

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Independent School District 279 School Board
March 2, 2010

CALL TO ORDER	A regular meeting of the Independent School District 279 School Board was held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, in the Board Room at the Educational Service Center. Chairperson Nelson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL	<p>The following members were present: Board members Tammie Epley, John Nelson, Laura Cottingham, Kim Green, and Superintendent Susan Hintz.</p> <p>Board member Lin Myszkowski was absent.</p>
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by John Nelson.
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	No one addressed the Board during Audience Opportunity to Address the School Board.
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><u>Student Confidence, Courage and Competence</u></p> <p>The MGSB boys swim team won the Section 5AA championship with 14 swimmers advancing to state. Coach Ron Jacobsen was awarded Section 5AA Coach of the Year and Stacy Benjamin was named Section 5AA Diving Coach of the Year.</p> <p>The Maple Grove Senior High girls’ basketball team won the Northwest Suburban Conference for the first time in school history.</p>

Maple Grove Senior High placed second in state at the recent Academic Decathlon, bringing home 19 total gold, silver and bronze medals.

Congratulations to Keelie Sorensen for being named Park Center's Athena Award winner. This award is for an outstanding female athlete based on excellence in team or individual sports. She will be recognized at the Athena Awards luncheon on May 7 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Contributing to Community

Maple Grove Junior High recently learned that the Community Emergency Assistance Program needed sturdy bags for its clients to transport food in as they traveled from the food shelf on city buses. Students in the school's Textile Art & Design class decided they could use the skills and information they learned in class while helping others in the community. By recycling scraps of fabric left over from previous projects, students crafted durable, reusable grocery bags and donated them to CEAP.

Elm Creek PTO hosted "Rock On," the annual Family Dance on February 19 where students were invited to dress up in clothing representing the '60s, '70s, and '80s. In lieu of admission, families donated food shelf items and money to benefit CEAP. Donations added up to \$246 and 320 food items for the hungry in our communities.

The 10th annual Park Center Hoops for Heart basketball game between students and staff netted \$2,100 to benefit the American Heart Association.

Zanewood Community School hosted a waffle breakfast for families on February 11 attended by more than 100 parents. The breakfast was followed by a short data presentation informing parents of the school's growth goals and the strategies being employed to help all students succeed. The event concluded with a 30-minute program to celebrate all cultures in recognition of Black History month.

Lifelong Learning

TC Bear from the Minnesota Twins visited Palmer Lake on February 22 to encourage lifelong reading habits during "I Love to Read Month."

Fifteen male students from Park Center attended an overnight leadership retreat at Camp Ripley February 19-20. They worked on team building, integrity, and trust in order to attain a more global worldview as International Baccalaureate students. The female students will attend a similar leadership retreat in April.

Students from Wellstone Elementary in St. Paul visited Park Center

Senior High on February 19 to perform a drum routine in honor of Black History month. The Wellstone students learned about life in high school and, through their moving performance, inspired Park Center students to achieve their dreams.

Palmer Lake 4th graders participated in the Coming to America project, which explores the reasons people came to America, the challenges they faced, and the impact immigration had on their families. Students specifically examined the immigration of Sudanese-, Somali-, Irish- and Japanese-Americans. By putting themselves in others' shoes, students gained empathy and a deeper understanding of the challenges experienced by immigrants.

Achieving Results

The Palmer Lake Future Problem Solvers team, The Hippy Chickens, recently participated in a regional competition and won the coveted 2-6 Award, took first place in the written competition, and first place in the oral presentation, which earned them a spot in next month's state competition.

Woodland Elementary hosted its third annual Cultural Celebration on February 26, welcoming more than 320 students and family members to enjoy dinner and performances by students, the Chinese Dance Theater and the Titambe African Drummers. This event was co-sponsored by the Woodland PTA, ISD 279 and the District 279 Foundation.

Congratulations to the Osseo Junior High Destination Imagination teams for a great showing at the regional tournament last month. The Middle Level team placed second in the Instant Challenge portion of the competition, and fourth overall. The Secondary Level team of placed second overall and will be advancing to the state tournament in April.

Maple Grove Senior High's "Little Shop of Horrors" was one of 39 Minnesota high school productions receiving awards in the Hennepin Theatre Trust's Spotlight Musical Theatre Program. The musical was cited for outstanding accomplishment by a chorus and Sharayah Bunce received the award for outstanding performance in a leading role. Kevin Kriz also received honorable mention in a leading role.

Mission-driven employees

Congratulations to Kip Sackett, College and Career Readiness teacher at the Osseo Area Learning Center, who was recently named Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs Staff Member of the Year for his dedication to students and his involvement with the association at the state and local level.

	<p>The Minnesota Elementary School Principals’ Association (MESPA) recently awarded Rice Lake principal Mark French the 2010 MESPA Division Leadership Achievement Award. The award honors principals whose exemplary leadership and sustained efforts have made noteworthy contributions to the operation of effective school learning programs, thereby improving education, their communities, and their profession.</p> <p><u>Leveraging Assets</u></p> <p>Current and prospective students in Park Center’s High Achievers Program attended a meet and greet with their mentors at Boston Scientific on February 26. The students and mentors have been emailing each other weekly for nine weeks about guided topics such as post-secondary education, career advice, and more. The day-long event was initiated by Boston Scientific’s director of community relations, who visited Park Center last year during the International Baccalaureate showcase and was impressed with the great things being done for students at the school.</p> <p>The annual Future Professionals Luncheon was held at Park Center on February 25. The event is designed for students to meet and learn from professionals and leaders in our community who work in fields where minorities and women are underrepresented.</p> <p>Superintendent Hintz responded to a concern a community member had who spoke at last weeks Audience Opportunity to Address the Board.</p>
<p>SCHOOL BOARD REPORTS</p>	<p>Director Epley reported that she attended the Brooklyn Park Rotary’s wild game feed. She stated that this organization is a great supporter of our schools.</p> <p>Director Green reported that she and Director Epley attended Woodland Elementary Schools cultural celebration.</p> <p>Chairperson Nelson shared that there will be an Empty Bowls fundraiser to support CROSS food shelves on Thursday, March 25 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at Osseo Senior High.</p>
<p>ARRIVAL</p>	<p>Board member Dean Henke arrived at 8:25 p.m.</p>
<p>PRESENTATION: MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH</p>	<p>Dr. Wendy Barden, Coordinator of District Music, introduced ‘the Osseo Senior High School Garage Band; they played two original pieces and then two of the members read the proclamation naming March as “Music in our Schools Month.”</p>

	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Green, to approve the adoption of the proclamation declaring March as Music in our Schools Month.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Epley, to approve items in the Consent Agenda as follows:</p> <p><u>Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 23, 2010</u></p> <p><u>Verified Accounts Payable dated March 2, 2010</u></p> <p><u>Personnel</u></p> <p><u>Acceptance of the 2009-2010 Preschool Incentive Funds in the amount of \$122,241 and authorize an expenditure and budget appropriation in the amount of \$122,241</u></p> <p><u>Acceptance of the 2009-2010 Preschool Incentive Personnel in the amount of \$5,340 and authorize an expenditure and budget appropriation in the amount of \$5,340</u></p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATION FOR 2010-11 BUDGET</p>	<p>Superintendent Hintz stated that our collective great efforts to contain costs and generate revenue have paid off; our mid-year adjustment shows an increase of nearly \$3M. Our sale of Edgewood gave us additional dollars in our Capital Fund, which meant that we could take advantage of a one-time opportunity to move \$51 per student (or \$1.3M) from Capital to the General Fund, giving us \$4.3M more than we had projected. The superintendent recommended the Board authorizing our using up to \$2M to address the needs of the students we will be serving in the 2010-2011 school year.</p> <p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Epley, to approve the superintendent's recommendations for the 2010-2011 budget, an increase in budget capacity up to \$2M.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>GIFTS TO THE DISTRICT</p>	<p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Epley, to approve the Gifts to the District totaling \$5,194.61.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>RESOLUTION AWARDDING SALE, DETERMINING THE FORM AND DETAILS,</p>	<p>Joel Sutter from Ehlers and Associates gave the results and background of the Bond sale. This refunding is estimated to save in future debt</p>

<p>AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION, DELIVERY, AND REGISTRATION, AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2010A</p>	<p>service cost of \$3.5 million or approximately \$385,000 for FY 2013 through 2021. This will result in a direct reduction in tax levies for 2013 through 2021. The present value of savings is estimated at \$3 million or nearly 7.25% of the refunded debt service.</p> <p>Motion by Nelson, seconded by Henke, to approve the Resolution Awarding Sale, Determining The Form and details, Authorizing The Execution, Delivery, and Registration, and Providing for The Payment of General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2010A.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Board Work Session, Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 6:00 PM, Forum Room, Educational Service Center. Open to the Public. 2. Regular School Board Meeting, Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 8:00 PM, Board Room, Educational Service Center. Open to the Public.
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>At 8:55 p.m., motion by Cottingham, seconded by Henke, to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p>
	<p>_____</p> <p>Kim Green, Clerk</p>