

OFFICIAL  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 281, ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, CITY OF NEW HOPE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
4401 Xylon Avenue North, New Hope

January 6, 2003

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Moreira called the meeting to order at 7:27p.m.

Present: Helen Bassett, Patsy Green, Linda Johnson, Mary Moreira, Deb Oetjens, Barb Van Heel, Kendra Verbeten, directors; Stan F. Mack II, superintendent.

**2. Additions to Agenda**

Superintendent Mack noted the following change to the agenda: addition of 5.01.b. name change from Student Advisory Board to Student Advisory to the Board of Education

**3. Acceptance of Agenda**

Verbeten moved approval of the agenda with one addition. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**4. Presentations and Special Reports**

4.01. Superintendent/Board Recognition

4.01.a. Recognition of Outgoing City of New Hope Council Member, Pat Norby

The superintendent and school board recognized outgoing member of the New Hope City Council, Pat Norby. Pat has served on the New Hope City Council for eight years and during that time served as a representative on the Superintendent's Government Advisory Council. She is a past member of the School Board and was graciously thanked for her commitment to the District and for her continued work as a substitute nurse in the District.

4.01.b. Recognition of Community Education Summer Brochure Award

The Robbinsdale Area Schools Community Education program was recently honored for excellence in the Best Brochure category by the Learning Resources Network (LERN), an international association in lifelong learning. Sandra Bengtson and students who participated in the brochure design were recognized. Students included Paris Marcy, Ericka McFee, Brittany Johnson, Cassondra Henning, Liz Roby, Michelle Karch, Kristian Bejarin, Mark Kennedy, Christina Schmidgall, Daniel Walters, Sara Bye, Colleen Mans, Kelsi Johnson, Stephanie Mahlum, Kira Siegler, Kelsey Griep and Sara Tetric.

4.01.c. Education Assistants Week – January 13-17

The Governor of the State of Minnesota has proclaimed the week of January 13-17 as Education Assistants Week. Because of this auspicious occasion, the Department of Children, Families & Learning has chosen to share a Certificate of Recognition with the district along with several strategies schools can use to celebrate this week. The board designate January 13-17 as Education Assistants Week in the Robbinsdale Area Schools. Joan Allivato, a representative for the Education Assistants was present to receive thanks from the board and will extend that thanks to all Education Assistants who provide support to the students and staff of the Robbinsdale Area Schools.

4.02. Arts Showcase

4.02.a. Technology and Language Campus Girls' Choir

The superintendent and school board welcomed the Girls' Choir from TLC. This newly formed choir meets during the TLC exploratory time and is under the direction of Kristy Grell.

4.03. Legislative Update

Superintendent Mack reported that the members of the Legislature have been sworn in and the session begins

Tuesday, January 7. We continue to be hopeful that there will be no additional cuts to education funding. Verbeten noted that we are fortunate to have local legislators sitting on the education committee.

4.04. Construction Update

Several small projects were completed at Robbinsdale Cooper and the Education Service Center over the winter break. Good progress continues at the Education Service Center and we hope to return to the boardroom for the first meeting in February.

4.05. WMEP Report (None)

4.06. Listening Hour Report

There was one citizen at Listening Hour, a resident in the Forest Elementary area. We will continue to keep Forest Elementary parents informed on the work of our legislators and the alternative facilities program. Board members reassured the citizen at Listening Hour that the money spent to renovate the Education Service Center is money wisely spent.

**5. Consent Agenda**

Superintendent Mack reviewed the Consent Agenda. Oetjens moved approval of the Consent Agenda, including minutes of the December 16, 2002 regular board meeting, the name change from Student Advisory Board (SAB) to Student Advisory to the Board of Education (SABE), personnel matters, financial matters, contracts for services for Robbinsdale and West Metro Education Program, gifts, with thanks, and other deposits in the amount of \$35,130.87, leases for Robbinsdale Area Schools and change orders. Van Heel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**6. Consent Agenda items removed for discussion.** (None)

**7. Teaching and Learning**

7.01. Choice is Yours Program Evaluation

Gayle Walkowiak, Cheryl Videen, Jackie Fraedrich and Stephanie Crosby presented the results of the evaluation of The Choice is Yours Program. Participants in the program are generally pleased with the program and the education received.

Verbeten was not present for the Business section of the board meeting.

**8. Business**

8.01. Robbinsdale School District 281 Bid Awards

Oetjens moved approval of bid awards 8.01.a. Merrimac Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$559,770 for the Cooper High School mechanical rooms exterior shell package, 8.01.b. Alpha Video in the amount of \$67,399 for audio visual/technology equipment and installation for the Education Service Center Boardroom and 8.01.c. Palmer West Construction in the amount of \$92,000 for re-roofing of the Education Service Center. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, 6-0.

8.02. Robbinsdale School District 281 Change Orders

Oetjens moved approval of bid award 8.02.a. L.S. Black Constructors change order #6 in the amount of \$75,976.34 for Cooper High School Renovation Phase III. Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, 6-0.

8.03. Project Labor Agreement

Bassett moved approval of the Project Labor Agreements with the Minneapolis Building Trades Council for 2003 major renovation projects as listed in Appendix B of the Project Labor Agreement. Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, 6-0.

**9. Administrative Matters** (None)

**10. Board Rapport**

Green highlighted the Community Education Family Opportunity brochure and encouraged participation in the many classes. She also encouraged the community to attend and volunteer for *We Care About Kids Day* at the NW YMCA on February 1. She also encouraged middle school parents to return the Middle School Survey. Johnson noted that it was nice to be back on schedule following a good winter break. Superintendent Mack thanked the staff at RACEC for the many kindnesses extended to us during the Superintendent’s Office stay in the Adventure Club offices. He noted a good return to the third floor of the Education Service Center. Van Heel highlighted the new Middle School Brochure and thanked the Community Relations staff for their good work. She also called attention to the publication of a speech by David Jennings in a recent *School Board Journal*. Bassett noted that it was good to be working with the Board and complimented her colleagues for good balance and focus. Oetjens noted that it was “mentoring month” and thanked all mentors for their great work. Moreira invited the community to attend the Cooper play, *Music Man*, in the newly completed Cooper theatre. Verbeten noted that AMSD is holding a conference on alternative compensation programs.

**11. Announcements**

**12. Adjournment**

Moreira adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

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Kendra Verbeten, clerk of the board

Approved January 21, 2003

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Mary Moreira, chairperson