

School Board Highlights

April 25, 2011

District Office

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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 7:05 p.m.
Board Members Present	Mickey Difronzo, Paul Mandell, Keri Myran, Cindy Nordstrom, Phil Prokopowicz and Bridget Sutton
Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved.
Superintendent's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Dickison, a junior at Simley High School, received the National Boy Scouts of America Medal of Merit last Monday. The Medal of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others. Kyle rescued his mother, who fell through the ice on the Mississippi River while attempting to save their dog, in December 2009. Kyle called 911 and was directed to push a ladder out for his mother to hold onto until the Fire Department arrived to pull her to safety. • Two third-graders from Salem Hills Elementary School visited Kayla Robinson's preschool class at Salem Hills and ran an iPod Touch station with a small group of four-year-old students. They helped the preschool children learn how to get to applications, move to new applications, turn off the iPods, adjust the sound and complete other basic operations. Recently, they focused on learning to identify fruits and vegetables. Preschoolers used the applications to listen to words and see a variety of produce items. The third-graders visit Ms. Robinson's classroom once every other week. • Hilltop and Pine Bend Kids' Choice sites participated in a food drive during the month of March. All of the donations went to Neighbors Inc. At Pine Bend, they decided to make it a competition between the boys and the girls. The winning team got to have a hat day and bring in a stuffed animal to Kids' Choice day. Each day groups tallied up the items and let the participants know whether the boys or the girls were in the lead. In the end the girls donated 137 items and the boys donated 111 items. They had a great time working together to help those in need in our community. Hilltop collected 53 pounds of food for Neighbors. • On March 30, the Simley Wrestling team was honored by Governor Mark Dayton at the State Capital for winning the State High School Wrestling championship. Governor Dayton proclaimed March 30, 2011 as: SIMLEY HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING DAY. The Spartans finished the season with 31 wins and only two losses. The squad ended the season ranked sixth in the nation. Kyle Gliva, Pedro Delao, Jake Short and Nick Wanzek each won individual titles. • Inver Grove Heights Early Childhood Family Education hosted their 21st Annual Summer Activities and Safety Fair on Thursday, April 7 at the Veterans Memorial Community Center. They had a wonderful turnout with more than 500 people and more than 70 organizations attending the event. Families could visit with the Fire Department and Smokey the Bear, watch a K-9 Dog demonstration, receive car seat installation information and much more. • Students from Salem Hills Elementary School and Inver Grove Heights Middle School performed wonderfully at the School Chess Association's 2011 Minnesota Statewide Primary and Elementary Championship. The tournament was held at Breck School in Golden Valley. Competing from Salem Hills and the Atheneum Program were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * First-grader Donald Thai who finished 13th out of 160 students competing in the

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

Primary Section. Donald qualifies to attend the Tournament of Champions on April 30.

* A group comprised of fourth- and fifth-graders finished fourth out of 70 teams in the Elementary Team Division. Team members included: Robert Thai, Jack Olson, Chase Campbell, Michaela Long, Addison Scufsa, Charlie Dempsey, Joseph Robinson, Ethan Dincer, Josh Schachel and Julia Camacho.

* Fourth-grader Robert Thai placed third overall out of all of the fourth-graders in the tournament.

* Sixth-grader Dylan Campbell competed in the tournament representing Inver Grove Heights Middle School.

- Four Destination ImagiNation teams progressed to the state competition which was held on March 16. In an unprecedented outcome, all four teams came home with awards and three teams qualified for Global Finals. The fourth team is a Global Finals alternate. Congratulations to these teams on such great successes. The combined team at Hilltop and Salem Hills won third place honors and is an alternate for Global Finals. Team members include: Riley Mueller, Zoe Stone, Riley Arneson, Logan Lindblom, Lauryn Schneider, Dani Mynihand and Brittany Raab. The Middle School team that earned second place and qualified for Global Finals is comprised of Lindsay Schneider, Madi Dian, Ren Johnson and Sarabeth Hennagir. Simley had two teams win second place and advance to the Global Finals. Middle school and high school students competed at the high school level. Team members from one of the teams included Shelby Coffey, Alex Mueller, Lindsey Moynihan, Joey Pilot, Troy Christiansen and Zach Wanger. Competing on the other team is Abby Jacobsen, Renee Labat, Sarah Christensen, Laura Hayes and Summer Freed.
- Two students from Ms. Westra's fourth-grade Atheneum class are moving on to the Young Inventors Fair State Competition. Thomas Trutna and Sarah Anaya will both display their inventions at the Mall of America's Best Buy rotunda on Saturday, April 30. Sarah built a contraption that allows users to shovel and spread salt simultaneously. Thomas made a power pack that uses solar energy to generate electricity.
- Conferences for secondary students are tonight and Wednesday, April 27. Inver Grove Heights Middle School will host conferences from 4-7:30 p.m. Simley High School will hold conferences from 4:30-8 p.m.
- The Inver Grove Heights BEST Foundation's May Day 5K is on Saturday, May 7. The event is a community-wide 5K run/walk. The Inver Grove Heights BEST Foundation was created to provide scholarships for students graduating from Simley High School. Last year, Simley students were awarded 119 scholarships totaling more than \$150,000. Registration information can be found on the district website.
- The GED Graduation ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 18 at 7 p.m. in the Inver Hills Community College Fine Arts Building. As it stands, 34 individuals will graduate compared to 29 last year.
- The MDE denied the district's request to have the district's AYP status altered if there were some program changes between some buildings. The MDE stated that the changes were not sufficient and reconsideration must have considerable change involved in them.
- The district will be sponsoring a Student-Led Technology Conference on Saturday, May 21 from 8:30 a.m. - noon. K-12 students will teach parents, grandparents and community members how to utilize the technology that they are using in the classroom. This free event will be hosted at the Simley High School/Inver Grove Heights Middle School Campus. A list of some technologies community members will learn to use is available on this postcard. Course descriptions will be online later this week. Registration will be conducted online through community education. This postcard will be mailed next week to all Inver Grove Heights residences, as well as to families who have students open-enrolling into the district. Again, this is a free event open to ALL adults in the community. Please come and learn with our students. More information on this fresh, exciting event will be available later this week on the district website.

Business Manager's Report

- Through three-quarters of the fiscal year, 64% of the district's fiscal budget has been spent. Last year at this point the district had expended 66% of its budget.

Membership Reports

AMSD

- AMSD continues to send out information on school shift payments. The governor, Senate and House all are proposing to keep the 70/30 payment to school districts but each have

Membership Reports (Cont'd)

their own idea on when to pay the 30% back.

EMID

- Several meetings on legislation regarding integration funding.
- EMID is suspending its superintendent search for at least 30 days to get a better feel for how the legislation will play out.
- Have been meeting to discuss budget for 2011-2012. Proposed budget will downspend the current fund balance by \$1.3M.
- Programs the district may explore with EMID include AVID and principal networks and the concordia language village (new staff would have the opportunity to be exposed to a few foreign languages to better communicate with families who speak English as a second language).

Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approved the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Monday, March 28, 2011.
- B. Approved the April 25, 2011, bills payable.
- C. Approved the weekly bills payable for March 2, 2011; March 9, 2011; March 15, 2011; and March 31, 2011.
- D. Personnel
 1. Certified Resignation/Retirement
 2. Classified Resignation/Retirement
 - a. Accepted the resignation of Victoria Boswell, Hilltop Elementary School lunchroom paraprofessional, effective April 11, 2011.
 - b. Accepted the resignation of Terry Tait, Simley High School B-shift custodian, effective April 18, 2011.
 3. Discontinuation/Layoff
 - a. Approved the discontinuation of three 1.0 FTE Title I paraprofessional positions (1.0 at Salem Hills Elementary and 2.0 at Hilltop Elementary) effective June 9, 2011.
 - b. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Carmen Baker, 0.6 FTE Hilltop Elementary School Special Education COTA paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 - c. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Julie Hoffner, 1.0 FTE Hilltop Elementary School Title I paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 - d. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Danielle Lloyd, 0.5 FTE Inver Grove Heights Middle School think room/safety paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 - e. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Sally McHenry, 1.0 FTE Hilltop Elementary School Title I paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 - f. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Shelle Radant, 0.5 FTE Inver Grove Heights Middle School think room/safety paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 - g. Approved to place on unrequested leave: Joyce Van Den Berghe, 1.0 FTE Salem Hills Elementary School Title I paraprofessional, effective June 9, 2011, pursuant to Article XIII, Section 13.4 of the paraprofessional employees' agreement.
 4. General/Medical Leave
 - a. Approved the revised unpaid parental leave of absence for Julie Bagwill, Hilltop Elementary School paraprofessional, effective March 10, 2011 through April 28, 2011.
 - b. Approved the revised family medical leave of absence for Matt Corey, Simley High School teacher, effective May 11, 2011 through June 10, 2011.
 - c. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Jessica Hallin, Inver Grove Heights Middle School teacher, effective September 6, 2011 through October 21, 2011.

Consent Agenda (Cont'd)

- d. Approved the revised family medical leave of absence for Ben Johnson, Simley High School teacher, effective March 24, 2011 through March 25, 2011 and April 4, 2011 through April 12, 2011.
- e. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Debora Johnson, Salem Hills cook manager, effective March 14, 2011 through March 23, 2011.
- f. Approved the revised family medical leave of absence for John Medcraft, Simley High School teacher, effective February 15, 2011 through February 18, 2011.
- g. Approved the family medical leave of absence for Teresa Miller, Simley High School teacher, effective May 16, 2011 through June 10, 2011 and August 29, 2011 through October 30, 2011.
- h. Approved the unpaid medical leave of absence for Shauna Niemeyer, Hilltop Elementary School paraprofessional, effective March 23, 2011 through June 9, 2011.
- i. Approved the revised unpaid medical leave of absence for Diane Stadelman, Simley High School paraprofessional, effective March 25, 2011 and April 4, 2011 through April 21, 2011.
- 5. Certified Appointment
 - a. Approved the appointment of Erin Tieri, Hilltop Elementary School Extended Day Kindergarten teacher (Targeted Services), effective October 25, 2010 through June 9, 2011.
- 6. Classified Appointment
 - a. Approved the appointment of Sarah Speldrick, Hilltop Elementary School long-term substitute special education paraprofessional (6.5 hour/day) in the CID program, effective April 12, 2011 through June 9, 2011.
- E. Approved the Hilltop University staff for spring 2011.
- F. Approved the appointment of the extra-curricular activity coaches for spring 2011.
- G. Approved the Community Education 2011 spring youth enrichment classes and instructors.

Business

- A. Accepted the donation totaling \$2,000 from the Simley Girls Hockey Booster Club to Simley High School for coaching stipends for two additional coaches in the girls hockey program.
- B. Approved the amended budget for the 2010-11 school year.
- C. Approved the increase in tuition for the Inver Grove Heights Community Preschool program for the 2011-12 school year.
- D. Approved the proposed East Metro Integration District 6067 (EMID) integration plan and budget for the 2011-12 school year.
- E. Approved the Second Reading for Revision of Policy 401 – Equal Employment Opportunity; Policy 513 – Student Promotion, Retention and Program Design; Policy 520 – Student Surveys; 524F1 – Student Application of Document; Policy 601 – School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals; Policy 603 – Curriculum Development; Policy 605 – Alternative Programs; Policy 619 – Staff Development for Standards; and 2010-11 updated field trip list.
- F. (I) First Reading for Revision of Policy 506 – Student Discipline; Policy 606 – Textbooks and Instructional Materials; and Policy 701.2 – Fund Balance.
- G. (I) First Reading for Deletion of Policy 606.2 – Notification about Controversial Issues and Policy 606.2A – Request for Use of Outside Speaker.

Education

- A. Approved the Simley High School German class wilderness/community-based trip to Ely, Minnesota on April 28, 2011 through April 30, 2011.

Personnel

- A. Approved the 2010-12 contract for the Director of Community Education.

Board Communication

- Member Nordstrom attended tennis meets and the Theatre Guild's production of Cinderella.
- Member Prokopowicz has been working a great deal with the EMID finance committee.
- Member Myran has attended track meets.
- Vice Chair Mandell attended Cinderella and noted that the main characters were all different nationalities. He attended the Parents United parent leadership summit.
- Chair Difronzo thanked students who presented before the meeting during the Student Advisory meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.