Dr. Kate Maguire reported that the policy committee is in the process of updating the following policies which are being presented for first reading. The second and final reading of these policies will be</p>

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT	<p>presented at the February 23, 2010 meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 705 - Investments (policy and procedure) - revision • Policy 924 - School Volunteers (policy only) - revision
ANNOUNCEMENTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Board Work Session, Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 6:00 p.m., Forum Room, Educational Service Center. Open to the Public. 2. Negotiation Strategies Meeting, Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 6:00 p.m., Conference Room N10, Educational Service Center. Closed to the Public 3. Regular School Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 9 2010, 8:00 p.m., Board Room, Educational Service Center. Open to the Public. 4. District 279 Foundation's 10th Annual: A Night Out, Saturday, February 13, 2010, Rush Creek Golf Course.
ADJOURNMENT	<p>At 9:53 p.m., motion by Henke, seconded by Green, to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
	<p>_____</p> <p>Kim Green, Clerk</p>