

Date: May 3, 2012
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes - May 7, 2012

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. Improvements to the technology department, as recommended by District Technology Committee, will increase efficiency and reduce expense. The tech assistants have been centralized so that one of them is always available to answer the helpline for staff members. Almost all support is provided via remote access. Tech assistants are also scheduled weekly in each building to provide one-on-one assistants or repairs that cannot be done remotely.

The Network Technician position (Agenda Item 3, F, VI) will complete is responsible for network repair and maintenance, which was previously contracted to outside vendors. The net annual savings to the school district will be \$8,000.

- ii. The Becker School District is planning to implement Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) next year. The implementation of PLCs is a research-based school improvement model. Teachers meet weekly to plan instruction and intervention to improve student achievement.

PLCs met eight (8) times during the 2011-12 school year on staff development days and early dismissal days. While we achieved positive results, our experience this year found that monthly meetings are not sufficient for teachers to do this important work. This is consistent with research findings that PLCs must meet weekly to improve learning for students.

A committee of 3 staff members from each school, BEA representatives, and the administrators has been meeting to discuss how to create weekly time for PLCs. Several staff meetings have been conducted at each school to further discuss PLC scheduling options. We are working toward a plan that will provide weekly PLC time without changing the daily schedule for students.

- iii. The iPad project at the high school has been very successful. Congratulations to the staff for leveraging technology to improve student academic achievement. A video and report describing the project and district instructional technology is posted on the

district website: <http://www.becker.k12.mn.us>

- iv. Rollie Oliver prepared a PowerPoint describing activities of the Becker American Indian Education Program.
https://docs.google.com/presentation/pub?id=135IueZFbOAWKnOarXpNqlozbHTmmicNBKp9qW_e_GQA&start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000
- v. The school board scheduled a workshop scheduled for May 24th at 6:30 p.m. The board will discuss the potential for a bond referendum, which could be combined with an operating referendum for the November 6th election.

2C. The School District will present Cody Danielson with a Certificate of Recognition for his excellent service as the Student School Board Representative during the 2011-12 School Year.

3. Consent Agenda

D. I recommend accepting the following resignations

- I. Marcia Erickson, High School Teacher
- II. Wayne Johnson, Middle School Teacher
- III. Laura Selheim, Middle School Teacher
- IV. Susan Meyer, Director of Instructional Technology
- V. Alicia Lahr, Intermediate School Teacher (Mrs. Lahr will be “job sharing” a position next year with Nicole Denekamp, Agenda Items 3, F, III & V)
- VI. Heide Arbuckle, Field House Supervisor (after school, BYSA)
- VII. Rochelle Johnson, Field House Supervisor (after school, BYSA)
- VIII. Kathryn Wiant, Knowledge Bowl Coach (Intermediate Sch)

E. I recommend approving a leave an extended leave of absence from April 20, 2012 through April 19, 2014, as provided under Article VIII, Section 11 of the Local 284 Agreement for Sumre Robinson.

F. I recommend approving the following contracts:

- I. Joan Lindquist, paraprofessional, \$14.01 per hour, 6 hours per day.
- II. Rebecca Kollman, paraprofessional, \$14.01 per hour, 27.5 hours per week (was previously 17.5 hours per week, the additional 10 hours weekly is for additional SPED student needs).
- III. Nicole Denekamp, IS Teacher, 0.5 FTE, Step 2, BA, \$18,437.
- IV. Stacy Spindler, PS Teacher, Step 3, BA \$38,082.
- V. Alicia Lahr, IS Teacher, 0.5 FTE, Step 6, MA, \$23,542.
- VI. Sumre Robinson, Network Technician, \$26.00 per hour, 8 hours per day, 218 days per year.

- G. I recommend approving the end-of-year layoffs for the non-union Food Service/Playground and Transportation employees as presented (enclosed).**
- H. I recommend approving the enclosed resolution** terminating the following contacts:
- Probationary teachers: Shannon Headley, Julie Volk, Brad Novak, Jerry Nelson.
 - Long-term substitute teachers: Yuli Wu, Ruth Thom, Dawn Drayna, Nicole Denekamp, Loren Bullivant, Pam Liestman, Carrie Lynch.
- I. I recommend approving the separation agreement with Wayne Johnson.** The school district will save \$28,000 as a result of the separation agreement.
- J. I recommend approving the enclosed Resolution Authorizing The District To Enter Into A Line Of Credit Agreement With A Financial Institution:** The attached Resolution authorizes the district to enter into a line of credit for short-term (45 days) cash flow borrowing. The resolution provides the district with another option to cover cash flow shortages throughout the year. A line of credit is limited by statute to 95% of the district's average monthly expenditures. This credit can be used in lieu of or in conjunction with, the Aid Anticipation borrowing. In some situations, the short-term line of credit may result in less expense to the district in comparison to a larger issuance of Aid Anticipation borrowing.
- K. Policy 706 Acceptance Of Gifts permits the school board to accept donations or gifts under the terms of the policy. I recommend accepting the following gifts**
- ICS Consulting, \$700 (baseball fund)
 - Liberty Paper, \$20,000 (2nd installment, marching band)
 - Liberty Paper, \$500 (ECFE)
 - Scheidman Chiropractic, \$25 (watchdog tags)
 - Richard and Nancy Speer, \$50 (primary school)
 - American Legion, \$225 (IS legionville)
 - Clear Lake Lions Club, \$500 (softball)
- 4. I recommend first reading of the following New Policy 211Criminal Or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee or Student is a new policy recommended by MSBA.**
- 5. I recommend first reading of the following New Policy 423 Employee-Student Relationships is a new policy recommended by MSBA.**

Revised Policies To Follow (~~deleted language strikethrough~~, new language grey shade)

6. I recommend first reading of the following policy to be revised:

410 Family and Medical Leave Policy is revised to include statutory changes, primarily clarifying definition and benefits for veterans as required by Federal Law.

7. I recommend first reading of the following policy to be revised:

506 Student Discipline is revised to include statutory changes, primarily involving suspension and expulsion of students with disabilities.

8. Pursuant to the School Board's Annual Agenda, adopted in January, the discussion of strategic goals and the development of exit outcomes should begin in May.

The input from stakeholders has been combined and grouped by each of the four questions (enclosed.) The school board should review the stakeholder input comments for accuracy.

Next month the school board will assign the stakeholder input to the School Board Exit Outcomes (enclosed).