

**Date:** December 30, 2014  
**To:** School Board  
**From:** Dr. Malone  
**RE:** Meeting Notes, January 5, 2015

The stakeholder input session will begin at 5:30 p.m. Two hundred and fifty invitations were mailed to parents.

Parents 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 parents 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 parents.

#### 1. Election Of Officers

D. The MSBA publication The First Monday In January: Everything you need to know for your board's organizational meeting is enclosed. A procedure for Election of Officers begins on page 3.

#### 2. Appointment of Officers and Representatives. The 2014 committees and representatives are enclosed. It is no longer necessary to appoint a school board representative to the Xcel Energy Committee. School board discussions last spring suggested that we should add a representative to the calendar committee.

The superintendent, Bryan Olson, and Mark Swanson attended the December 10<sup>th</sup> District meet and confer session with representatives of the BEA. **We are recommending that the superintendent continue as the school district representative for meet and confer. We are further recommending that the**

**school board appoint a meet and confer liaison to be present at the meetings.**

3. A. Superintendent's Report

- i. School board members are registered for the MSBA Conference Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. I will coordinate transportation plans early next week.
- ii. Joe Prom and I are working on the preliminary FY 16 and revised FY 15 general fund budgets. They will be presented to the school board next month.

4. 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. I recommend approving the Annual Agenda (enclosed).**

**G. Joe Prom and I recommend continuing with Sherburne State Bank, STARCOR Credit Union, Minnesota School District Liquid Assets Fund, and PMA/MN Trust as District Depositories for 2015.**

**H. Joe Prom and I recommend continuing with Kern DeWenter Viere, LTD as the district auditors for FY 15. The cost for services in 2014 was \$23,000. KDV agreed to a price of \$23,500 (2% increase)–for fiscal year 2015. We may solicit bids for this service again in the future.**

**I. I recommend continuing with Kennedy & Graven as the school district's Legal Counsel.**

**J. I recommend continuing with the Sherburne County Citizen as the official district newspaper.**

**K. I recommend establishing the regular board meeting date as the first Monday of each month with the following exceptions noted below. The board should determine their preferred meeting time.**

- **February 2<sup>nd</sup>, board workshop for stakeholder meeting input to begin one hour before the school board meeting.**
- **March 9<sup>th</sup>, (superintendent at National Conference on Education February 25 to March 1) 2:00 p.m. board workshop for stakeholder meeting input from selected high school students, 3:00 p.m. board meeting.**
- **April 6<sup>th</sup>, board workshop for stakeholder meeting input to begin one hour before the school board meeting.**

**L. I recommend approving the annual authorization for Superintendent and Business Manager to conduct electronic fund transfers pursuant to MS 471.38 Subd 3 and Subd 3a.**

5. Becker is a member of the Sherburne Northern Wright Special Education Cooperative along with Big Lake, Monticello, and St. Michael-Albertville. The Coop provides special education related services to the districts including Director of Special Education, Special Education Coordinators, Assistive Technology Consultants, Audiologists, Autism Consultant, Home Based Teachers, Speech Clinicians, Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and School Psychologists.

The Coop has operated as a “Host” configured entity since its inception. Under this arrangement, Monticello School District has served as the financial host. Coop employee contracts are held and administered by the Monticello School District. The Monticello School Board has served as the governing body, acting on recommendations from the Coop’s superintendents. Administrative costs incurred by Monticello are distributed among the member districts so that Monticello is held harmless.

MDE is requiring that all Host configured Coops transition to operate under a Joint Powers Agreement. Under this arrangement the governance authority will be a Joint Powers Board comprised of the superintendent from each district. The Joint Powers Board will oversee the operations of the Coop. Monticello will continue to administer the employee contracts and serve as our fiscal host.

The transition to a Joint Powers SPED Coop will have no impact on the services provided to the member districts, the Coop employees, or the operation of the Coop. An independent audit may be required, which would

increase expenses. However, a Joint Powers Coop would have the ability to appeal tuition bills, which could decrease expenses. So, the transition should be cost neutral. The transition to a Joint Powers SPED Coop requires school board approval from each of the four participating school districts.

**I recommend approving the Joint Powers Agreement.**