

OFFICIAL  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 281, ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER BOARDROOM  
4148 Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope  
December 12, 2005

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Bassett, Brown, Green, Johnson, Moreira, Oetjens, Van Heel, directors; Stan F. Mack II, superintendent.

**2. Additions to Agenda (none)**

**3. Acceptance of Agenda**

Oetjens moved to accept the agenda. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**4. Presentations and Special Reports**

4.01. Superintendent's Recognition

4.01.a. Literacy Minnesota Award

The superintendent and school board recognized Madeline Rosinsky, who has been involved in Adult Basic Education in the Robbinsdale Adult Academic Program since 1980. Recently, Madeline received the Literacy Minnesota 2005 Award for Advocacy in Workforce Education. Recipients were chosen for their unique, innovative and creative contributions to the field and for their impact on the literacy effort in their communities and/or statewide.

She was congratulated for receiving this outstanding recognition from Literacy Minnesota and thanked her for all of her efforts with our adult learners.

4.01.b. Recognition of School Board Member Barb Van Heel

The superintendent and school board recognized Barb Van Heel, member of the Robbinsdale Area School Board since 2001. Barb has a personal history with the Robbinsdale Area Schools community that spans more than four decades. She attended and graduated from Robbinsdale schools and has been engaged as a volunteer in our schools for 20 years. Barb has four children who graduated from the Robbinsdale Area Schools. She has three grandchildren; the oldest attends Forest Elementary School.

Barb's work as a childcare provider has served as a constant reminder that the needs of all children must be "front and center" when making decisions that affect their lives.

While on the board, Barb has been committed to keeping the highest standards of excellence in school board governance when deliberating policy decisions and doing board work. She recently facilitated the board/administration committee that drafted the revisions to our policy governance document.

Barb has served as the board's liaison to the Student Advisory to the Board of Education; she has been faithful in attending their meetings and working with the group to improve communication between students and the board. She has also been the board's liaison to the Association of Metropolitan School Districts, an association that advocates for state education policy that enables metropolitan school districts to improve student learning.

She was thanked for her outstanding efforts in serving the students, staff, families and communities of the Robbinsdale Area Schools. We are grateful for all of the time and energy she has given to us and we wish her the very best.

4.01.c. Recognition of School Board Member Mary Moreira

The superintendent and school board recognized Mary Moreira, a member of the Robbinsdale Area School Board for 15 1/2 years. Elected for the first time in July of 1990, Mary has been re-elected to four consecutive terms.

Mary's contributions to the school board include leading the board through the adoption of Policy Governance, an effective organization structure that lets the superintendent and administrators manage the schools, teachers teach and students learn.

As a school board member, who happens to be a National Board Certified public school teacher at Patrick Henry High School in Minneapolis, Mary believes in the value of public education. She has an especially keen eye toward serving the needs of students, regardless of their abilities and backgrounds. Mary has kept the board centered in a democratic process to act strategically, always in line with the interests of our entire school community. She understands that alone board members have no power and that only together is there power to implement or change policy matters. Mary has always remembered who she represents and how she represents those she serves, consistently aware of how the board works to build trust with the seven communities of the Robbinsdale Area Schools.

While on the board, Mary has served as a board liaison to the West Metro Education Program for 11 years, during that term she served as the WMEP vice-chair and chair. She also served on the board of Intermediate District 287. She has served as our school board treasurer and chair. She has also served on the district's System Accountability Committee, Desegregation Community Collaboration Council, Smaller Learning Communities Committee, Policy Governance Committee, and Robbinsdale Redesign. She has been the board's education liaison to the Minnesota School Boards Association and National School Boards Association.

A renaissance woman, Mary is a lifelong learner who loves to travel. She is committed to good health, good relationships and good work in whatever she does. She is proud of her children, who are graduates of the Robbinsdale Area Schools and proud of her students at Patrick Henry High School. We are so fortunate to have benefited from all Mary has given to the Robbinsdale Area Schools. She was thanked and wished the very best.

## 5. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included November 14, 2005 board meeting minutes, November 21, 2005 work session minutes, November 29, 2005 special meeting minutes, November 29, 2005 Truth in Taxation Hearing minutes (with corrections), December 2, 2005 special meeting minutes, personnel matters, financial matters, gifts with thanks and other deposits in the amount of \$102,788.28, contracts for services, leases, scholarships and grants. Van Heel moved approval of the consent agenda. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## 6. Consent Agenda items removed for discussion (none)

## 7. Teaching and Learning

### 7.01. District Wellness Policy

The board heard Part 1 of a two-part presentation related to development of the District Wellness Policy. Part 1 provided background regarding the existing nutrition and physical fitness educational program. Part 2 will be presented during the January 3, 2006 regular meeting and will inform the board about the charge to the District Wellness Committee and the proposed timeline for completion.

## 8. Business

### 8.01. Robbinsdale School District 281 Bid Awards

Oetjens moved approval of bid award 8.01.a. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project/School</u>
8.01.a	Cool Air Mechanical, Inc.	\$52,000.00	Air Handlers and Duct Work at Bus Garage

8.02. Robbinsdale School District Change Orders

Moreira moved approval of change order 8.02.a. and 8.02.b. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Change Order #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project/School</u>
8.02.a.	Jorgenson Construction, Inc	8	\$51,164	Forest School New Construction
8.02.b.	Midwest Asphalt Corp	1	\$15,050	New Hope Pavement Rehabilitation

8.03. Set Levy

Green moved to adopt the 2005 payable 2006 levy in the amount of \$42,605,358.61 which will be used to finance the operations of the district for the 2006-2007 school year. This levy represents a 7.04% increase over the previous years' levy. Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**9. Administrative Matters**

9.01. Performance Incentive Agreement for Superintendent Mack for 2004-2005

Oetjens moved to approve the Performance Incentive Agreement for Superintendent Mack for 2004-2005 which equals \$5,599.00. Moreira seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.02. Superintendent Mack's Base Salary for 2005-2006

Oetjens moved to approve a 2% increase in the base salary for 2005-2006 which equals \$3,137.00. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.03. Superintendent Mack Contract for 2006 - 2009

Van Heel moved approval of Superintendent Mack's contract for 2006-2009. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.04. Policy Governance Revisions – second reading

Brown moved approval of the second reading of the revisions to the Policy Governance document. Moreria seconded the motion and a roll call vote was unanimous.

9.05. School Board Compensation

Board compensation has remained the same since January 1, 1997. The annual stipend for directors is \$4,800, \$5100 for clerk and \$6,000 for chair. Effective January 1, 2006, the compensation will be set at \$5,700 for directors, \$6,000 for clerk and \$6,900 for chair. Van Heel moved to approve board compensation rates. Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.06. Proposed Staffing and Budget Timeline for 2006-2007

Oetjens moved approval of the proposed staffing and budget timeline for 2006-2007. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.07. School Calendar for 2006-2007

Oetjens moved approval of the school calendar for 2006-2007. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9.08. Out-of-state Travel by School Board Members Policy – first reading

Van Heel moved to waive the reading and approve the first reading of the Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members Policy. Green seconded the motion and a roll call vote was unanimous.

**10. Board Reports**

10.01. Legislative Update

10.01.a. Association of Metropolitan School Districts Financial Adequacy Study

Johnson provided highlights of an AMSD Phase 1 study on school finance that finds Minnesota schools are funded for adequacy, not excellence.

10.01.b. Minnesota School Boards Association Delegate Assembly Report

Johnson provided highlights of presentations at the MSBA Delegate Assembly. She reviewed resolutions that passed.

10.02. Construction Update

Superintendent Mack provided an update on construction projects set for Noble Elementary, Robbinsdale Armstrong and Robbinsdale Cooper High Schools.

10.03. November 21 Work Session Report

Green presented highlights of the November 21 board work session. Agenda items included: a review of employee benefits, budget and fiscal reporting, superintendent contract, performance incentive for Superintendent Mack, school board organization and review of board job descriptions, discussion of officer positions for next year, and a review of board compensation and planning for the January 7, 2006 board work session.

10.04. Government Advisory Council Report

Brown reported that agenda items for the recent Government Advisory Council meeting included an update on District enrollment and our Truth in Taxation Hearing. He noted that cities will do significant street renovation projects around some of our schools this summer.

10.05. Interschool Council Report

Green reported that agenda items for the Interschool Council meeting included a report on the recommendation for school focus at Robbinsdale Middle School. Superintendent Mack shared his goals for 2005-2006; he received positive response especially on the customer service and increased parent involvement initiatives. Gayle Walkowiak invited council members to join the Systems Accountability Committee.

10.06. Intermediate District 287 Report

Johnson provided highlights of a District 287 workshop which included a great session on governance.

10.07. Minnesota School Public Relations Fall Conference

Johnson noted that the conference included many great presentations, including one by Tom Whitney on branding.

Johnson reported that the board will hold a closed session to get a briefing on the terms of the tentative agreement with teachers. Oetjens moved to hold a closed session following the meeting. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## 11. Board Rapport

11.01. Remembering Scott Thomas Modeen

The superintendent and school board honored Marine Lance Corporal Scott Thomas Modeen, who attended Robbinsdale Cooper High School from 1997 to 1999 and graduated from Highview Alternative Program in January 2000. Scott joined the Marines after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. He was in his second tour of duty in Iraq when he lost his life along with nine other U.S. Marines on Thursday, December 1, when a makeshift bomb exploded near their foot patrol outside of Fallujah.

Moreira, Green, Johnson and Oetjens joined in thanking our outgoing board members and welcoming our new board members. Bassett thanked our outgoing board members and noted she was glad Superintendent Mack would continue with the District. Van Heel thanked staff for a great farewell reception. She noted that SABE is planning forums for January and February. She wished our students and families a safe winter break. Superintendent Mack thanked the board for their trust and confidence in him as they approve his new contract. He thanked Mary and Barb for their outstanding service to the District.

**12. Announcements**

**13. Adjournment**

Green moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 p.m. Moreira seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Helen Bassett, clerk of the board

Approved January 3, 2006

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Linda Johnson, chairperson