

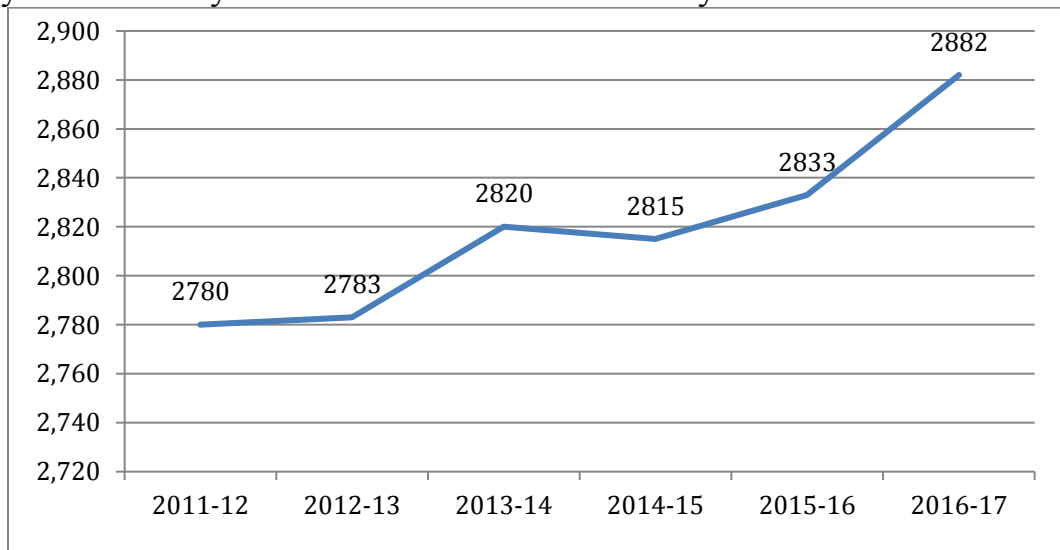
Date: October 6, 2016
To: School Board
From: Dr. Malone
RE: Meeting Notes, October 10, 2015

2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. Five employees were recognized at the annual RTS Educational Support Staff Recognition Banquet last month: Bill Thoma (middle school), Dewey Sommerdorf, Tami Woodard, Jesse O'Neill (high school) and Gary Gaebel (intermediate school). Congratulations and thanks for your excellent work on behalf of Becker Students!



- ii. Ryan Sommerdorf and Kami Ziebarth will be serving as the student representatives on the school board this year. Welcome Ryan and Kami!
- iii. Aaron and I will conduct a school board member orientation with Connie Robinson on October 11th. We will schedule another meeting with her after the election. Connie will also be attending the MSBA Phase I, II, & III Trainings.
- iv. The PK-12 October 1 enrollment for the school district is 2,882 in comparison to 2,833 last year. The six year October 1 enrollment history is shown below:



- v. The Becker School District received a Support Our Students grant from MDE. This grant will provide a full-time social worker at the Primary School and a full-time social worker at the Intermediate school. The grant pays 50% of the positions for the first 4 years and 25% of the positions for years 5 and 6. The total value of the grant over 6 years is \$226,000.

The positions have been advertised as vacancies. Thanks to Jean Duffy and Joe Prom for submitting a successful grant application. This will be a tremendous benefit to help meet the mental health needs of our Primary and Intermediate School students. The positions begin on November 1st.

- vi. Becker Schools is proud to introduce Becker Innovates, the next big step for our district's innovation culture. Becker Innovates is an ongoing crowd sourced innovation program that draws from our organization's cognitive resources to create innovative solutions, which address the opportunities that exist within our schools.

Our first innovation event, "Big Dog Challenge", is underway. Ideation was September 19 - October 1. The pairwise phase is October 2-9. An analysis of the Ideation phase is attached. I will submit a report of the campaign to the school board when it is completed.

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.**

F. Policy 511 Student Fundraising requires that "The superintendent shall report to the board, at least annually, on the nature and scope of student fundraising activities approved pursuant to this policy." Each fundraising activity has completed the Fundraiser Request Form and has been approved by the Advisor, Principal, and Superintendent. **I recommend accepting the Annual Fundraising Report.**

G. **Joe Prom and I recommend approving the attached Resolution** Ratifying The Award Of The Sale, Determining The Form And Details, Authorizing The Execution, Delivery, And Registration, And Providing For The Payment Of General Obligation Crossover Refunding Bonds, Series 2016A. Alternative Facilities Bonds in the amount of \$2,970,000 were issued by the school district in 2011 to fund Health and Safety projects. The current principle is \$2,170,000. The board adopted a resolution last June giving Baird authority to monitor the market on our behalf. The prices for the bonds were secured on September 30th. The net tax levy savings for the school district will be \$224,081.26.

H. Negotiators for Local 284 and the school district (Aaron, Jason, Bryan) have reached a tentative agreement on a contract. The term of the agreement is July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018. The total package for the 2 years of the contract is 5.53%. The changes to the contract are attached. **I recommend approving the contract.**

4. MMR Improvement Plan. Data was released last month for two critical measures of student academic performance for the 2015-16 school year.
 - a. One year's worth of growth (positive z score), as measured by NWEA and MCA testing was attained by 7 of 16 (44%) of the grade levels/subject areas tested (attached).
 - b. The MMR (Multiple Measurement Rating) for Minnesota Schools was released on September 1st. The components include proficiency, student growth, achievement gap reduction, and graduation rate. Becker's ranking in comparison to other schools in the state is attached.
 - c. It is imperative that we act swiftly and boldly to change our system so students can attain more academic progress in the areas of English and mathematics. This is our responsibility and obligation as a school district. Accordingly, I have enacted an MMR Improvement Plan (attached). **School board action is recommended on the following:**
 - i. **Approve an Assistant Principal Position at the Intermediate School.**
 - ii. **Approve a Reading Coach Position.**
5. Proposed superintendent goals for the 2016-17 school year are attached. The format follows the goal-based Superintendent Evaluation Process developed by MSBA and MASA. The goals reflect school district goals and initiatives.

School District Goal #2 was modified per school board discussion last month. An additional progress indicator was added to obtain input from the Activities Committee. **I recommend a discussion of the goals and school board approval if they are agreeable.**

6. The school board should finalize goals for the 2017-18 school year. The first three goals were agreed upon last month. The fourth goal, To Improve School Climate, **noted in yellow**, should be discussed along with the progress indicators.