



TO: Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education
FROM: Connie Hayes
DATE: April 6, 2017
RE: April 5 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Erin Azer, Tracy Brunnette, Marilynn Forsberg, Amy Kelly, Marcia Lindblad, Nancy Livingston, Janet Newberg, Laura Oksnevad, Laura Palmer, Mike Ptacek, Marre Jo Sager, Judy Schwartz, Gail Theisen, and Kathy Timm.

- **ALC accreditation:** Ann Peterson, principal of the area learning centers, shared a summary of the recently completed accreditation process for the Area Learning Centers (ALCs). The AdvancED accreditation process includes an external review that guides continuous improvement with a focus on the impact of teaching and learning, the capacity of leadership, and schools' use of resources.
- **Construction update:** Kristine Carr, director of administrative services, updated the school board on the progress on two schools currently under construction: Pankalo Education Center in Lake Elmo and Quora Education Center in Little Canada. Despite weather delays, construction of both schools continues to be within anticipated schedules and budgets.
- **Revised board policies:** The school board considered revisions to the Student Discipline policy that align with changes to state law. They also reviewed changes to the Technology Responsible Use policy, which:
 - Clarifies the school district's policy on **social media** for educational and networking purposes
 - Formalizes the district's practice to require a passcode on **personal devices** that connect to district email accounts, as well as the district's ability to remotely erase all content of such devices in the event of loss or theft.
 - **Requires that the agreement be signed** by employees, students, and students' parents/guardians **only once** during their tenure with the school district, rather than requiring a signature every year.

The board will vote on both policies in May.

- **New board policy proposal:** The school board considered a new Social Media policy that addresses employees' use of private and district-connected internet content

including websites, blogs, wikis, social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Reddit, etc.), online forums, and any other social media. Highlights include:

- Individual sites, departments or teachers may choose to establish an official presence on social media sites with prior administrative approval.
- Employees and the public must be respectful and professional in all communications on district-approved social media accounts.
- It is never appropriate to post images of students on any non-district approved or personal social media account for any reason.
- An employee's use of social media for personal reasons during the workday that are not related to one's job duties should be kept to a minimum, similar to expectations for personal email use.
- While the district does not actively monitor or restrict an employee's personal use of social media, it may take appropriate responsive action when it becomes aware of conduct or communication that creates an unlawful disruption or violates applicable district policies, professional codes of ethics or other laws.

The board will vote on this policy in May.

- **Staffing changes:** The school board voted to eliminate one position and place another on an unrequested leave of absence.
- **Recognition Month:** In honor of Recognition Month, which Northeast Metro 916 celebrates in April of each year, the school board recognized employees celebrating milestone anniversaries and retirements. Employees will be further recognized at events throughout the month for their years of service to the students in the school district.
- **Property insurance:** The school board voted to renew the Property, Casualty, Liability and Errors & Omissions insurance policy administered through Hanover Insurance Group, which the school district has held for six years, with cyber liability coverage through Chubb Insurance.
- **Workers compensation:** The school board voted to accept a Workers' Compensation proposal from State Fund Mutual (SFM). This proposal represents a 9.90 percent cost decrease, attributable to the continued trend of a decrease in workplace injuries in both number and severity.
- **Bid acceptance:** The school board accepted bids to build a playground at Pankalo Education Center and provide abatement services at Capitol View Center.
- **Site visits:** Throughout this school year, school board members and their superintendents have been invited to visit programs that are in the same or similar geographic regions of the member district. The next visit will be to South Campus and Bellaire Education Center on April 19 beginning at 9 a.m. Visitors are asked to RSVP to

Linda Zahradka at lzahradk@916schools.org.

- **Graduation:** Board members and member district leaders were invited to celebrate the graduations for Northeast Metro 916 students at the following ceremonies:
 - **Capitol View ALP and CAP**
Wednesday, May 31 at 6 p.m.
Capitol View Center - Capitol Room
 - **Bellaire Education Center and WELS North**
Thursday, June 1 at 4 p.m.
Bellaire Education Center cafeteria
 - **South Campus and WELS South**
Thursday, June 1 at 7 p.m.
Capitol View Center - Capitol Room
 - **Area Learning Centers**
Thursday, June 8 at 6 p.m.
East View Academy

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