

BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

By Dr. Jim Hess

The Bemidji School Board met on August 16, 2010 with the following results:

<p>Consent Agenda</p>	<p>The following Consent Agenda items were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes from the July 19, 2010 School Board Meeting - Current Bills and Special Checks Totaling \$3,497,952.96 - Second Reading and Adoption of a name change of the former 1st National Bank building to the Downtown Education Center (DEC) - Second Reading and Adoption of policy SBR 100-60-1: Code of Ethics for Board Members - Request for Release from Contract from Kim Goodwin, Kaia Swenson, and Chip Rankin - Request for Extended Leave from Julie Loxtercamp - Eight Certified Staff Appointments - Noncertified Staff Resignations from two paraprofessionals
<p>Effective and Efficient Operations</p>	<p>Chris Leinen, Director of Business Services, reported on the remodel of the Downtown Education Center and how a walk through is planned for later in the week. The building has new lighting, restrooms, carpets, kitchen area, and a sprinkler system installed this summer.</p> <p>Board Members approved the 2010-2011 School District Aims, Goals, and Measures (see attached).</p> <p>Ranae Evenson was hired as the new Horace May Elementary principal.</p> <p>A tentative agreement with the Minnesota Employees Association for Custodians and Maintenance Personnel for 2009-2011 was approved.</p> <p>The Board passed a resolution relating to the Election of School Board Members and Calling the School District General Election.</p>
<p>Highest Level of Student Success</p>	<p>Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum and Administrative Services, described the upcoming District Data Retreat and how 90 school employees will learn about data driven decision making. Board Members received district data binders containing a vast array of district assessment information and student demographics.</p> <p>Bemidji Area Schools made Adequate Yearly Progress for 2010! There were 54 separate categories which were measured that could potentially cause a district to falter. There were only four schools in the district which did not make AYP on one or more of the subgroup performance/proficiency areas.</p> <p>The 2009-2010 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement was reviewed and revised. It will be considered for final adoption at the September School Board Meeting.</p>

	<p>Kathy Palm reviewed the 2010 MCA-II Science Results with the Board and demonstrated the High School scores improved for 2009-2010 and outperformed the State of Minnesota. Elementary (5th grade) and Middle School (8th grade) performed below the State average. Horace May and Solway fifth graders scored higher than the State average on the assessment.</p>
<p>Safe and Welcoming Environment</p>	<p>The Bemidji Middle School Handbook was reviewed and approved by Board action.</p> <p>Chris Leinen provided an oral report on access to Horace May Elementary School and the impact of major road construction along the Highway 71 corridor.</p>
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<p>August 17 & 18, 2010 – District Data Retreat August 24, 2010, 7:00 p.m. – MREA Area Meeting in the District Office September 1, 2010, 10:30 a.m. – Back to School Keynote Speaker September 20, 2010, 6:30 p.m. – September School Board Meeting</p>

Bemidji Area Schools

Bemidji, Minnesota 2010-2011 District Aims, Goals and Measures

AIM 1 Highest Levels of Student Success

Goal A Reading:

In Bemidji Area Schools district-wide the “All Students” group will increase their proficiency of 74.4% in the Spring of 2010 to 80.8% in the Spring of 2011 and to 87.2% in the Spring of 2012 as measured by the MCA-II in Reading.

Goal A1 In Bemidji Area Schools district-wide the American Indian subgroup will increase their proficiency of 53.7% in the Spring of 2010 to 63.7% in the Spring of 2011 and 73.7% in the Spring of 2012 as measured by the MCA-II in Reading.

Goal B Mathematics:

In Bemidji Area Schools district-wide, the “All Students” group will increase their proficiency of 65.0% in the Spring of 2010 to 73.8% in the Spring of 2011 and to 82.5% in the Spring of 2012 as measured by the MCA-II in Mathematics.

Goal C Graduation Rate:

Bemidji Area Schools’ student graduation rate as measured by MDE’s AYP calculations will increase by 1% in the All Students and BHS categories for 2010-2011. (Baseline Data: 2009-2010 All Students’ AYP Graduation Rate = 91.8%; 2009-2010 Bemidji High School AYP Graduation Rate = 97.0%)

AIM 2 Safe and Welcoming Environment

Goal A Demonstrate Respect:

Bemidji Area Schools’ students will reduce the incidences of assaults and fights by 5% as reported by School Principals on the Skyward Student Management Data System for 2010-2011. (Baseline Data: 2009-2010 Grades K-5 – 93; Grades 6-8 – 82; grades 9-12 – 39).

AIM 3 Effective and Efficient Operations

Goal A Efficient Use of Resources:

Bemidji Area Schools will continue to analyze school schedules during the 2010-2011 school year to determine the most efficient use of district resources including time and talent. A study group report/recommendations will be shared with the School Board in December 2010.

Goal B During 2010-2011, Bemidji Area Schools will initiate a comprehensive review of teacher and principal evaluation policies and practices, which reflect current best practices and research. The committee will make recommendations for changes to the School Board by June 2011.