

School Board Highlights

January 24, 2011

Inver Grove Heights Middle School IMC

www.invergrove.k12.mn.us

Please Note: Board Highlights are NOT the official minutes of the school board meeting. Board Highlights are intended to be an informative communication for staff and other interested individuals. The videotape of the board meeting is not an official transcript of the meeting. Official minutes are kept by the superintendent's secretary and are approved by the School Board.

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order by Chair Difronzo at 7 p.m.
Board Members Present	Mickey Difronzo, Paul Mandell, Keri Myran, Cindy Nordstrom, Phil Prokopowicz, Lynette Stensgard and Bridget Sutton
Annual Election of School Board Officials	<p>A. Dr. Wells initiated the election of school board officers by asking for nominations for the position of Board chair. Mickey Difronzo was unanimously voted Board Chair.</p> <p>B. Following election of a Board chair, the office of Vice-Chair/Treasurer and Clerk were elected by the school board. Paul Mandell was unanimously elected Vice-Chair/Treasurer. Keri Myran was unanimously voted Clerk.</p>
Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved.
Inver Grove Heights Middle School Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English teacher Jennifer Moe introduced eighth-grader Nick Pieper, who presented his stop-motion video project on "The Outsiders." • Middle School student council members updated the Board on the group's election process and role in the school. • Jerry Sakala, director of secondary instruction, discussed the changes that have been made at the Middle School to ease the transition between eighth- and ninth-grade. Mr. Sakala also discussed the variety of after-school opportunities available to students, including homework zone, zumba and guitar club - just to name a few.
Superintendent's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and parents attended Financial Aid FAFSA Night last Thursday in Simley's IMC. Steve Yang, director of financial aid at Inver Hills Community College was the featured speaker. • Simley's Nordic Ski Team has been skiing rather smoothly this winter thanks in large part to a strong community effort to get the team a proper groomer. The High School purchased a groomer last year via capital outlay, but the team still needed a snowmobile, containing proper gearing and cooling, to pull it. Students raised money through a skiathon and cookie dough fundraiser. Parents also made donations to help chip in. Charles Homme, owner of ByteSpeed®, gave the team a \$2,000 corporate donation. The school worked with Danner Sales to purchase a quality, yet affordable, sled. This is the first year the team has been able to groom the course with its own equipment. The Nordic Ski Team competes at away venues approximately once or twice per week. • Seventh-graders recently snowshoed around the perimeter of the softball fields behind Inver Grove Heights Middle School. Most students completed three laps, totaling nearly a mile. 38 pairs of snowshoes were purchased with funds from a Dakota County Public Health SHIP Grant awarded to Ms. Murphy's seventh-grade science classroom. The purpose of the grant is to promote physical activity during core instruction hours. Students soon will use the snowshoes to navigate through the snow to study animal and plant adaptations, search for animal tracks and practice science observation skills, all while being physically active. • Three students from Simley are headed to the Minnesota Music Listening Contest state competition. Ben Bourgoin, Carter Lange and Jannis Holsten placed second at one of the nine regionals held throughout the state on January 21. The Music Listening Contest

**Superintendent's Report
(cont'd)**

aims to assist teachers in their efforts to expand students' music experiences - primarily through the use of Western art music, commonly referred to as classical music. The contest materials cover classical music, global perspectives and a variety of musical influences. The objective of the contest is to inspire students to become lifelong participants in the musical experience. Congratulations to our students and good luck at the state competition of February 4.

- Implementation of the MN Common Course Catalogue (MCCC) has begun. Visit the State Educational Record View and Submission (SERVS) Web site for more information at MDE. MCCC@state.mn.us. This will provide a uniform way to catalog what courses are being offered throughout the curriculums of the various schools in Minnesota and how many teachers and students are accessing those courses.
- The county noted that there were some inconsistencies in the way the district's recycling vendor interpreted some of the county's and State's expectations. Overall, there are good recycling systems in place at Simley and the Middle School. However, some suggestions for improvement have been made including adding labels to trash and recycling containers, educating students and staff about the recycling program, and always pairing trash bins and recycling carts together in classrooms and common areas.
- The Grove Aquatic & Fitness Center is celebrating its 10th Anniversary on February 14, 2011, from 5:30 – 6 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Community Center. A joint meeting with City of IGH and ISD 199 School Board will be held on February 17, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Community Center's Community - Room 1.
- Task Force Report and Recommendations have been completed through the Statewide Task Force on School Integration. The Statewide Task Force on School Integration conducted a comprehensive review of the current Minnesota Desegregation Rule over the past several months and developed the following recommendations:
 1. Clarify the purpose of the integration policy.
 2. Establish and enforce accountability measures.
 3. Identify and support effective practices tied to results.
 4. Seek partnerships and support collaboration.
 5. Distribute resources to meet outcomes.
- The district issued the sale of \$6,690,000 in Alternative Facilities Bonds on January 24, 2011.

Business Manager's Report

- Mr. Rimstad stated that the district's 2010-2011 general fund budget is \$38 million dollars, of which 39.25-percent has been expended to date compared to 38.45-percent one year ago.
- The State is reducing the district's cash flow by approximately \$135,000.

Committee Reports

Finance

- Met with representatives from Wells Fargo about OPEB liability
- Reviewed 2011-2012 budget calendar
- Reviewed booster club coach contracts
- Reviewed HTU winter staff listing and budget

Personnel

- Reviewed contract language regarding early retirement incentive
- Reviewed the pay-equity report that the district must submit to the State
- Reviewed some scenarios regarding budget process for 2011-2013 economic forecast
- Reviewed two position descriptions

Membership Reports

AMSD

- Met new Education Commissioner Dr. Brenda Cassellius

EMID

- Discussed the immediate future of EMID

Consent Agenda

- (A) Approval of the Consent Agenda
- A. Approved the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Monday, December 20, 2010.
- B. Approved the January 24, 2011, bills payable.
- C. Personnel
1. Certified Resignation/Retirement

Consent Agenda (cont'd)

2. Classified Resignation/Retirement

3. General/Medical Leave

- a. Approved the unpaid parental leave of absence for Julie Bagwill, Hilltop Elementary School paraprofessional, effective March 20, 2011 through May 9, 2011.
- b. Approved the revised, unpaid parental leave of absence for Cortney Bauer, Family Connections paraprofessional, effective December 16, 2010 through February 1, 2011.
- c. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Natalie Giese, Inver Grove Heights Middle School teacher, effective April 18, 2011 through June 10, 2011.
- d. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Margaret Lehmann, District Office administrative assistant, effective January 19, 2011 through March 2, 2011.
- e. Approved the intermittent family medical leave of absence for Suzanne McKenzie, Simley High School teacher, effective December 17, 2010 through December 16, 2011.
- f. Approved the revised family medical leave of absence for Rob McKown, Inver Grove Heights Middle School custodian, effective January 13, 2011 through January 28, 2011.
- g. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Kristina Mondelli, Hilltop Elementary School teacher, effective March 21, 2011 through June 10, 2011.
- h. Approved the general unpaid medical leave for Denise Swanson, Inver Grove Heights Middle School clerical, effective February 15, 2011 through March 15, 2011.
- i. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Terry Tait, Simley High School custodian, effective December 7, 2010 through March 4, 2011.

4. Certified Appointment

- a. Approved the appointment of April Safford, 1.0 FTE Inver Grove Heights Middle School special education teacher, effective January 3, 2011.
- b. Approved the additional 0.389 FTE for Megan Williams, Inver Grove Heights Middle School reading teacher, effective December 6, 2010.

5. Classified Appointment

- a. Approved the appointment of Micah Scott, Simley High School B-shift custodian, effective January 17, 2011.

- D. Approved the appointment of the extra-curricular coaches for the 2010-2011 school year.
- E. Approved the student teacher / intern request from Community Education – birth to three program.
- F. Approved the Hilltop University staff for January 10, 2011 through March 10, 2011.
- G. Approved the Pine Bend Elementary after-school staff for winter 2010-2011.
- H. Approved the reduction in instructor payment for Community Education Youth Enrichment Winter and Spring 2010-2011 piano lessons at Pine Bend Elementary School.
- I. Approved the Communication Education 2010-2011 winter classes.
- J. Approved the 2011 Pay Equity Report.

Business

- A. Accepted the donation totaling \$100.00 from Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program to Hilltop Elementary School.
- B. Accepted the donation of 20 iPad screen protectors, estimated value of \$200.00, from Lynn Beck to Hilltop Elementary School.
- C. Accepted the grant totaling \$700.00 from Target Field Trips Scholarship America to Simley High School to be used for an approved field trip.
- D. Accepted the donation totaling \$1,000.00 from Lockheed Martin to Simley High School Robotics Team.
- E. Accepted the donation totaling \$1,000.00 from Vermillion State Bank to Simley High School Letterperson's Club for improvements to the activities programs.
- F. Accepted the donation totaling \$4,425.00 from the Simley Wrestling Club to Independent School District 199 for half of the coaching salaries.
- G. Second Reading for Revision of Policy 150 – District Web Site, 150F – Request for Link from District Web Site, Policy 701 – Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget, Policy 705 – Investments, and Policy 711 – Digital/Electronic Recording on School Buses.

- Business (cont'd)**
- H. Resolution directing administration to gather and make recommendations for additions, reductions and modifications in programs and positions and reasons therefore.
 - I. Resolution awarding the sale, determining the form and details, authorizing the execution, delivery, and registration, and providing for the payment of \$6,690,000 general obligation alternative facilities bonds, series 2011A.

- Board Communication**
- Member Nordstrom has been busy attending wrestling, basketball and gymnastics events. She commended the staff for their patience and professionalism during conferences.
 - Member Stensgard attended an AMSD conference with Member Mandell.
 - Vice Chair Mandell attended a number of AMSD functions.
 - Chair Difronzo has spent a lot of time watching teams in the ice arenas. He attended a parent-child breakfast at Hilltop Elementary School. Chair Difronzo stated that he will distributing committee assignments in the coming weeks.

Closed Session Convened into closed session for the purpose of administrator negotiations at 8:24 p.m.