

Date: April 2, 2015
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes, April 6, 2015

The stakeholder input session will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Teaching and Learning Center. Four 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. School board members called at least 60 of those who were invited to encourage them to attend.

Community members will be divided into groups for a meal 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.

2 A. Superintendent's Report

- i. We are designating a space at the high school to be used as a therapy center. This will provide more timely access and another option for students in need of mental health services. Many students are on waiting lists to see a mental health provider and often wait months to access services.

Sharon Kuhlmann RNC, LMFC, will be in the therapy center on Tuesday mornings twice each month. She will provide mental health services to students at a reduced rate. Families who participate will complete the same billing, insurance, and permission forms as they would at Ms. Kuhlmann's

downtown office. We are indebted to Dylan's Hope for making funds available to families who need, but cannot afford mental health services. The therapy center will also be used by other cooperating co-located professionals such as the Chemical Health Educator, LSS Social Worker, and Sherburne County Truancy worker.

- ii. I encourage parents and community members to contact local state legislators regarding proposed targets for E-12 education. The targets for the FY 16 and 17 school years are: Governor \$694.4M (1% on gen ed funding formula), Senate \$350M (2% on gen ed funding formula), House 156.8M (0.5% on gen ed funding formula). All the targets fall short of MSBA's platform of 3% on the gen ed funding formula. In consideration of the \$1.8 billion surplus, the Becker School District FY 16 gen ed revenue budget assumes a 2% increase on the formula.

B. Committee Reports

C. Transportation (Tom Watson)

D. Curriculum Information: Personal Finance (Jean Duffy)

E. Technology Update (Ryan Cox)

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 2016-17 calendar** (enclosed). The calendar committee met and developed the 2016-17 calendar. The committee this year included 7 employees, 2 high school students, 4 parents, 4 principals, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, a school board member, and the superintendent.

- i. The 2016-17 calendar is similar to previous calendars with a winter vacation. The spring break for students is April 14-17.
- ii. Classes for students begin on September 6, 2016 and conclude June 1, 2017.
- 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 2017 graduation will be Friday, May 26.

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. 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 16th. **I recommend acknowledging receipt of the 2013-14 World's Best Workforce Plan** (enclosed).
- H. MDE is requesting school board action from all Minnesota Districts designating a district official to authorize user access to certain MDE websites. These are websites used by school staff to submit and access information. Examples include: Accountability Reports, Assessment Reports, Early Education Reports, and Financial Reports. **I recommend designating the superintendent as the identified official with authority to authorize user access to MDE secure websites.**
- I. **I recommend approving the Student Extended Trip for the high school art dept., June 13-22, 2016, as presented.** The proposal was developed in accordance with Policy 566 Student Extended Trip Policy. The proposal complies with the requirements of the policy.
- J. **I recommend approving the Resolution Proposing Unrequested Leave of Absence**, which is a result of the recent budget adjustments.
- K. Interest rates and equipment prices have been negotiated to renew the technology lease, which supports the district 1:1 initiative. The current lease expires June 30, 2015. The new lease begins July 1, 2015. The equipment financed by the lease is: 919 iPad Mini 3s for HS Students, 60 iPad Mini 3s for HS Staff, 481 iPad Mini 3s for MS Students, and 1,460 Cases. The lease payment is included with the FY 16 general fund budget. The lease agreement is similar to the prior agreement with a \$1 purchase option at the termination of the lease for all the equipment. Financing quotes were received and the lowest rate was from Apple Finance at 1.8%.

iPad Lease		
Summary of Estimated Costs		
Estimated Equipment Costs		
1,460 - iPad Mini 3 with Cases	\$443,767	
Down Payment	-114,321	July 2015 Payment
Total Amount Financed	\$329,446	
	-114,321	July 2016 Payment
	-114,321	July 2017 Payment
	-114,321	July 2018 Payment
Total Interest Costs	\$(13,518)	
Lease Interest Rate	1.80%	

Joe Prom and I recommend approving the lease as presented.

4. A proposal from a consultant to Review Administrative Staffing is attached, pursuant to school board action at the March 9 meeting.
5. **Joe Prom and I recommend approving the enclosed Revised FY 15 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 16 General Fund, Food Service, Community Education, Debt Service Fund Budgets, and Construction Fund Budgets (enclosed).**
7. **I recommend setting a time and date for a school board workshop to continue discussion of a fall referendum.** Possible dates include: April 9, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30.