

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1  
Regular Meeting**

**DRAFT**

**February 10, 2009**

1. REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education—Pursuant to due notice mailed to each member of the Board of Education not less than three days prior to the time of such meeting, the Board members met in a regular meeting at the John B. Davis Educational Services Center on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Directors Carla Bates, Pam Costain, Jill Davis, Lydia Lee, Tom Madden, Chris Stewart and T. Williams - 7

Absent: 0

Superintendent William Green was present.  
Chairperson Madden called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MOTION – Director Lee moved, seconded by Director Davis, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the agenda as presented.

The motion to approve the agenda as presented was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION – Director Costain moved, seconded by Director Davis, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the minutes for the following meetings:

October 14, 2008 Regular Meeting  
November 18, 2008 Regular Meeting  
November 25, 2008 Regular Meeting  
December 9, 2008 Regular Meeting  
December 16, 2008 Regular Meeting  
January 13, 2009 Annual Meeting  
January 13, 2009 Regular Meeting  
January 27, 2009 Regular Meeting

The motion to approve the minutes was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Updates – Dr. Green reported with great sadness that former Director Ross Taylor passed away on February 7. Ross served the Minneapolis Public Schools with distinction as a math teacher, a teacher leader, a curriculum specialist, the District Mathematics Consultant, and as a school board member, all over a professional career spanning 40 years. He was a colleague of Director Lee in their campaign to improve mathematics instruction, and Director Lee related some stories from their work together.

Dr. Green was elated to read a story in the Star Tribune about the Community Involvement Day at Patrick Henry High School, an event that was designed by both staff and students. Many local professional

volunteers taught students unique skills and lessons on subjects selected by the students. A favorite quotation in the article is, "Henry is a place that runs on energy." The article went on to highlight all of the terrific programs offered in all of the North side schools. Dr. Green read portions of the article about the successes at Patrick Henry, a school where 72% of the students qualify for free and reduced meals, yet 80% go on to higher education.

The Star Tribune also highlighted a Henry High student, Bee Vang, who starred in the movie "Gran Torino" with Clint Eastwood. Bee attends the University of Minnesota as a high school student in the advanced program.

Paris Bennett, a Henry alum, was present as a volunteer at the Community Involvement Day.

Dr. Green acknowledged the sportsmanship shown by the South High women's ski team when they came out late at night and held an impromptu ski meet in order to allow a fellow skier from the Southwest High team to qualify for the Regional finals. The skier happens to be one of the best Nordic skiers in the country and, had this not happened, she would have been disqualified to compete in the Regional and State meets. Dr. Green thanked the Southwest coach, Tony Aspholm, and the team for such a wonderful gesture of sportswomanship.

Recognition of Spelling Bee Winners – Dr. Green invited Erin Glynn, Senior Executive Director of Academic Affairs, to the podium to introduce Chris Bell, Co-President of Middle Level Citywide Student Government. Chris is in the eighth grade at Northeast Middle School. The District Spelling Bee took place January 21. The fourth place winner, Eva Osthus, is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Ramsey International Fine Arts; the third place winner, Jack Walstrom, is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Field Community School; winner of second place is Lataralee Morris, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Folwell Middle School; and in first place is Rebecca Krasky, a Sanford Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grader. The first and second place winners will go on to the Metro Bee and the third and fourth place winners will serve as alternates. The students introduced their families and school staff and friends. Director Costain presented them with Certificates of Excellence for their academic achievement.

Viva City Festival of Arts – Erin Glynn introduced Cheryl Paschke, retired Fine Arts Specialist. Pat Teske, the coordinator of Viva City, was unable to present this special invitation to the fifteenth annual citywide arts festival because of another engagement. The event at Orchestra Hall will take place on March 9 at 7:00 pm and will showcase strings and orchestra from grades 2 through 12. To give a taste of the

performances, a string quartet from Southwest High School performed a number for the Board and audience.

The visual art and poetry exhibition will be on display from March 11 through May 12 at the Minneapolis Central Library, with an opening reception and award ceremony on March 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Admission is free to all programs.

Legislative Update – District Lobbyist Jim Grathwol explained that there are aggressive deadlines set for the legislature designed to expedite the work of the legislature. The Governor's budget forecast will come out March 4, and it is expected that the deficit will be larger than anticipated. Mr. Grathwol showed charts of the change since Fiscal Year 2003 in Per Pupil Operating Levy, Aid and Revenue in constant FY 2009 dollars for all Minnesota school districts and for the Minneapolis school district, and also the percent change in Minnesota school district property taxes, state aids and total revenue in inflation-adjusted dollars per pupil since FY 2003.

Under current law, the portion of the \$34.6 billion state budget in FY 2008-2009 for K-12 education is 39.8%. The K-12 portion of the \$36.7 billion budget in FY 2010-2011, again, under current law, would be 37.9%. Under the Governor's budget, the portion of the state's total expenditures and transfers (\$33.6 billion) for K-12 would be 38%.

Recommendation Regarding 2009-2010 District Calendar – Erin Glynn presented the proposed district calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. Ms. Glynn was joined by Sara Van Der Werf, a secondary math specialist. A Calendar committee met numerous times over the past six months. The committee included representation from internal departments, schools, students, parents, professional organizational representatives from the teachers, educational assistants, and clerical. By current State law, school will begin after Labor Day. The proposed calendar was presented to the Cabinet and the Academic Leadership Team for review.

Resolution Regarding Sustainability Values of Minneapolis Public Schools – Meredith Fox, Special Assistant, Policy and Operations, explained that the district spends over \$14 million on utilities. The district seeks to improve energy efficiency by optimizing the physical plant, reducing electricity consumption and developing awareness among staff. Environmental sustainability is a commitment we must make as a district to improve the health of our students, maximize the use of our resources, and act as a responsible partner in our community and planet. District students, teachers, parents, staff, and community volunteers have made great strides in the past few years towards "greening" our schools. Schools have formed green committees to promote environmentally-friendly programming, recycling has become an increasing priority, investments have been made to ensure the efficiency of our facilities, and bus emissions have been reduced. The Division of Policy and Operations began an effort this fall to leverage this energy and build a coordinated, district-wide Sustainability Agenda.

This included the creation of a Green Accomplishments Report and a 'MPS Goes Green' website. The Board Resolution would solidify environmental sustainability as a value of the District and allow the MPS community to pursue more aggressively opportunities to incorporate these concepts into our operations and planning. A series of policies and regulations will follow this spring to put the sustainability value into practice.

Recommendation to Authorize Land Exchanges with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board – Interim Director of Facilities and Planning Clyde Kane reported that discussions with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) have taken place over the past eighteen months to exchange land parcels that would mutually benefit both the MPRB and the District. Thirteen District sites are affected by these exchanges.

An attempt has been made to make the exchange as equal as possible as to the amount of square footage exchanged. Because of some large amounts of unused MPS property at Lowry and Greeley it gives MPRB an advantage in land received; however, MPS gains the rights of ownership or easement rights to four existing buildings (Harrison, Marcy, Armatage and Whittier). Director of Park Board Citywide Planning Judd Reitkerk thanked the staff for its work and cooperation.

Recommendation Declaring Hamilton School Property Excess and Authorizing Negotiations to Sell Property to City of Minneapolis – Interim Director of Facilities of Planning explained that, since December 1, 2006, the City of Minneapolis has been leasing the Hamilton School property. The City began leasing the building through the building reuse process conducted during 2005-2006 for the seven vacant school sites. This was the only school successfully rented in that process. As part of their lease, which terminates June 30, 2014, the tenant has significantly renovated the building to accommodate the needs of the primary occupant, the Minneapolis Police Force. Other city departments also have office space in the building. The City is so satisfied with its use of the building that it wishes to purchase the property. All indications are that the community likewise wants the City to remain at the site.

The option to sell the property is viable for the following reasons:

- 1) The community supports the existing reuse of the property;
- 2) The existing tenant has adequate financial resources and the desire to purchase the property;
- 3) Transfer of property from MPS to another governmental entity is facilitated by state statute;
- 4) Sale of the property will eliminate future MPS costs of ownership at the site, including costly repairs; and
- 5) Any need for elementary classrooms in this community in the foreseeable future can be

accommodated by other existing school sites in North Minneapolis.

To accomplish the sale of the property, MPS must first declare the property to be surplus to district needs. District staff may then enter into negotiations to determine the terms of the sale. Once the terms of the sale are determined, a second recommendation will be submitted to approve the sale and delegate authority to execute appropriate documents.

Recommendation Regarding Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Minneapolis and Special School District No. 1 for Consulting Services to Assist the Sale of Howe and Northrop Schools – Clyde Kane presented the background for the recommendation. In the current disposition of excess properties, the broker representing the District has been NorthMarq. A related company, United Properties, has submitted offers to purchase two of the excess properties, Howe and Northrop schools. Because of the potential conflict of interest, the District will not be using NorthMarq as its broker to review and select buyers and ultimately sells the two schools. Instead of engaging a different broker, the District approached the City of Minneapolis' Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) Department to propose a partnership, whereby CPED would perform certain services a broker would typically perform, as well as streamline the General Land Use Application process for potential buyers. This will be especially helpful because both schools' best use is defined as senior housing.

The City proposed a Memorandum of Understanding defining the responsibilities and expectations of both the City and the District. The agreement describes services the City will provide to the District related to the disposition of the Howe and Northrop school sites. It does not discuss other project-related tasks, which the City and the District anticipates will be completed by the eventual buyer of the sites. The services will be billed on an hourly basis, not to exceed \$20,000 for the two sites. This is less than MPS would pay for brokerage services for the sales. The relationship with the City will be beneficial to both parties.

#### 5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION DIRECTORS

Director Stewart commented that meetings that include students are better meetings, and requested that more agendas include students. He also gave a follow-up report on two students that were recognized at an earlier board meeting for the Urban Debate presentation. Jane Olmstead-Rumsey and Mari Vangen-Adams from South High School went to the state debate, were named best debaters in Minneapolis, and are going to Birmingham, Alabama, for the national debate tournament in June. They need transportation, so Director Stewart asked for assistance from anyone with means.

Director Lee expanded on Superintendent Green's comments about the Community Involvement Day at Patrick Henry High School. The school has built a culture of understanding the community. Police Chief Dolan talked to the students about law, and

shared that he had some problems with the law in his youth.

Director Costain shared the pride she feels watching South High basketball player Miss Taylor Hill, who is headed for breaking the state record of 3,694 total points. Also, Director Costain and Director Madden recently attended an Academic Achievement event honoring the students at Southwest High School that have shown extraordinary improvement in their academic accomplishments. She hopes that these honors can be bestowed at all MPS high schools. Director also expressed her concerns for homeless families during this cold winter and reminded the audience to make donations as they are able.

Director Williams has a goal of visiting all of the MPS contract alternative schools. These schools contain students with extreme challenges and staff with extreme dedication. When discussions about closing the achievement gap are taking place, these students must be included. Director Williams would like to see a strategy developed for bringing school drop-outs back to MPS schools.

Director Bates added to the comments on the Community Involvement Day article in the Star Tribune that the teacher that was profiled, Shabaka McKey, is one of twenty certified teachers of Lead the Way (pre-engineering curriculum). Director Bates also attended the Young Inventors Fair, which featured projects by the children of Directors Davis and Madden.

#### 6. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Recommendation to Approve Resolution Regarding Sustainability Values of Minneapolis Public Schools – MOTION – Director Costain moved, seconded by Director Williams, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, adopt the resolution expressing sustainability as a value of the District. (Attachment B)

The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Recommendation to Authorize Land Exchanges with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board – MOTION – Director Lee moved, seconded by Director Williams, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, authorize the Interim Director of Planning and Facilities to expedite appropriate surveys and legal work in cooperation with the (MPRB) to facilitate the land exchanges by June 30, 2009. At that time, a comprehensive report will be issued.

The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Recommendation to Declare Hamilton School Property Excess and Authorize Negotiations to Sell Property to City of Minneapolis – MOTION – Director Williams moved, seconded by Director Davis, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, declare as surplus property the district-owned property located at 4119 Dupont Avenue North, known as Hamilton School, and authorize the Chief of Policy and

Operations to negotiate the terms of the sale of the surplus land to the City of Minneapolis.

The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Recommendation regarding Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Minneapolis and Special School District No. 1 for Consulting Services to Assist the Sale of Howe and Northrop Schools –

MOTION – Director Davis moved, seconded by Director Bates, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Minneapolis and Special School District No. 1 for The City of Minneapolis's Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) Department for consulting services to assist the District in the sale of Howe and Northrop schools, and authorize the Chief of Policy and Operations to negotiate and execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA – MOTION – Director Stewart moved, seconded by Director Davis, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the consent agenda and adopt the recommendations as presented by the Superintendent. These action items represent those that do not involve major policy decisions, budget decisions, taxing decisions, bond awards or items related to the Superintendent's contract or evaluation. Business items on this agenda are previously authorized or budgeted expenditures.

The motion to approve the consent agenda was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

A-1. Personnel List A – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to approve Personnel List A.

A-2. Suspension of Tenured Teacher – (Executive Session) Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Tenured Teacher with pay effective January 22, 2009, pending the outcome of an investigation.

A-3. Suspension of Probationary Psychologist – (Executive Session) Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Probationary Psychologist with pay effective January 22, 2009, pending the outcome of an investigation.

A-4. Suspension of Tenured Teacher – (Executive Session) Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Tenured Teacher with pay effective February 3, 2009, pending the outcome of an investigation.

A-5. (Removed from agenda)

A-6. Suspension of Classified Employee – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Food Service Assistant without pay for one (1) day, effective date to be determined by the supervisor.

A-7. Suspension of Classified Employee – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Special Education Assistant without pay for five (5) days, effective dates to be determined by the supervisor.

A-8. (Removed from agenda)

A-9. Suspension of Classified Employee – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Janitor Engineer in Charge without pay for seven (7) days, effective dates to be determined by the supervisor.

A-10. Suspension of Classified Employee – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the recommendation to suspend a Janitor Engineer without pay for five (5) days, effective dates to be determined by the supervisor.

A-11. (Removed from agenda)

B-1. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS – none

B-2. PURCHASES – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, authorize acceptance of the following bids:

- a. Official Publication No. 2483 – Maintenance and Repair of Voice Communications
- b. Official Publication No. 2487 – Classroom Emergency Kits
- c. Official Publication No. 2490 – Race Equipment
- d. Request for Proposal No. 08-20 – Consultant Services
- e. Requisition No. 23766 – Registers and Keypads
- f. Request for Proposal No. 08-15 – Telecommunications network Clarification
- g. Purchase Order No. 24251 – School Choice Fair
- h. Architect, Engineering and Design Services – Reroofing Projects
- i. Test Scoring
- j. Student Planners

B-3. LEGAL FEES AND COSTS – none

B-4. FACILITIES AND PROPERTY – none

B-5. TRANSPORTATION – none

B-6. FOOD SERVICE – none

B-7. EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

a. Terms and Conditions of Employment: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, adopt and ratify the labor contract for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) for the period commencing May 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011, for the employees in the general classification of electrical workers.

B-8. CONTRIBUTIONS – none

C. CONTRACTS – Recommendation that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, approve the contracts listed and described in Attachment A, and authorize the appropriate administrative officer to sign the contracts.

D. RESOLUTIONS – none

E. OTHER – none

7. DELEGATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS – The public may address the Board on policy issues that are on today's agenda. The business meeting was suspended to hear from the following delegations: (none)

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

9. NEW BUSINESS  
Fragrance-Free Legislation – Director Lee asked the Board to consider showing support to Representative Karen Clark's bill related to chemical sensitivity issues in Minneapolis (Fragrance-Free Schools Education Pilot Program).

Establishment of Board Committees – MOTION: Director Costain moved, seconded by Director Davis, that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1, establish five standing committees of Audit, Finance, Policy, Race and Equity, and Curriculum and Instruction for the 2009 calendar year and make any necessary revisions to the existing Policy 8210 to align

with this recommendation, the Board's bylaws and policies to effect this change.

The Board has deliberated the need for standing committees and determined that the governance of Minneapolis Public Schools will be carried out most efficiently and effectively with five standing committees of the Board which will meet regularly. These standing committees will be: Audit, Finance, Policy, Race and Equity, and Curriculum and Instruction. The Committees of the Board will adhere to all provisions of the current Minnesota Open Meeting Law, as relates to the operation, access and public notice for Board of Education committees. The five committees will remain in place for the 2009 calendar year and end on December 31, 2009. Prior to December 31, 2009, the effectiveness, efficiencies, impact and the ability to work effectively with the District's administration will be evaluated and a decision will be made by the Board whether to continue one or more of the committees beyond January 1, 2010. This recommendation also directs the Policy Committee to review and recommend revising the existing policy 8210 to be aligned with this recommendation.

The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Copies of materials related to individual agenda items are on file in the Superintendent's office and are available upon request. Board meeting agendas with supporting documents are available at [www.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us), as well as audio streaming and on-demand video of regular and discussion meetings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judi Peterson,  
School Board Associate

ATTEST:  
Chris Stewart,  
School Board Clerk

## Attachment A

	Description	Cost	Funding	Site/Department
1	Collaborative Learning, Inc. contract to provide Curriculum Mapper access, support, and training to Minnehaha Academy for the period February 11, 2009 through June 30, 2009.	\$12,397	Title III	Funded Programs
2	University of Minnesota through its Medical School's Department of Psychiatry and Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department contract in which Hennepin County agrees to pay the University Department of Psychiatry (\$20,000) for the purpose of providing educational experiences at Harrison Education Center for certain University medical fellows enrolled in its program of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012.	\$0	Hennepin County	Special Education
3	Reflective Resources Inc. amended contract to provide mentoring and assistance to the English Language Learners Department for the period September 10, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The original contract was approved September 9, 2008. The amended contract increases the contracted amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 due to additional work needed to respond to Office of Civil Rights concerning work with English Language Learners.	\$50,000	Special School District No. 1	Academic Affairs
4	Great Books Foundation contract to provide parent and volunteer training and advanced training for the period February 11, 2009 through August 30, 2009.	\$6,000	Gifted and Talented	Academic Affairs
5	Lori Brink contract to provide arts integration coaching and consulting for Comprehensive Arts Program and Arts for Academic Achievement for the period January 13, 2009 through June 30, 2009.	\$8,000	Arts for Academic Achievement	Academic Affairs
6	John Froelich contract to provide data consultation and collection related to math and reading instruction to Edison High School for the period January 28, 2009 through June 9, 2010.	\$16,000	Magnet Grant	Academic Affairs