

Date: April 28, 2016
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes, May 2, 2016

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. The Becker School District in collaboration with Minnetonka, has been approved by MDE as an Innovation Zone. Legislation, approved in 2014, allows groups of school districts to work together to provide innovative education programming and activities and to share district resources.

Our Innovation Zone approval is for the Innovation Campaign that we will initiate this fall. All staff members will be invited to submit ideas. Through crowd sourcing, staff members will rank, comment on, and modify ideas. The top ideas will be selected for implementation during the 2017-18 school year. More information will be forthcoming.

School district representatives met with ignite! Innovate last month to begin planning for the fall campaign. The MDE Innovation Zone designation adds momentum and credibility to this exciting initiative.

- ii. I have been working with Persevere Education Planning to develop financial planning software to help Becker students make better post secondary financing choices and reduce their student loan debt. Becker High School is the first beta site in the U.S. to work with the software and give feedback to the developers. Students, teachers, parents, and administrators will test the software later this month. Becker High School students and their parents will have free access to the software for one year in exchange for us helping with the development.
- iii. Tuesday, May 3rd is National Teacher Day. I would like to say "thank you" to the teachers of the Becker School District. This is a day for honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make in the lives of children. It is a time to say "thank you" to the special teachers that you know. Let them know that they are appreciated for all that they do.

- iv. The School District will present Andrea Molus with a Certificate of Recognition for her excellent service as the Student School Board Representative during the 2015-16 School Year.

3. Consent Agenda

D. I recommend approving the personnel items as presented.

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. MS 123C.01 requires individual school boards to authorize membership in the Minnesota State High School League each year. Approving MSHSL membership affirms 1) that the school district delegates control, supervision and regulation of MSHSL activities to MSHSL, 2) that the school district adopts the constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of the MSHSL, 3) that the administration and responsibility for supervising MSHSL activities are assigned to the superintendent. **I recommend approving membership in the MSHSL for the 2016-17 school year.**

G. Joe Prom and I recommend authorizing the Superintendent or Director of Business Services to enter into a lease-purchase agreement with American Capital Financial Services, Inc. as follows: The lease will finance the purchase of three buses from North Central Bus & Equipment, Inc. of St. Cloud, MN and grounds equipment from Minnesota Equipment, Inc. of Rogers, MN.

The Equipment being purchased is:

(3) Blue Bird Buses - 88 Passenger	\$340,660.44
John Deere 4066R Tractor	\$40,943.07
John Deere H180 Front-end Loader	\$5,970.77
Frontier AP12F Pallet Forks	\$933.16
Land Pride 14' Mower Deck	\$14,610.00
BOSS Front V Snow Plow	\$9,500.00
Lely HR Fertilizer Spreader	\$3,870.00
AgriMetal 72" Aerator	\$6,975.00
John Deere 24' Tank Sprayer	\$3,975.00
TOTAL	\$427,437.44

Financing quotes were received from three potential lenders. The amounts quoted below were received from American Capital, which submitted the lowest rates. The lease agreement has been reviewed by administration and is similar to we have used in the past. The buses and equipment will be leased over five years, with the first payment (July 2016) being a down payment. The expense is included in the budgets for the transportation and grounds departments. The district will own the equipment at the conclusion of the lease.

Lease Summary:

(Detail Above)	\$427,437.44	
Down Payment	\$(88,677.93)	July 2016 Payment
Total Amount Financed	\$338,759.51	
	\$(88,677.93)	July 2017 Payment
	\$(88,677.93)	July 2018 Payment
	\$(88,677.93)	July 2019 Payment
	\$(88,677.93)	July 2020 Payment
Total Interest Costs	\$(15,952.21)	
Lease Interest Rate	1.85%	

H. I recommend approving the Resolution Relating to the Termination and NonRenewal of Teaching Contracts.

4. At the January, 2016 meeting, the school board modified Policy 223, which identifies goals for the 2016-17 school year. The school board developed the goals during the 2015-16 school year based on input from stakeholders (staff, students, parents, and community members). Section V of the policy is below:

B. Exit Outcome: Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively apply life skills.

1. Goal: The viability of providing school district support for unfunded school activities will be examined (girls lacrosse, dance, marching band, robotics, hockey).

School Board Progress Indicator:

The school board will make a decision relative to supporting unfunded school activities (girls lacrosse, dance, marching band, robotics, hockey) no later than March 7, 2016 to be effective for the 2016 - 17 school year.

The school board conducted a workshop on April 27th to discuss this issue. The following action is recommended as a result of school board member discussion at the workshop:

	Gross	Misc	Student			
	Expenses	Revenues	Fees	Net Cost		
Unfunded Activities					Recommendation	
Dance	25,306	12,000	2,905	10,401	10,401*	Fund and manage as other activities
Hockey	33,041	10,000	1,260	21,781	5,000	Big Lake contributes \$10,000. 26 total participants, 9 from Becker
LaCrosse	11,125	-	4,530	6,595	6,595*	Fund and manage as other activities
Trap Shooting	9,192	3,100	3,565	2,527	5,000	Max contribution of \$5,000, require district employed coach.
Marching Band	9,295	-	-	9,295	9,295*	Fund and manage as other activities
Robotics	23,886	20,000	-	3,886	5,800*	Fund 2 coaches employed by the district
	\$ 111,845	\$ 45,100	\$ 12,260	\$ 54,485	42,091	
						* Estimate based on 2014-15 data. Actual district contribution will vary.

5. Pursuant to the School Board's Annual Agenda, adopted in January, the discussion of strategic goals should begin in May. Last month, the school board assigned the top ideas from each of the stakeholder categories to District Exit Outcomes. That work is attached in the document "Unedited Top Ideas w Exit Outcomes". The ideas are ranked by Star Rating within each of the Exit Outcomes.

The next step toward developing strategic goals is to synopsize the data (condense while maintaining fidelity). The attached document "Summary Top Ideas w Exit Outcomes" reflects the following:

- Some ideas titles were modified to match the ideas
- Ideas were summarized
- Ideas were separated by action and rationale
- Star rating and stakeholder identification was combined with the idea title to eliminate two columns
- Alike ideas combined

I recommend that the school board compare the unedited ideas document to the summary document and discern:

- Does the summary of each idea capture the essence of the stakeholder's submission?
- Can the data be further synopsized?

Discussion around these questions should comprise the board's strategic planning work for this meeting.

6. I recommend closing the meeting under the authority of MS 13D.03 to discuss negotiations strategy.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.