



TO: Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education
FROM: Connie Hayes
DATE: January 14, 2016
RE: January 13 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Azer-623, Erkel-15, Lindblad-14, Lodico-12, Newberg-624, Palmer-13, Ptacek-834, Sager-621, Schwartz-832 and Theisen-831. Members absent: Forsberg-16, Livingston-622, and Brunnette-833.

Among a number of topics discussed at the January 13, 2016 meeting of the Northeast Metro 916 School Board, the following agenda items were addressed:

- 1. Election of Officers:** The School Board elected the following officers for the 2016 year:
Chair – Tracy Brunnette
Vice-Chair – Marilyn Forsberg
Clerk – Karen Lodico
Treasurer – Janet Newberg
- 2. Presentation on Literacy Instruction for Individuals with Moderate to Severe Disabilities:** Sandy Strand, program manager at South Campus and WELS-South, explained the literacy initiative and the use of the four-block methodology (words, silent reading, guided reading, and writing) for this student population. The results at South Campus have shown academic engagement is up with some students making two grade level gains in two months. Behavior incidents and the use of restrictive procedures have declined. The results have gained the attention of University of Minnesota researchers and Northeast Metro 916 is a partner in a collaborative grant proposal.
- 3. Acceptance of FY15 Audit:** The School Board accepted the FY'15 audit from MMKR.
- 4. Board Compensation:** The School Board voted to maintain the 2015 compensation levels for 2016 and directed the administration to survey the member districts annually for their established board compensation levels.
- 5. Resolution Directing Administration to Make Recommendations for Discontinuance and Reductions:** The School Board directed the superintendent and administration to consider discontinuance or curtailment of programs or positions to effectuate economies and reduce

expenditures as a result of student enrollment variables and make recommendations to the school board.

6. **Authorization to Approve Change Orders:** The School Board authorized the superintendent or designee to execute change orders on construction projects up to a maximum of \$50,000 provided the revised cost of the project is within the construction project originally approved by the school board and copies of all change orders exceeding \$50,000 are submitted to the school board for review at the next school board meeting.
7. **Approval of Administrative Support Staff Agreement:** The School Board approved a new two-year contract for the 916 Administrative Support Staff Local 284. The agreement includes a 2% schedule improvement each year with step movement, no change in health and dental insurance, and a \$500 salary 403(b) match increase, along with changing December 24 to a full day holiday for 12-month contract staff.

The School Board welcomed new board members Erin Azer from Roseville and Suzanne Erkel from St. Francis. Nancy Livingston will be the new board member from North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale.

You can find the full January 13 board agenda at: <http://www.nemetro.k12.mn.us/Page/2733>