BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

12000 Hancock Street Becker, MN 55308-9585



Dr. Stephen L. Malone Superintendent Phone: 763-261-4502 smalone@isd726.org

Date: August 3, 2017
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone

RE: Meeting Notes, August 7, 2017

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. We are preparing for the upcoming school year and excited to welcome students on September 5th. New teachers and those new to the school district will begin our teacher induction and mentorship program on August 23rd. All staff members will report on August 28th. The fall staff development schedule will focus on ensuring the use of effective instructional practices in all classrooms. This will include the instructional framework, course templates, MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Success), the teacher evaluation process, data review, and student growth. We will be emphasizing student attendance this year. The schedule is nearly finalized and will be distributed to staff and school board members next week.
- ii. The September school board meeting is scheduled for September 11th (September 4th is Labor Day.) This was approved by the school board at the organizational meeting in January.

3. Consent Agenda

- D. I recommend approving the personnel items as presented (enclosed).
- E. Policy 706 Acceptance Of Gifts permits the school board to accept donations or gifts under the terms of the policy. I recommend accepting the gifts as described on the enclosure.
- F. MDE requires annual school board action designating a district official to authorize user access to secure MDE websites. These are websites routinely used by school staff to submit and access information. Examples include: Accountability Reports, Assessment Reports, Early Education Reports, and Finance Reports. I recommend designating the superintendent as the Identified Official With Authority (IOWA) to authorize user access to MDE secure websites.

4. I have received no input on the following policies and recommend they be adopted.

- A. <u>503 Student Attendance</u>: Policy revisions to reflect current practice.
- B. 533 Wellness: Policy revisions to comply with USDA requirements.
- C. <u>721 Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources</u>: New policy required by Code of Federal Regulations. The school district auditors

would cite the school district if this policy is not in place for the next audit. The policy provides guidance and procedures for administering federal grants.

5. I recommend a first reading for the following policies:

- A. <u>707 Transportation of Public School Students</u>: Adds guidance about transportation for pre-kindergarten children with disabilities consistent with statutory language. Also adds statutory requirements for transporting homeless students.
- B. <u>905 Advertising</u>: Amends restrictions on advertising placement to reflect statutory language.
- C. <u>524 Internet Acceptable Use And Safety Policy</u>: Changes recommended to reflect updates in technology and liability issues that have emerged since the policy was last updated in 2011.
- 6. Per school board discussion at the June meeting, an overview of the high school trimester schedule and related information will be presented. This is the annual school board governance education. Jean Duffy (Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction) will be at the meeting to share information regarding this topic.
- 7. MDE announced changes last month associated with transitioning from the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These changes will require us to adjust the student achievement metric for the 2017-18 school board goals and beyond. Jean Duffy (Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction) and I will present more information at the meeting. The metric for the first and 3rd goals the board agreed on last month will need to be adjusted:
 - i. Grades 1-8, 10 and 11 will increase achievement by a positive Z Score in reading and math comparing the actual to expected growth as determined by testing in the Fall of 2017 for NWEA to the Spring of 2018 and Spring of 2017 to Spring of 2018 for MCA.
 - ii. Implement a sustainable mental health delivery model in each school.
 - iii. The High School and Intermediate School will rank in the 80th percentile or higher in comparison with other Minnesota schools as measured by data available in the fall of 2021.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.