

OFFICIAL
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 281, ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
4148 Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope, Minnesota
June 2, 2008

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Present: Bassett, Green, Johnson, Magnuson, Tyrrell, Van Heel, Walsh, directors; Stan F. Mack II, Superintendent of Schools.

2. Additions to Agenda - None

3. Acceptance of Agenda

Walsh moved to approve the agenda. Magnuson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Presentations and Special Reports

4.01. Superintendent's Recognition

4.01.a. Robbinsdale Area Schools 2008 Graduates

The Superintendent and School Board recognized and congratulated all who are graduating from Robbinsdale Area Schools elementary and middle schools. They extended special congratulations to our Robbinsdale Armstrong and Robbinsdale Cooper High Schools students, and Highview Alternative and Adult Academic Program graduates.

4.01.b. Robbinsdale Armstrong High School Wins 2008 Supermileage State Championship

With a top run of over 577 miles per gallon, the Armstrong Supermileage team won the Minnesota State Championship title in the stock division, May 19-20, at Brainerd International Raceway. Sponsored by the Minnesota Technology Education Association, the competition pits high school teams from around Minnesota against each other to produce the most fuel-efficient vehicle. 98 teams competed in this two day event, with Armstrong topping the division by over 100 MPG.

Surviving a crash in the five turns, Team Armstrong managed to put up six good runs on day one to qualify for the title and take the lead. On day two, although plagued by a fuel line problem, the team increased its lead by completing run after run with an average for its top six runs of over 530 MPG.

Tech ed instructor and Supermileage advisor Mike Livieri and members of Team Armstrong were present to provide information about the competition. Participants included: Troy Pederson, Spencer Hunt, Mike Winacht, Tyrone Bryant, Jeremy DuPaul, Andrew Cervantes, Jordan Lanz, Kyle Lanz, Matt Rathlisberger and former student/advisor Randy Roe.

4.02. Arts Showcase

4.02.a. Robbinsdale Middle School Musical

Robbinsdale Middle School has just completed its annual musical, with 64 students participating in acting, singing and dancing. There were another 10 students involved in the sets and with technical assistance.

Members of the cast presented segments of the musical, “Annie.” Participating students included grade 8 students Kaimen Stowe as Warbucks, Jennifer Crandall as Hannigan, Megan Hernick as Annie and grade 7 student Micah Dickson as Grace. As has been the tradition for musicals at this school, the show is double-cast so more students have the opportunity to act. George Lillquist directed the play, along with RMS choir director Allison Thielen.

4.03. Special Reports

4.03.a. Legislative Action Coalition (LAC) Report

Bob Wittman, Executive Director of Community Education and Community Relations, Jon Miners, LAC tri-chair, and Andrea Wiley, LAC program assistant presented a report on the 2008 legislative session. Six “action teams” or committees worked to provide information to state and federal legislators and the local community. The group reviewed the LAC priorities and results. While many other state and local programs were cut, public education received an increase of 1 percent, equivalent to \$51 per student. For Robbinsdale Area Schools, \$2.2 million in additional funds were allocated or allowed to be shifted from other funds.

4.03.b. Update on 2008 Legislative session from our Legislators and Senators

Senators Terri Bonoff and Ron Latz, and Representatives Sandra Peterson and Lyndon Carlson were present to share some reflections on the session related to public education. The board thanked the legislators for their support.

5. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included minutes of the May 19, 2008 regular board meeting, personnel matters, financial matters, contracts, gifts and other deposits in the amount of \$36,084.01, change order #13 in the amount of \$17,613.00 for Plymouth Middle School. Johnson moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Tyrrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda items removed for discussion - None

7. Teaching and Learning

7.01. English Language Learner (ELL) Program at Robbinsdale Cooper High School for 2008-2009

Gayle Walkowiak, assistant superintendent of Teaching and Learning; John Neumann, teaching and learning specialist; and Jennifer Leazer and Karla Stone, ELL teachers, provided the update. Robbinsdale Armstrong has hosted the high school ELL program through this year. Next year both high schools will have a program which will serve students in each school's attendance area. 80 students will receive direct ELL instruction at Armstrong; the program will be staffed by 2.3 FTE ELL teachers and a 1.0 FTE Educational Assistant. Cooper will have more than 100 ELL students, 2.6 FTE ELL teachers, and a 1.0 FTE Educational Assistant. A team is working on the transition by including stakeholders in the process, notifying families and students of changes, transferring and registering students and restructuring the program and standards.

8. Business

8.01. Robbinsdale School District 281 Bid Awards

Green moved to approve bid 8.01.a. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Van Heel moved to approve 8.01.b. and 8.01.c. Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Walsh moved to approve 8.01.d. Tyrrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Van Heel moved to approve 8.01.e. Walsh seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Johnson moved to approve 8.01.f. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Green moved to approve 8.01.g. Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project/School</u>
8.01.a	Reject all bids due to bid language	0.00	Office supplies for 2008-2009
8.01.b	C.J. Duffy	159,520.61	8 1/2 x 11 White Xerocopy, Pacon Papers, Colored Xerocopy, 8 1/2 X 11 White 3-Hole Punched and Riverside (Construction Paper) 2008-2009
8.01.c	Wilcox Paper	40,476.00	11 x 17 White Offset paper for 2008-2009
8.01.d	Urban Company	49,700.00	2008 Site Improvements Phase 1 Cavanagh Early childhood Center
8.01.e	All City Elevator, Inc.	188,220.00	Armstrong High School Auditorium and Education Service Center Freight Elevator
8.01.f	Rescind bid award to J.S. Cates	84000	Armstrong Exterior Doors
8.01.g	Award bid to P.M. I. Construction	96300	Armstrong Exterior Doors

8.02. Change Orders for Robbinsdale Area Schools 281 – None

8.03. Health and Safety Budget “Attachment 99”

Johnson moved to certified "Attachment 99" as part of the district health and safety revenue application for 2008 payable in 2009. The state requires school board approval of "Attachment 99" prior to state approval of funding for health and safety projects. Tyrrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8.04. 10-Year Plan

Van Heel moved to approve the district’s updated Alternative Facilities 10-Year Plan and authorize its submission to the Department of Education. Major shifts from last year's plan include delaying renovation of schools not yet renovated by one year. Walsh seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8.05. Preliminary Budget – General Fund Budget 2008-2009

Bassett moved to approve a revised preliminary budget for 2008-09. Gary Hauan, director of Finance, presented the revisions. Revenue will be \$1.6 million greater than forecast in May; expenses will be \$1.5 less than forecast, including an additional \$420,000 in budget reductions. The district expects a \$2.6 million fund balance at the end of the year. Without additional revenue, the district will need to reduce the 2009-10 budget by \$4-6 million to balance the budget. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The final budget is expected to be adopted at the June 16 regular board meeting.

9. Administrative Matters

9.01. Summer Teacher Academy and Teachers of Diverse Background Financial Aid Pilot Program.

Nancy Rajanen, assistant superintendent of Teaching and Learning and Stephanie Crosby, director of Human Resources, provided a report on the Summer Teacher Academy and the Teachers of Diverse Backgrounds Financial Aid Pilot Program. Robbinsdale Area Schools’ students are eligible to participate in a 5-day workshop this summer at a Minnesota college through the Summer Teacher Academy, an initiative designed to encourage students of color to enter the field of education. Robbinsdale Area Schools will partner with St. Cloud State University to increase the diversity of teachers through the Teachers of Diverse Backgrounds program.

9.02. Resolution Approving Settlement of Due Process Hearing

Bassett moved to waive the reading and approve the Settlement of Due Process Hearing Resolution. Magnuson seconded the motion and a roll call vote was unanimous.

10. Board Reports

10.01. Intermediate District 287 Report

Johnson noted that the District 287 Board continues discussion on their new bylaws and Memorandum of Understanding. District 287 will move to a 13 member board; first and second readings of the new Memorandum will be voted on by 287 in June. Our board will then vote on the Memorandum of Understanding. Bassett commended Superintendent Lewandowski for her forward thinking. We will hear an update on the 287 Strategic Plan at a board meeting next fall.

10.02. Desegregation Community Collaboration Council (DCCC) Report

Tyrrell reported that the recent DCCC meeting provided an opportunity for members to review the district Deseg Plan. They reviewed information on WMEP schools, district racially identifiable schools, Meadow Lake and Lakeview, and goals of the Deseg plan.

10.03. May 27 School Board Work Session Report

Green reported that agenda items for the May 27 School Board Work Session included continued discussion of the Preliminary Budget for 2008-2009, review of additional budget reductions for 2008-2009 and other budget adjustments based on outcomes of the legislative session.

10.04. June 2 Listening Time Report

Bassett noted that guests at Listening Time included three district parents, one student teacher and two members of the Osseo School Board. Conversation focused on cuts in teachers, declining enrollment, other budget cuts, and options for a fall referendum. Information was also provided to the board by a substitute teacher in the district. Board members from Osseo came to observe our Listening Time as they are interested in implementing this model for citizen input in their district.

10.05 June 9 School Board Work Session Agenda)

Green reported that topics for the June 9 Board Work Session include a review of the District's Financial Projections for 2008-2012, Timeline for Potential Operating Referendum, Unite 281 Presentation, Proposed Budget Reductions for 2009-2010, Review of Bylaws for the Robbinsdale Area Schools Finance Advisory Council, Timeline, Process, Steps for filling the August 2008 Board Vacancy, and a Strategic Plan Update, Timeline and Next Steps.

10.06. Community Education Advisory Council Report - None

11. Board Rapport

Magnuson announced that he will be moving to Switzerland with his family in August; his wife has accepted a new job. He noted that this has been a difficult decision. He noted sadness in leaving the board as there is much business left undone, including fixing the state funding formula or passing a referendum. He noted that the district is at a critical juncture and it is difficult to leave in the middle of this; he will be pulling for us. Tyrrell congratulated all students who are moving on or out. Green wished Magnuson and his family the very best; she noted that the board will review options for filling the remainder of his term. Johnson congratulated all graduates; she will be out of town at the time of graduation. She thanked Magnuson and noted that he will be missed. Walsh thanked Magnuson for serving on the board; he noted that his expertise in education has been especially helpful. Walsh commended George Lillquist and the student performers from Robbinsdale Middle School. Walsh noted that his son, a professional musical theater actor, got his start with Mr. Lillquist. Van Heel thanked the staff for a great year. Bassett noted that this has been a difficult school year, but staff has risen to the top in educating our students. She noted that we will need to be creative in what we do and encouraged

everyone to keep a positive attitude. She congratulated Magnuson and wished him well on his new adventure. Superintendent Mack congratulated students as they graduate. He noted that the decision to hold indoor or outdoor graduations will be made early. He thanked the board for their positive work in building relationships and working so well together as a board. Green wished everyone a safe and sunny summer.

12. Announcements

13. Adjournment

Van Heel moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Walsh seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Bassett, clerk of the board

Approved June 16, 2008

Patsy Green, chairperson