

School Board Highlights

October 24, 2011

Simley IMC

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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
Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved.
Visitor/Staff Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Roberts thanked the School Board for their sponsorship during the 20th BEST Foundation golf tournament.
Superintendent's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities Director Will Short reviewed extra-curricular accomplishments from the fall. • Simley's dean, Ben Lane, and assistant principal, Carol Ellison, presented the board with information on Simley's ninth-grade tutoring program that was implemented in the fall. • Kids' Choice is preparing its campaign for "Shop, Ship and Share," a program through the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Military. This program supplies U.S. soldiers with items and cards for the holidays. Students have been creating posters to inform parents of the items needed for soldiers, such as calling cards, iTunes gift cards, beef jerky, shaving cream, sunflower seeds and much more. The kids will start writing holiday cards to the soldiers in a few weeks and send the items on December 2. If you would like to make a donation please visit community education's new website, which is available through the district website, and go to the IGH Kids' Choice page to view the list of items needed. You can drop off your donations at any Kids' Choice sites. • The Early Learning program hosts a Community Baby Shower every year for families in the community that are either expecting or recently have had a new baby. This year they had over 30 families participate! Julie Buchmeier, from Abbott Nutrition, donated a diaper bag, formula and an organizer to each family. There were four specialists/community resources that were present to share information and answer questions. The guest speakers included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Dentist, who shared information on what types of snacks are good for growing children and when to bring your child to the dentist. 2. A police officer, spoke on car seat safety. 3. Sue Spector, a Dakota County Public Health Nurse, spoke on well-child checkups and services available through the county. 4. Birth to Three Specialist, Charlotte Haber, talked about services available through Help me Grow and about assessments for children if they are behind in development. • Simley's college fair is Thursday, Nov. 3. The college fair will give students the opportunity to chat with representatives from colleges and universities throughout the Midwest so that they can start to prepare for their post-secondary education. • The election is on Tuesday, Nov. 8. A reminder that there are three school questions on the ballot. Information on the election can be found on the district website. • AWARDS AND HONORS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. U.S. Department of Education names Atheneum a "Blue Ribbon" school. 2. The Environmental Protection Agency awarded ISD 199 for greatly improving energy efficiency throughout all district buildings. The Simley High School/Inver Grove Heights Middle School campus was named an ENERGY STAR Certified Building for ranking in the top 25% most energy efficient buildings nationally.

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

3. Simley received the Star of Innovation Award from the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals for the ALP transformation.
4. Simley High School was named one of America's best high schools by Newsweek for a fourth straight year. Simley moved up in this year's rankings despite more facing more challenging criteria.
5. The Washington Post ranked Simley 959th among the nation's 24,000 public high schools.
6. Sara Getting and Karin Swainey, two teachers from Hilltop Elementary School will have their iPad action-research findings published in the International Society for Technology in Education journal.
7. The district received the 2010 Technology Leadership Award from TIES.
8. Madison Dockter won a National Merit Scholarship and Simley High School had three AP Scholars for the first time in school history. Renee Labat, Carver Peterson and Joseph Rief all were National AP Scholars for averaging at least a 4 on all AP exams and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more exams.
9. Avery Garon scored a perfect 36 on the ACT exam last year. Madison Dockter aced the critical reading section of the SAT.
10. Shinoby Yang was named to the Academic All-State boys basketball team. Emma Russ and Kersten Schwanz made the girls' track and field Academic All-State team.
11. Teams winning Academic All-State awards included volleyball and girls' track and field (both which received a gold award for maintaining a collective GPA above 3.6), and girls' soccer, gymnastics and wrestling (all of which received a silver academic award for averaging above a 3.2).
12. Simley won its fourth straight state title in a row last year.
13. Claire Ross received the 2011 Newman-Wicklund Teen Volunteer Scholarship. The scholarship goes to a high school senior who has completed at least 250 hours of volunteer service at HealthEast hospitals.
14. Kyle Dickison, now a senior at Simley, received the National Boy Scouts of America Medal of Merit for saving his mom's life in 2009.
15. Pine Bend Elementary students raised more money in the Jump Rope for Heart than any other school in the state last year.
16. In 2010 Natalie Giese, an English teacher at Inver Grove Heights Middle School, was named one of Let's Dish's Teachers of the Year.
17. Dan Gaisbauer, a seventh-grade science teacher at the Middle School, was named one of KS95's Teachers of the Week in the spring of 2010.
18. Junior Yinka Akintujoye was one of 250 "leading youth scholars" across the nation to be selected to attend the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment last July. The Summit, held at George Mason University in Washington D.C., aims to inspire young leaders who desire a unique experience focused on successful careers in the environmental industry.
19. Parade magazine selected John to its 2010 All-America High School Service Team. John, along with many of his classmates, convinced Governor Pawlenty to halt the destruction of the Rock Island Swing Bridge in Inver Grove Heights.
20. The St. Paul Area Council of Churches (SPACC) recognized Clayton as an emerging leader in the community. Clayton was one of only four high school students statewide to receive the award in 2010.

Committee Reports

Finance

- Discussed proposed 2011-2012 staff development.
- Discussed technology requests and grant opportunities.
- Discussed Family Connections lease.
- Audit presentation will occur at the Nov. 14 board meeting.

Membership Reports

EMID

- EMID schools will remain open during the 2012-2013 school year.

Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approved the minutes of the school board meeting held on September 26, 2011.
- B. Approved the weekly bills payable for September 7, 2011, September 14, 2011, September 21, 2011 and September 28, 2011.

Consent Agenda (Cont'd)

- C. Approved the bills payable as of October 24, 2011.
- D. Personnel
 - 1. Certified Resignation/Retirement
 - A. To accept the resignation of Kristie Hondl, Pine Bend Elementary School 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher, effective October 19, 2011.
 - 2. Classified Resignation/Retirement
 - A. Accepted the resignation of Ann Weber, Cahill Court Cook Helper, effective October 21, 2011.
 - B. Accepted the resignation of Sandra Taylor, Special Education Bus Driver, effective October 28, 2011.
 - 3. General/Medical Leave
 - A. Approved the family medical leave for Rick Olson, Inver Grove Heights Middle School Teacher, effective for five intermittent days during the 2011-2012 school year.
 - B. Approved the family medical leave for Joel Rogness, Simley High School teacher, effective September 6, 2011 through December 2, 2011.
 - C. Approved the unpaid medical leave for Joel Rogness, Simley High School teacher, effective December 5, 2011 through March 31, 2012.
 - D. Approved the military leave for Chad Anderson, Simley High School teacher, effective November 3, 2011 through December 4, 2011.
 - D. Approved the family medical leave for Jean Herbst, Hilltop Elementary teacher, effective October 17, 2011 through January 25, 2012.
 - E. Approved the family medical leave for Patrick Sommers, Simley High School paraprofessional, effective September 26, 2011 through October 14, 2011.
 - F. Approved the revised unpaid medical leave of Kathy Bredy, transportation paraprofessional, effective July 17, 2011 through January 2, 2012.
 - G. Approved the family medical leave of Dianne Chermak, Hilltop Elementary School paraprofessional, effective October 21, 2011 through December 2, 2011.
 - 4. Certified Appointment
 - A. Approved the appointment of Joan Gates, 1.0 FTE Hilltop Elementary School first grade teacher, effective August 29, 2011.
 - B. Approved the appointment of Abby Ertl, 1.0 FTE Hilltop Elementary School long-term substitute fourth grade teacher, effective October 17, 2011 through January 25, 2011.
 - 5. Classified Appointment
 - A. Approved the appointment of Chris Mensen, Simley High School paraprofessional, effective October 17, 2011.
 - B. Approved the appointment of Jacqueline Johnson, Hilltop Elementary School paraprofessional, effective October 17, 2011.
 - C. Approved the appointment of Theresa Oeffling, Hilltop Elementary School lunchroom monitor, effective October 3, 2011.
 - D. Approved the extra-curricular coaches for the 2011-2012 school year.
 - E. Approved the Community Education 2011 fall youth enrichment activities and instructors.
 - F. Approved the independent contract for Kevin Auge, driver education coordinator, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.
 - G. Approved the Hilltop Elementary School 2011 fall university staff.
 - H. Approved the Pine Bend Elementary School 2011 fall university staff.
 - I. Approved the Salem Hills Elementary School 2011 fall university staff.

Business

- A. Accepted the donation totaling \$35.74 from the Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program to Inver Grove Heights Middle School.
- B. Accepted the donation totaling \$1,000 from the American Legion Post No. 424 to the National Honor Society.
- C. Accepted the donation totaling \$5,000 from the Endzone Boosters to the Boys Football Program to be used for additional coaches' salaries.
- D. Accepted the donation totaling \$9,074 from the Simley Basketball Boosters Association to the Simley Basketball Program to be used for the JV coaches' salaries.
- E. Accepted the donation totaling \$295.98 from the Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program to Hilltop Elementary School.

- Business (Cont'd)**
- F. Accepted the donation of office supplies from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota to Inver Grove Heights Community Schools and Family Connections.
 - G. Accepted the grant totaling \$500 from the National Rural Education Association to Salem Hills Elementary School's fourth grade Going Green program.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.