

Date: October 31, 2013
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes - November 4, 2013

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. A Community Forum on Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention took place on Thursday, October 24, 2013 in the Becker High School Commons and gymnasium.

The Resource Fair was from 5:30pm to 6:30pm with about over 20 agencies represented. This was an opportunity for parents, students, and community members to speak with representatives from area organizations who provide a myriad of services and resources to individuals and families.

The Program and Panel Q & A was from 6:30pm to 8:00pm and was presented by S.A.V.E., a Minnesota based organization with decades of experience helping communities deal with issues of mental health and suicide. About 80 community members were in attendance.

- ii. The Becker School District "Wireless Bus Program" launched last week. As the school district leverages technology to advance student achievement, students need internet access to complete assignments, projects, and homework. The Becker Schools 1:1 iPad program currently includes grades 8-12. Many students ride the bus for about an hour before and an hour after school. Wireless internet access on the bus provides a "rolling study hall" for students.

There is no cost to the school district for the wireless bus program. A partnership with Palmer Wireless provides the internet service on the school busses. In return, the school district permitted Palmer to construct a tower on school property. Palmer's tower increases digital access availability for the Becker Community.

Internet access on the bus is integrated with the school's content filter. Furthermore access is limited to educational sites, affiliated with the school curriculum. A list of approved sites can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/a/isd726.org/becker-tech-department/home/bus-project>.

- iii. All School Board members are registered for the MSBA Conference Thursday, January 16th and Friday, January 17th. This is an excellent professional development opportunity and I encourage board members to attend. If you cannot attend, please notify me by Friday, December 6th so that we can cancel your room at no charge to the district.
- iv. Veteran’s Day programs will be conducted in our schools on November 11th. The middle and high school programs will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the high school gym. The primary school program will begin at 8:15 a.m. in the primary school gym. The intermediate school program will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the intermediate school gym. Local veterans are invited to participate in any of the ceremonies.

3. Consent Agenda

D. I recommend approving the personnel items as presented.

- 4. KDV, the school district auditors, will present the 2013 financial audit. The audited general fund summary is shown below.

	7/1/12	2012-13			6/30/13
	Beginning Fund Balance	Revenues and Other Funding Sources	Expenditures	Net change Fund Bal.	Ending Fund Balance
General Fund	\$1,037,955	\$25,446,519	-\$25,532,416	\$-85,897	\$952,058

Joe Prom and I recommend approving the FY 13 financial audit as presented. The June 30, 2013 unassigned fund balance is 2.4% of expenditures. This represents a \$27,600 increase over last year. District Policy 714 Fund Balances states that the school district will strive to maintain a minimum unassigned general fund balance of 8%. (KDV PowerPoint Enclosed).

- 5. Policy 223 Strategic Goals is the culmination of the school board’s strategic planning this past year for the 2014-15 school year. **I recommend first reading of the policy.**