

Date: April 3, 2014
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes, April 7, 2014

The stakeholder input session will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the media center. Three hundred community members (plus spouses) were randomly selected to participate from the county's list of district residents. Those who were selected received an invitation from the school district.

Community members will be divided into groups for pizza and conversation with school board members at each table. School board members are asked to lead the discussion and solicit input from the community members on the following topics:

- What should Becker students know and be able to do to be successful?
- What is your expectation of the Becker School District?
- What is important for the Becker School District in the future (5 to 10 years)?
- Why do you financially support the Becker School District? Would you consider giving more?

At approximately 6:00 p.m. each table will summarize their conversation for the large group. Then the opportunity for large group discussion will be offered. The district secretary will record the input.

The school board meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m., following the discussion with the community members.

E. Apple Distinguished School Presentation: Becker High School has been selected as an Apple Distinguished School for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years. The press release from Apple notes that Becker High School has "been recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2013 to 2015 for its implementation of an iPad 1:1 program to nurture critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration in all subject areas for grades 9-12...[and that the]...the Apple Distinguished School designation is reserved for schools that meet criteria for innovation, leadership, and educational excellence, and demonstrate a clear vision of exemplary learning environments." Only 8 Apple Distinguished School awards were issued in Minnesota this year. Charles Duarte, of Apple Inc. will present the award to Sandy Logrono, High School Principal and Ryan Cox, Director of Instructional Technology.

2 A. Superintendent's Report

- i. Improvements to the transportation service, effective this fall, will ensure the safety of our students and increase the efficiency of the operation. As described in the attached letter and form, each parent/guardian is asked to verify bussing and address information to verify the accuracy of district data.

Also, families are asked to designate one morning and one afternoon bus stop for each student. This will ensure there is enough room for students on every bus.

- ii. The School District received a grant from the Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS). Therefore, 12 at-risk students, ages 16-21 will be able to work 84 hours each this summer. Salaries for students and staff supervision are included in the grant award. Their project will be to clean up and landscape the area between the links that connect the high school and middle school. The project will be coordinated with the link renovation scheduled for this summer. The grant was written and will be overseen by Michelle Kocak, Work Experience Coordinator for the Sherburne Northern Wright Ed Coop. The solicitation of funding sources for materials is underway.
- iii. I will provide a legislative update on a few bills of significance during the meeting.

3. Consent Agenda

D. Personnel: **I recommend approving the personnel items as presented (enclosed).**

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. **I recommend approving the 2015-16 calendar** (enclosed). The calendar committee met and developed the 2015-16 calendar. The committee this year included 7 employees, 2 high school students, 4 parents, 4 principals, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and the superintendent.

- I. The 2015-16 calendar is similar to previous calendar with a winter vacation. However, the spring break for students consists of no classes on March 25, 28, and 29.
- II. Classes for students begin on September 8, 2015 and conclude June 2, 2016.
- III. The calendar includes 173 student contact days and 9 teacher staff development days to comply with the BEA contract. (Of the 9 staff development days 3 must be designated for parent teacher conferences, open

house days, or parent orientation days; three ½ days (1.5) must be designated as grading days at the end of the first, second, and 3rd quarters.)

IV. The calendar includes five early dismissal days for staff professional development.

V. The 2016 graduation will be Friday, May 27.

I appreciate the good work of the calendar committee to develop a calendar, which meets the needs of various stakeholders throughout the school district.

G. **I recommend approving the resolution to establish a cooperative with the Big Lake School District for girls' lacrosse.** Big Lake had 3 girls that played on a club team in Monticello last year. However, Monticello added both boys and girls lacrosse as school-sponsored activities for the 2013-14 school year. With that decision, the Big Lake girls are no longer able to play in Monticello. There is one girl from Big Lake that would like to play on the Becker-Big Lake cooperative girls lacrosse team. The coach has stated this will not impact playing time for the Becker participants. The participant from Big Lake will pay the Big Lake activity fee. Becker will bill a pro rata share of the program costs to Big Lake. There is no additional cost to the Becker School District as a result of this agreement. The resolution has been approved by the Big Lake School Board (enclosed).

H. The mandated Annual Report of Curriculum, Instruction, was abolished by the 2013 Legislature and replaced with The World's Best Workforce Plan. The plan was approved by the District Advisory Committee on March 31st. **I recommend approving the World's Best Workforce Plan** (enclosed).

4. MS 12D.02 School Board Powers; Enrollment and MS 120B.15 Gifted and Talented Students Programs were amended by the 2013 legislature. Accordingly, revisions to District Policy 556 Early Admissions are necessary. **I recommend a first reading of the policy** (enclosed).
5. **Joe Prom and I recommend approving the enclosed Revised FY 14 General Fund, Food Service, Community Education, Debt Service Fund Budgets, and Construction Fund Budgets** (enclosed).
6. **Joe Prom and I recommend approving the enclosed Preliminary FY 15 General Fund, Food Service, Community Education, Debt Service Fund Budgets, and Construction Fund Budgets** (enclosed).