



TO: Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education
FROM: Connie Hayes
DATE: Feb. 2, 2017
RE: Feb. 1 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Tracy Brunnette, Marilyn Forsberg, Amy Kelly, Janet Newberg, Laura Palmer, Marcia Lindblad, Nancy Livingston, Laura Oksnevad, Mike Ptacek, Marre Jo Sager, Judy Schwartz, Kathy Timm, and Gail Theisen. Members absent: Erin Azer.

- **916 Education Foundation Gala:** School board members, member district superintendents and other partners were invited to the 916 Education Foundation's annual gala on Feb. 24, 2017, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Jimmy's in Vadnais Heights. More information is available on the [foundation website](#).
- **Special legislative project:** Superintendent Hayes and Valerie Dosland, a lobbyist who works for Ewald Consulting and advocates on behalf of the four intermediate school districts in Minnesota, gave school board members an update on their legislative advocacy efforts. The intermediate school districts wish to integrate education and mental health services in order to improve student academic and mental health results, assure the least restrictive environment (LRE) for students, reduce staff injuries, align resources that reduce costs, and ensure equity in access to services.
- **Career and Technical Center update:** Jean Jordan, director of educational services; and Jill Stewart-Kellar, principal of the 916 Career & Technical Center (CTC); presented an overview of CTC program offerings, student successes, and community and business partnerships. Two students spoke of their achievement and success in their respective programs.
- **Joint purchasing usage report for 2016:** Kristine Carr, director of administrative services, presented a report on joint purchasing activities for the 2016 calendar year. Joint purchasing contracts are available for other school districts to purchase from; this practice increases the buying power of the contract, which in turn lowers prices for our member and non-member districts. We currently have joint purchasing agreements with 81 public entities, and in 2016 the combined total purchases made under these contracts was \$5,201,269.
- **Extended School Year (ESY) calendar for 2017:** The school board voted to approve the ESY calendar for the 2017 summer months, which is largely unchanged from past years.

- **Retirements:** The school board celebrated two teachers who are retiring in June 2017. Catherine Ringer will have 31 years of service and Peter Tennant will have 16 years of service at the time of their retirements.