



**TO:** Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Val Rae Boe

**DATE:** April 4, 2024

**RE:** April 2 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Knisely-12, Jones-14, Forsberg-16, Oksnevad-282, Nitardy-622, Clark-623, Daniels-624, Rebelein-831, Dols-833, and Thelander-834. Members absent: Palmer-13, Bock-621, and Stout-832.

**Calendar Dates:**

- Wednesday, April 16, 2025 - Building Tours: Metro Heights Academy at 8:00 a.m. and Karner Blue Education Center at 9:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 7, 2025 - School Board and Cabinet Dinner at 5:00 p.m. and School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 14, 2025 - Building Tours: South Campus Education Center at 8:30 a.m. and Quora Education Center (Quora Secondary School and Eastview Academy) at 10:00 a.m.

**Presentation: Makerspace at 916:** Emily Thomas, Technology Integration Analyst, presented an overview of how students engage with Makerspace at 916. She shared that students across most 916 sites participate in Makerspace activities up to four times a year. Some of the activities available include lego & duplo, robotics & programming, 3D printing and design, and low-tech engineering.

**Presentation: COSSBA Conference:** Laura Palmer, Columbia Heights, and Kathleen Daniels, White Bear Lake, attended the COSSBA Conference in Atlanta in March. Kathleen shared information from several of the sessions she attended and emphasized how inspiring it is to be around so many people dedicated to education.

**Staff Recognition:**

**Retirements:**

- Susan Heuston, BVI Teacher, has provided the school district with 14 years of service. Jay Fehrman, principal/manager, recognized Sue for her passion, patience, and unwavering commitment which has helped students navigate not only their education, but their world.
- Sally Reis, DHH Teacher, has provided the school district with 35 years of service. Jay Fehrman recognized Sally for being a mentor, an advocate, and a source of inspiration for both students and colleagues. He shared that her knowledge of literacy and passion for empowering D/HH students has shaped

countless lives and her warmth and positivity has made her a beloved presence among staff.

**Years of Service:** 916 will be recognizing 59 staff who have completed ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, thirty, and thirty-five years of continuous service to the district.

**Approval of School Board Policies:** The School Board approved Policies 418, 522, 527, 528, 603, and 806.

**Long Term Facility Maintenance:** The school board voted to approve a resolution that allows member districts to contribute levy dollars to Northeast Metro ISD 916's long-term facilities maintenance (LTFM). LTFM pays for expenditures such as fire safety, asbestos removal, roof systems, indoor air quality, and other projects that benefit students from all member districts. This was approved for the 2026-27 School Year in the amount of \$597,600.

**Renewal of Insurance Policies:** The School Board approved the renewal of the Workers' Compensation Insurance with United Heartland, Liability Insurance with Hanover Insurance Group, Cyber Liability Insurance with Crum and Forster Specialty Insurance Company, and Property Insurance with Chubb Insurance Company.