1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
   Chair Green called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.
   Present: Bassett, Green, Johnson, Magnuson, Van Heel, Walsh, directors; Nancy Rajanen, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services.
   Absent: Brown, Superintendent Mack

2. **Additions to Agenda**
   Agenda item 9.01 Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers Contract was added to the agenda.

3. **Acceptance of Agenda**
   Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Bassett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. **Presentations and Special Reports**
   4.01. Superintendent’s Recognition
      4.01.a. **Minnesota High School Technology Education Program of Excellence Award**
      The superintendent and school board recognized the recipients of the Minnesota High School Technology Education Program of Excellence Award winners as well as the Technology Education Teacher of Excellence Award.

      Robbinsdale Armstrong High School has received the Minnesota High School Technology Education Program of excellence Award. This award was presented to Bob Hakkinen, Chadd Perkins and Mike Livieri in September at the MTE awards banquet. The award comes after a districtwide effort to build a strong program of technology education for our students.

      The Teacher of Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology Education classroom teachers and is presented in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students. The Teacher of Excellence Award provides public recognition at the local through international levels. Robbinsdale Armstrong teacher Mike Livieri was the recipient of this award.

      4.01.b. **Sonesyn, Sunny Hollow and Zachary Lane Elementary Playground Volunteers and Partners**
      The superintendent and school board recognized principals, volunteers and partners from Sonesyn, Sunny Hollow and Zachary Lane Elementary Schools for their efforts in providing new playground equipment. The board heard an update on the projects at each site. The board thanked all for their efforts to support our students and schools.

      4.01.c. **Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) Awards**
      The superintendent and school board recognized Lori Huber and Jane Prestebak for recent awards they received from the Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) at their annual conference. Robbinsdale Area Schools
received two of the three awards given at this state-wide conference.

Lori Huber was recognized as MEMO Media Assistant of the Year. As a media clerk at Sandburg Middle School, Lori shows initiative and provides expertise in every area contributing to the success of the Sandburg media program.

Jane Prestebak was recognized as MEMO School Administrator of the Year. As the program director of media services and instructional technology, Jane provides outstanding vision and leadership to our schools' media programs. She works tirelessly to support and improve our school media programs at the school, district and state levels. Her collaborative spirit and boundless energy effectively promotes and advances information and technology literacy.

Jane and Lori were thanked for their good work with our students, staff and families.

4.02. Arts Showcase
4.02.a. Members of the Robbinsdale Cooper Symphony Orchestra and Robbinsdale Cooper Chamber Singers

The superintendent and school board welcomed members of the Robbinsdale Cooper Symphony Orchestra and Cooper Chamber Singers under the direction of Sarah Chelgren. The students performed the first movement of Gloria by Vivaldi - "Gloria in Excelsis."

The students performed a section from a piece they will be performing at the upcoming Robbinsdale Area Schools Music Festival at Orchestra Hall on Monday, October 29, 7:30 p.m. This music festival is a highlight of the year for music students and staff, and it is a great showcase of the strong performing arts programs we have in the Robbinsdale Area Schools. The pieces they will perform at this event challenge the students technically and musically, and they raise the caliber of all of our programs.

Performers for the music festival include the 5th Grade All-District Choir, combined Robbinsdale Cooper and Armstrong Symphonic Bands, Bel Canto and Cantori Choirs, Concert Choirs and Symphony Orchestras. Judith Willoughby from Oklahoma State University is the guest conductor.

5. Consent Agenda
The Consent Agenda included minutes of the October 1, 2007 board meeting, personnel matters, financial matters, including contracts for services, grants, gifts and other deposits in the amount of $28,197.64, change order 5.03.c.1, and authorization for administration to enter into a lease agreement for a warehouse facility. Van Heel moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Walsh seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda items removed for discussion – none
7. Teaching and Learning
   7.01. Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) Award
      The board heard an update on the CAPP Award as well as information about upcoming arts activities.

8. Business
   8.01. Robbinsdale School District 281 Bid Awards - none

     8.02. Change Orders for Robbinsdale Area Schools 281
            Walsh moved approval of change orders 8.02.a and 8.02.b. Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. Administrative Matters
   9.01. Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers Contract
      Van Heel moved to approve the contract with the Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Bassett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Highlights of the contract agreement include salary increase of 2% and 2.5% in years one and two and a $50/month (year one) and $35/month (year two) increase in district contribution toward health insurance. The contract settlement also includes some language changes. The total package including schedule improvement noted above, plus lanes, steps, and insurance benefits is 5.79% in year one and 4.61% in year two of the agreement.

10. Board Reports
    10.01. Legislative Update
      10.01.a. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD)
               Green reported that the AMSD agenda focused on the Federal No Child Left Behind Act and the difficulties in making legislative changes to this Act.

      10.01.b. Legislative Action Coalition (LAC)
               Walsh reported that LAC will be hosting a legislative breakfast. He noted that the board will be meeting with LAC to review priorities for our 2008 Legislative Platform.

    10.02. Construction Report
      Superintendent Mack reported that good work continues on the projects throughout the district. He noted that the Plymouth Middle School project includes expanded space for heating and ventilation systems; there has been no expansion in instructional space.

    10.03. West Metro Education Program Joint Powers Board Report (WMEP)
      The agenda for the West Metro Education Program included information about filling WMEP vacancies in the areas of Teaching and Learning and Business Administration. The board also discussed options for marketing open seats in the Downtown School.

    10.04. School Board Dialogue with Student Advisory to the Board of Education
      Walsh provided highlights of a great dialogue with the SABE students. Topics included communication, student forums, surveys and a demonstration of online tools, including YouTube, MySpace and Face Book.
10.05. Government Advisory Council Report
Walsh reported that topics for Government Advisory Council included an Update on Budget Cuts for 2008-2009, Update on the New Hope Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast, Update on School District and City Construction Projects, and Safe Routes to Schools grants.

10.06. Interschool Council Report
The agenda for Interschool Council included a budget and referendum update and all school and program networking.

10.07. Communications Advisory Council Report
Highlights of the Communications Advisory Council meeting included a review of the communications audit, how the council shares information with groups, communication with ELL groups and citizens who do not have students in our schools.

11. Board Rapport
Walsh highlighted the Districts Music Festival at Orchestra Hall, as well as other upcoming events at Armstrong and Cooper. Basset extended sympathy to Superintendent Mack and his family. Van Heel reflected on the engagement of generations in connecting with our students; she noted that we have a duty to continue that engagement. Johnson noted that following the CAPP presentation, it is difficult to think about cutting fine arts positions if the referendum does not pass. Superintendent Mack, on behalf of his family, extended thanks and appreciation to all for their support during this difficult time following the death of his father. Green extended sympathy to Superintendent Mack and his family. She reminded the board of two upcoming events – the New Hope Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast and the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership 20 Year Celebration.

12. Announcements

13. Adjournment
Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Bassett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Bassett, clerk of the board

Approved November 5, 2007

Patsy Green, chairperson