

"Together, teaching and learning for life . . . to achieve excellence."

**Labor/Management Committee
Minutes of January 29, 2007
Administrative Services Board Room**

The Labor/Management Committee (L/MC) meeting on 1/29/07 began at 9:40 a.m. in the Administrative Services Board Room. Co-chair Pat Rendle called the meeting to order.

Members present: Dennis Statsman, Jim Heinrichs, Nick Wourms, Cindy Hietala, Donna Hoff, Tom Peltier, Joe Silko, Patty Peterson, Pat Rendle, Sue Miskovich, and Ben Hawkins

Members Absent: Randy Longmore, Gwen McLaughlin, Lynda Ross, Shawn Linder, Rich Derby, and T.J. Russell

Changes to the agenda: None

Minutes: The minutes of the 11/13/06 L/MC meeting were approved by consensus of members present.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SYSTEMS:

Budget Update: Joe Silko stated that the district is working on the budget for next school year.

Legislative Update: Joe Silko reported on what is happening at the legislative level in regards to funding for education. It appears there may be additional funding, but the funding formula has not been established yet and new dollars could be tied to specific programming. Early childhood, all day /every day kindergarten, and class size are being evaluated. The state is also considering statewide health insurance coverage.

Labor issues: Education Minnesota Local #1314 and District #318 secretaries have filed their intent to negotiate.

Superintendent report:

1. The School Board has voted to not sponsor Eagleview as a charter school. Now the Board is exploring ways to provide education for the 2007/08 school year for the students who attend Eagleview.
2. The District has formed an Alternative Learning Task Force. Vicki Nelson will facilitate the meetings. The entire community was invited to participate.
3. There are now directions for the parent portal available at Grand Rapids Public Library.
4. The Retiree Health Benefit Committee has been formed to explore options for District #318's Other Post Employee Benefit (OPEB) liabilities. The Bureau of Mediation has assigned Josh Tilsen to facilitate the meetings. Each bargaining unit that offers retirement health benefits participates.
5. The District is moving forward with planning for a design for a new facility that would house both the Transportation Department and the Building & Grounds Department.

6. The City of Grand Rapids is continuing with their plans to build a road that will run from the Grand Rapids High School to the Robert J. Elkington Middle School.
7. We are in the process of developing a policy for soliciting in the name of District #318. If anyone is going to use 318's name to solicit, they must get it pre -approved. Solicitations should be education based and students should benefit from the donation.
8. As negotiations begin; the District is looking at removing the "picnic day" from contracts due to liability concerns. Any concessions would need to be made through the negotiations process.
9. A draft 2007/08 school calendar was distributed for members to take back to their bargaining units for review.

Hearing no future discussion, Pat Rendle adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

The next L/MC meeting will be held on March 12, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room.