

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

**Labor/Management Committee  
Minutes of October 9, 2006  
Administrative Services Board Room**

The Labor/Management Committee (L/MC) meeting on 10/9/06 began at 9:30 a.m. in the Administrative Services Board Room. Co-chair Pat Rendle called the meeting to order.

Members present: Randy Longmore, Donna Hoff, TJ Russell, Ben Hawkins, Tom Peltier, Shawn Linder, Cindy Hietala, Jim Heinrich, Dennis Statsman, Pat Rendle, Lynda Ross, Nick Wourms, Rich Derby, Sue Miskovich, Joe Silko, Patty Peterson, Gwen McLaughlin, and Harvey Hietala.

Members Absent: None

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

The minutes of the September 11, 2006 L/MC meeting were approved by consensus of members present.

**EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SYSTEMS:**

**Budget Update:** The auditors for District #318 have completed their yearly evaluation and reported no significant findings. A final report will be sent to the district. Ben Hawkins noted that this is the first year of the new statewide MDE tuition billing system.

**Legislative Update:** The Blandin Foundation is holding the first Minnesota Gubernatorial E-Debate. The official website for the e-debate is located at: <http://e-democracy.org/e-debates>. This is an opportunity for Minnesota citizens to participate directly in the debate using technology. The e-debate will run October 9 – 19.

The District #318 School Board has three seats open for election. Tom Peltier, Mary Ann Olson and Cliff Schroeder are the incumbents. Three others have filed for seats on the Board of Education and they are Gary W. Anderson, Regina Larson-Bloch and Roger D. McCabe.

**By-Law Ratification:** The Labor/Management Committee agreed by consensus to ratify the by-laws for L/MC membership from 3 administrators to 2 administrators. Bargaining unit representatives signed off on the ratification of the by-laws.

**Technology Update:** TJ Russell reported on district MAP, MCA and ESL testing. He also reported that building principals are updating their buildings' security systems.

**PARTNERSHIPS**

**IASC Update:** (Itasca Area Schools Collaborative) Joe Silko updated the L/MC committee on the Virtual Itasca Area Academy of Learning. (V.I.T.A.L. provides on-line courses to about 50 area students.)

The position of the district business manager has changed. Ben Hawkins will now work with District #317 and District #316. This collaborative effort will be more cost efficient and effective for all three districts.

It was suggested that IASC school districts consider developing common graduation requirements to eliminate students open enrolling to reduce the number of credits needed to graduate.

#### OTHER

##### Superintendent Report – Joe Silko

1. Class size concerns
2. District demographic study - enrollment predictions
3. Ainsworth lay-offs
4. Updating building security systems and crisis plans (5-5-1 rule)
5. Invest Early construction / remodel update
6. Civil rights review
7. Bob Pecha's service arrangements
8. Comparative worth study
9. Free and reduced lunch applications
10. A task force is being formed to explore the district's alternative learning programs.
11. A task force is being formed to explore bargaining unit retiree benefits. The Labor/Management Committee agreed to support the district in contacting the Bureau of Mediation Services to supply a representative at no cost to be a neutral party in the discussions.
12. A district/community finance task force is being formed to explore school finance.
13. A district/community facilities task force is being formed to research present and future facility needs.

Harvey Hietala discussed the "Vote Yes" campaign and concerns he had for the funding of education if this bill should pass.

Hearing no future discussion, Pat Rendle adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

The next L/MC meeting will be held on November 13, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room.