

**TO:** Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education  
**FROM:** Connie Hayes  
**DATE:** Sept. 6, 2018  
**RE:** Sept. 5 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Timm, Palmer, Kelly, Forsberg, Oksnevad, Sager, Livingston, Azer, Chapman, Olson, J. Schwartz, and Ptacek; Members absent: Delvo and K. Schwartz.

- **916 Education Foundation:** Gary Benson, past president of the 916 Education Foundation, shared the foundation's plans for its upcoming membership drive. During the month of September, employees, school board members, member district staff, retirees, business partners and friends of the district will be invited to participate in the foundation's charitable efforts.
- **Special Education Data Dashboard:** Dan Naidicz, executive director of programs, presented the first special education data dashboard, a tool that is designed to help school board members and member district leaders make better-informed decisions about the special education services they request from Northeast Metro 916. After reviewing this document with member district leaders, the content and form will evolve. Northeast Metro 916 is seeking partnership with our member districts in the hopes that together our efforts may help reduce the rising costs and increased enrollment in level IV programs.
- **New finance director:** Jon VanOeveren, director of finance, formally introduced himself to the school board. Jon has been with Northeast Metro 916 for just over a month, and most recently worked at the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).
- **School board norms:** The school board voted to adopt formal norms and a procedure for self-evaluation aimed at ensuring mutual support and mutual accountability among board members.
- **Board policies:** The school board conducted a first reading of board policies related to equal employment opportunity (401), harassment and violence (413 and 413F), tobacco-free environments (419), student dress and appearance (504), student discipline (506) and immunization requirements (530). Director Azer asked for more research and possible revisions to the student dress policy with an eye towards equity. Any revisions will be presented at the October meeting.
- **Board committees:** The school board approved the following board committee assignments:

- Executive committee: Mike Ptacek, Marilynn Forsberg, Laura Oksnevad and Marre Jo Sager
  - Personnel committee: Amy Kelly, Laura Oksnevad, Laura Palmer, Mike Ptacek and Judy Schwartz
  - Metro Educational Cooperative Service Unit (ECSU): Laura Palmer
  - Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD): Marilynn Forsberg
  - 916 Education Foundation: Judy Schwartz
- **Mental health services:** The school board voted to approve an agreement with Canvas Health to provide mental health services to students for the 2018-19 school year.
  - **Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF):** The school board voted to approve an agreement with the St. Francis school district that would allow for Northeast Metro 916 to provide educational services to children and youth at Cambia Hills, a psychiatric residential treatment facility slated to open in East Bethel next school year.
  - **Retirements:** The school board formally celebrated the retirements of Terrance Jablonski, education assistant; and Nancy Maloney, vehicle services coordinator. They have 29 years and 37 years of service respectfully.