

Date: March 1, 2018
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes, March 5, 2018

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. Jean Duffy, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction was named MASA 2018 Outstanding Central Office Administrator of the year. Congratulations, Jean! The school district will present Mrs. Duffy a certificate of recognition.
- ii. The 2019-20 calendar committee will meet April 11th. The committee includes parents, teachers, a Local 284 representative, a transportation representative, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, the principals, students, and a school board representative. The calendar, developed by the committee, is recommended to the superintendent. The superintendent's recommendation will be submitted to the school board on May 7th.
- iii. We have an exciting new application of our bus routing software that will benefit parents and students. This application is called "My Stop" and uses GPS technology to allow parents to track the location of their students' bus on a mobile app using a phone or other mobile device. The app has been pilot tested for several months and we are now making this available to all parents.

After a bus leaves the garage, a student's stop will appear on the map with a pin. The location of the bus will be shown with an arrow. The typical route for this bus will be shown in green. An estimated time of arrival is also shown; this will change if the bus is running ahead or behind schedule. Routes can vary from day to day; drivers have discretion to take an alternate path depending on which students are riding.

- iv. Representatives from the school district (Superintendent, Director of Business Services, Director of Facilities and Grounds, Director of Activities) and the City of Becker (City Administrator, Community Center Director, and Streets Supervisor) have met several times to examine ways we can maximize the use of green space between the entities. We interviewed two consulting firms which would conduct an objective study to identify appropriate recreational, co-curricular, and MSHSL standards. The study would also identify existing opportunities, deficiencies, and any potential to more efficiently use existing space and facilities. Bids were received from two vendors: AJA \$28,500 and HKG \$79,000. The school district agreed to pay half of the low bid \$14,250. The City of Becker accepted the HKG bid because they believe it will provide more comprehensive information for The City's long-term planning. I expect the study to be completed sometime this summer.

- v. A Big Dog Challenge update is attached.
- vi. MCA testing began in early March. Testing for various grade levels and subject areas are scheduled to conclude in early May. NWEA testing for grades K-2 is the first week of May.
- vii. MDE recently revised the way graduation rates are calculated. The changes are a part of the state's transition to its approved plan under the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Foreign exchange students are no longer counted in a school's rate, and students who drop out at the high school where they spent the majority of their academic career are counted toward that high school's rate. Using the new calculation, the Minnesota High School graduation rate is 82.7% and the Becker High School graduation rate is 91.6%.

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.**

- 4. Thirteen bids were received for the Becker Primary School Classroom Addition. The low bid was from KUE Contractors, Inc. of Watkins, MN in the amount of \$1,149,370. ICS has reviewed the bid and confirmed that their bid is valid. All the bids and the recommendation from ICS are attached. **I recommend accepting the bid from KUE Contractors, Inc. of Watkins, MN in the amount of \$1,149,370.** The project budget is also attached.

5. Stakeholder Input Process.

A. Participants were invited as follows:

- All Employees (380) invited by e-mail
- All High School Students (900) invited by e-mail
- Parents (3,090) were invited by e-mail
- Community members: not parents, not employees. Advertised on district website, school district sign on Hancock, City Hall Sign, Sherburne State Bank Sign, Becker cable TV, flier in City water bills, sent to Becker Chamber, announced at Lion's club, advertisement in February 24 and March 3 Citizen-Tribune.

B. The questions were as follows:

[Preparing self-directed learners to thrive in a changing global community](#)

- What is your expectation of the Becker School District?
- What are we doing well at Becker Schools?
- What could Becker Schools do better?

C. Timeline and process:

- February 20 – March 2: Idea submission from the stakeholder groups.
- March 5 -9: Pairwise. (Stakeholders rank ideas.)
- March 12 – 21: Data processing by Optum.
- March 22 - 30 School Board Pairwise of the top ideas. (School Board members rank the best of the best)
- April 9 – School Board assigns the top ideas from each of the stakeholder groups to an exit outcome area.
- May 7: School Board begins discussing 2018-19 goals, based on the data.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.