

Date: May 29, 2014  
To: School Board  
From: Dr. Malone  
RE: Meeting Notes, June 2, 2014

## 2A. Superintendent's Report

- i. Congratulations to the staff, administrators, and students for an excellent school year. I am proud of so many successful programs and initiatives throughout the school district. However, five major accomplishments stand out as I reflect on this past school year.
  - a. First, our 1:1 iPad program has evolved to more consistently improve student achievement and has expanded to the 8th grade. Apps are selected on criteria that they reinforce skills connected to essential learner outcomes, practice those skills in an authentic problem based learning environment, support a progression of learning, foster creation and evaluation, support creative thinking, collaboration, and that they motivate students. Selecting and using effective apps has been a quantum leap forward for our school district in leveraging technology to increase student achievement. Also, the 1:1 iPad program, which began in 2011 for grades 9-12, was expanded to the 8th grade this year. Next year the program will include the 7th grade.
  - b. Second, our Professional Learning Communities or PLCs have improved dramatically this year as teachers better understand the process and expectations. A PLC is a group of educators who teach the same class or grade level working collaboratively in an ongoing process of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students. PLCs operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators. PLCs meet every week in our school district. As we complete our second year of PLCs, the work has more clearly focused on the four guiding questions: What do we want students to learn?, How will we know if they have learned?, What will we do if they don't learn?, What will we do if they already know it?. PLCs have become a powerful process to ensure high levels of learning for all students.
  - c. Third, keeping the construction project on time and within budget has been a major accomplishment. The project is updating all the school facilities, including needed maintenance and other facility and site improvements. Construction of the high school auditorium will be completed August 1st and the swimming pool will be completed at the end of this month. These projects will provide quality facilities to meet the present

and future educational needs of our students.

- d. Fourth, the successful implementation of Ramp Up To Readiness™, has promoted a culture that expects post-secondary education and training for all students. Ramp-Up to Readiness™ is a school-wide program designed to increase the number and diversity of students who graduate from high school with the knowledge, skills, and habits necessary for success in a post secondary institution or the military. Students in grades 6-12 progress toward readiness in five areas: Academics, Admissions, Career, Financial, and Personal and Social Readiness. I am proud that 93% of our high school seniors applied to a post secondary institution or the military this year.
- e. Fifth, the W.I.N. (or What I Need) program at the Primary and Intermediate Schools has been a huge success. Each child receives daily instruction in literacy and math according to their achievement level. Teachers collaborate to identify areas where students need more support or enrichment. This intervention/enrichment time ensures that all students make significant gains in both literacy and math.

### 3. Consent Agenda

#### **D. I recommend approving the 2013-15 Becker Administrator Association Contract.**

Becker Administrator Association (Principals and Assistant Principals)

13-15

	Salaries	sal inc %	TRA	FICA	Term Life Ins	LTD	Health Ins	Dental Ins	Med Reim	Phone Reim	TSA Match	Total District Cost	Cost Inc %	Cost Inc \$
12-13	\$625,838		\$40,913	\$48,152	\$2,563	\$4,469	\$119,730	\$7,276	\$5,000	\$3,600	\$18,700	\$876,241		
13-14	\$634,022	1.31%	\$44,634	\$48,778	\$2,563	\$4,304	\$123,180	\$7,276	\$5,000	\$3,600	\$18,700	\$892,056	1.80%	\$15,815
14-15	\$644,862	1.71%	\$48,635	\$49,607	\$2,563	\$4,377	\$126,780	\$7,276	\$5,000	\$3,600	\$18,700	\$911,400	2.17%	\$19,344
		3.02%											3.97%	\$35,159

#### **Note:**

- Total package cost increase of 1.98% per year
- Health insurance monthly caps changed from \$750 to \$775 Single, \$2,000 to \$2,050 family
- Ability to convert three sick days into one vacation day if over sick day max accumulation; can convert to max of two vacation days annually.
- Vacation carryover maximum changed from 10 days per year to 12 days per year.

#### **E. I recommend approving the personnel items as presented**

**F. Joe Prom and I recommend approving the Superintendent or Director of Business Services to enter into a lease-purchase agreement with Sovereign Bank via Hoglund Bus & Truck Co.**

Two buses will be leased over five years. The amounts for the lease payments are included in the FY15 budget for the transportation department. Financing quotes were received from three lenders. The amounts shown below are from Sovereign Bank, which quoted the lowest rates. The lease agreement has been reviewed by the administration and is similar to prior bus leases.

**Bus Lease**

**Summary of Estimated Costs**

**Estimated Equipment Costs**

2 - 2015 International 77 Passenger School Buses \$188,231

Down Payment (39,140) July 2014 Payment

Total Amount Financed \$149,091

(39,140) July 2015 Payment

(39,140) July 2016 Payment

(39,140) July 2017 Payment

(39,140) July 2018 Payment

Total Interest Cost (7,469)

Lease Interest Rate 1.90%

**G. 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.**

**H. I recommend approving the board credit classes as presented.**

**4. I have received no input on the following policies and recommend they be adopted:**

- a. 710 Extracurricular Transportation: Clarifies that MS 169.011 Subd. 71 excludes Type III Vehicles from the definition of a school bus. Accordingly, employee personal vehicles cannot be used to transport students.
- b. 610 Student Travel / Field Trips: Clarifies that MS 169.011 Subd. 71 excludes Type III Vehicles from the definition of a school bus. Accordingly, employee personal vehicles cannot be used to transport students.

**5. I recommend a first reading for the following policies:**

- A. Policy 406 Public and Private Personnel Data: MS 626.556, Subd. 7 was amended by the 2013 legislature. The revised statute clarifies the definition of business managers, human resource directors, superintendents, and principals who qualify as public officials. The amended statute also requires that the school district must release private personnel data to the Commissioner Of Education, upon request, when associated with the investigation of an alleged maltreatment of a student. The revised policy reflects the statutory changes.
- B. Policy 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse: Requires the school to inform the parent or guardian when the school has information that an incident may constitute maltreatment of their child.

**6. Strategic Planning**

- A. The School Board's Annual Agenda schedules school board governance education in July. Possible presentations/topics include a futurist, demographer, technology, advocacy groups, staff, MSBA, etc. I suggest that it would be appropriate to conduct a workshop to review and discuss Policy Governance. It would be appropriate for the board to select a topic so that arrangements can be made for the July (or August) meeting.
- B. The next step toward establishing goals for the 2015-16 school year is to organize the 2014 stakeholder input into Exit Outcome Areas. We will complete this task during the meeting.

**7. I recommend closing the meeting under MS 13D.05 subd. 3a to evaluate the job performance of the superintendent.**