



Intermediate
School
District 917

Intermediate School District 917

1300 145th Street East

Rosemount, MN 55068

Telephone: 651-423-8000; FAX: 651-423-8781

ISD 917 BOARD NOTES

February 12, 2019

Regular Board Meeting

School Boards are Essential to School Success!

Celebrating School Board Recognition Week February 18-22, 2019

The Intermediate School District 917 School Board members serving our district and their years of service are as follows:

Chair – Jill Lewis – Board Member since 1995 - 24 years (Officer for 21 years) – Representing Inver Grove Heights

Vice-Chair – Russ Rohloff – Board Member since 2017 – two years - Representing Hastings

Treasurer - Bob Erickson - Board member since 2013 – six years (Officer for three years)-representing Lakeville

Clerk – Melissa Sauser – Board Member since 2013 – six years (Officer for two years) – Representing Farmington

Vanda Pressnall – Board Member since 2001 - 18 years (Officer for 13 years) – Representing Randolph

DeeDee Currier – Board Member since 2017 – two years - Representing Burnsville

Dick Bergstrom – Board Member since 2014 - five years – Representing Bloomington

Byron Schwab – Board Member since 2017 - two years – Representing West St. Paul/ Eagan/Mendota Heights

Wendy Felton – Board Member since 2016 – three years – Representing South St. Paul

School Board members play a vital role in establishing policies to ensure an efficient, effective school system and represent our local education interests to state and federal government, ensuring compliance with state and federal law.

School Board members are strong advocates for public education and are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public. All School Board members recognize the importance of public education in our community.

Thank you to all our School Board members for their year-round commitment to 917!

PERSONNEL:

New Hires: Lexi Canedy, Classroom Assistant, effective January 24, 2019. Trevor Capra, Classroom Assistant, effective January 28, 2019. Mark Hennager, Classroom Assistant, effective January 2, 2019. Bridget Kopp, Classroom Assistant, effective January 7, 2019. Rachael Opseth, School Counselor, effective January 28, 2019. Hannah Pitzl, Classroom Assistant, effective January 14, 2019. Brittany Swanson, Classroom Assistant, effective January 24, 2019. Reesa Waltman, Classroom Assistant, effective January 22, 2019. **Change in Status:** Jean Bannick, Occupational Therapist, decrease from 1.0 FTE to .8 FTE effective February 12, 2019. Haley Husom, Classroom Assistant, maternity disability leave effective on or about March 1, 2019, with an expected return date of May 24, 2019. Kaitlyn Malloy, Classroom Assistant, parental leave effective February 11, 2019, with an expected return date of February 27, 2019. Barb Schmitz, Buyer, intermittent medical leave request beginning January 21, 2019. Rhianon Stromberg, Mental Health Practitioner, medical leave request expected return to work date extended to April 11, 2019. **Resignations and Terminations:** Jean Bannick, Occupational Therapist, effective June 7, 2019. Amy Hart, Classroom Assistant, effective February 8, 2019. Trila Malone, Classroom Assistant, effective January 31, 2019. Kevin McCabe, Custodian, effective February 4, 2019. Mollie Peltier, Classroom Assistant, effective January 21, 2019. Lindsay Scanlon, Classroom Assistant, effective January 25, 2019. Kelsey Sletten, Classroom Assistant, effective February 1, 2019. **Retirements:** Roxann Johnson, Teacher of Deaf/Hard of Hearing, effective June 7, 2019.

Calendar Information

February 18, 2019—No School for staff or students—Presidents' Day



March 5, 2019—5:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, 917 Board Room

March 25-29, 2019—917 Spring Break

April 2, 2019—5:00 PM, School Board Meeting, DCALS North

April 16, 2019—4:30 PM, School Board Work Session, 917 Board Room

May 7, 2019—5:00 PM, School Board Meeting, 917 Board Room, DCTC

May 9, 2019—3:45 PM, Staff Recognition, DCTC Dakota Room



DONATIONS:

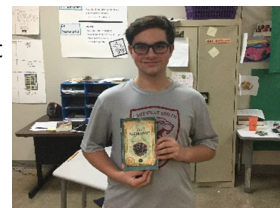
Donation of \$100 to be used for DCALS North student lunches from Dick Bergstrom of Bloomington; Donation of a AC/DC Portable Trainer (through a grant) to be used to help students learn the basics of electrical circuits and how power is supplied in general to all areas of their lives, from the South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights Rotary (Value: \$5,592.) Donation of 50 children's books to be used throughout the 917 District from Deb Griffith, volunteer coordinator, at South St. Paul (Value: \$50.)

GOOD NEWS—SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Congratulations to **Emma Mayes**, the first deafblind intervener in ISD 917 to earn *National Deafblind Intervener Certification*, the third nationally certified intervener in Minnesota and the 13th in the country to achieve this level of training! Emma currently works as an intervener in a classroom with several students who are deafblind in ISD 917's Program for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students at Gideon Pond Elementary School in Burnsville.



- As part of the new ISD 917 **Get Caught Reading** incentive program, students, who are caught reading for 20 minutes per day or more in classrooms, while waiting for the bus, in line, anywhere in the school, receive a ticket reward. This ticket then goes into a drawing to receive a free book and newsletter recognition. Congratulations to our first winners!
- Ben from Lebanon Education Center won a book on January 4, 2019.
- Rio, also from Lebanon Education Center, won on January 11, 2019.



Congratulations to Monica Joubert—Mrs. Lakeville—who will be vying for the Mrs. Minnesota title in March. Monica is a program assistant at the Lakeville DASH program. Mrs. Joubert's platform is inclusion for students with special services. Good luck Monica!

Board Member
Bob Erickson—
Lakeville

Monica Joubert

Superintendent
Mark Zuzek



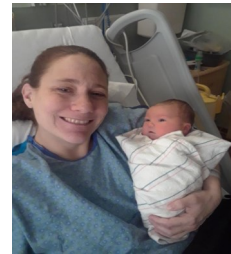
CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to **Judy Stoos, TESA paraprofessional at DCTC location**, and her husband Larry, on the passing of their son **Isaiah Lawson Stoos**, age 15, on January 10, 2019. The family will be having private gatherings of remembrance and support. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to a suicide awareness/prevention organization of your choice.



BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Alyssa Ross, Special Education Teacher at the Youth Transition Program**, on the birth of **Samuel Donald Ross**. Samuel was born Friday, January 18 at 5:13 am. Samuel was 21 inches long and 8 pounds, 15 ounces.



Congratulations to **Ashley Olson, Classroom Assistant at Alliance**, and her husband **Bryan** on the birth of their daughter **Teagan Rae**. Teagan was born on January 16, 2019, weighing 6 pounds 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Congratulations to **Kirstie Gabbert, IDEA Teacher at Alliance**, on the birth of her baby girl **Charlotte Elanor Handwerk**. Charlotte was born on January 28 at 2:21 AM., weighing 7 lbs., 3 oz. and 19.5 inches.



Motions and Reports

- Lobbyist Valerie Dosland reported to the Board on the legislative initiatives for 2019.
- DCALS Principal Eric VanBrocklin and Mark Zuzek reported on the prospective new 8-10th grade ALC to be located in Farmington possibly in the upcoming school year.
- Motion passed approving the Memorandum of Understanding for the Custodial Contract 2017-2019.
- Motion passed approving the Pay Equity Report.
- Motion passed approving the maintenance payments to member districts.
- Resolution passed Directing Administration to Make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefore.
- Motion passed approving the Staff Development Grant.
- Motion passed approving the Calendar Change for 2018-2019 due to inclement weather.

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- The Book Nana visits the ECSE TEA program at Riverview Elementary every other Tuesday during break-fast! She is a great friend of the teacher in Farmington, **Deb Johnson**, and has been working with families in challenging situations for years. She is a parent educator by background, and completely understands the importance of the work we do! This is a volunteer position she does for us in her retirement. The kids love her visits!



- Students at Riverside School competed against one another in a STEM challenge to see who could build the strongest base to support weight. They learned about different types of bridges and support systems for inspiration. After drawing and designing their individual ideas, they were given only eight sheets of newspaper and a roll of masking tape. The students took two days to build their bases and tested different theories on what would hold the most weight. There were many different design ideas, but the challenge was only using the materials they were given and nothing else. Out of all the students, the record holder designed a base that held nine textbooks without the structure being crushed or falling over.



- TESA's Work-Based Learning (WBL) classes have been going strong this school year. Students are learning the skills needed to find work, explore career paths, and are learning soft skills to keep their jobs once employed. There are 34 students participating in our WBL seminar classes. Students created resumes, practiced job interviews, and are participating in information interviews in the community. Fifteen WBL students are currently employed. For students enrolled in our WBL classes, staff provides transportation to and from work, interviews, and job coaching sessions. To date, 89.4% of the transportation provided was due to work and 10.6% for job interviews. During this semester, staff provided over 80 job coaching sessions to students.

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- **Becky Zuehlke, TESA's School Social Worker**, secured a grant through VSA, the Minnesota state organization on arts and disability. Through this grant, VSA was able to hire a resident artist for the TESA program, Julie Smith-Healy. **Julie Smith-Healy is a teaching artist** and currently works with the Minnesota Children's Theatre and the Minnesota History Center theater program. Julie Smith-Healy was able to provide 6 hours of direct instruction to approximately 18 TESA students, culminating in a final performance sharing their learnings based on the themes of owning one's identity and what success means. The resident artist program was driven by student thoughts, ideas, and perceptions. TESA is extremely thankful for this opportunity to enrich student's educational experiences through the arts!
- The middle school, high school and transition-age students from the Cedar-SUN program recently visited the University of Minnesota. They attended the Physics Force presentation at the Northrup Theater. Students watched as a physicist was dropped through the air while a friend shot a ball at him from a cannon. They witnessed the power of a leaf blower as it shot streams of toilet paper. Their favorite demonstration involved a steel drum that was filled with a gas, building up pressure inside. Using squirt bottles, the physicist sprayed water on the exterior of the drum causing the drum to react with a huge boom and leaving the container crushed.
- After the presentation, students went on a walking tour of the college campus. Students were impressed by how big the campus really is. They enjoyed being able to see several of the buildings including the gym, bookstore, and student union. They were impressed that the school has its own bowling alley, movie theater, great restaurants, and three libraries.
- Cedar-SUN teachers with group classrooms have started Cedar Clubs. The older students now enjoy the opportunity to take part in a club Friday afternoons. The clubs that are currently being offered include stop motion photography, guitar, and cooking. The current clubs will last for six weeks. For the last session families will be invited in to see what the students have produced! Then a new set of clubs will start.
- Students at the TEA program took a field trip to the Mill City Museum. Students were divided into two different groups and went on different days. Parents helped out as chaperones and enjoyed the day as much as the students.
- Alliance Education Center staff took part in an equity training provided by the Science Museum of Minnesota in January. Staff learned the history of race and were asked to discuss the impacts of oppression, in its many forms, in their daily lives both in the community and in the educational setting. We then took part in some team-building activities and debriefing and exercise.
- High School students at Alliance Education Center will have the opportunity to take part in an 8-week course called, "Street Law". It is taught by law students from Mitchell-Hamline Law School. Students will discuss legal cases and laws and then define how these impact their daily lives. The students get to visit the law school at the end of the program to learn more about this field.

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On January 15th students from our DCALS North program had the opportunity to tour and hear about career opportunities available at **Uponor, Inc.** We had 14 students attend this great experience. Uponor has been a great partner with our programs providing multiple opportunities to tour and visit with their staff.
- Students in the Graphics Program and Video Game Design program are completing their Game Board Design Challenge Projects. Together they needed to design a real game board, come up with the rules, and design and create the playing pieces with 3D printing. With the Snow/Cold Days they were delayed a bit, but are testing their designs now. Look for some photos on the next board meeting.



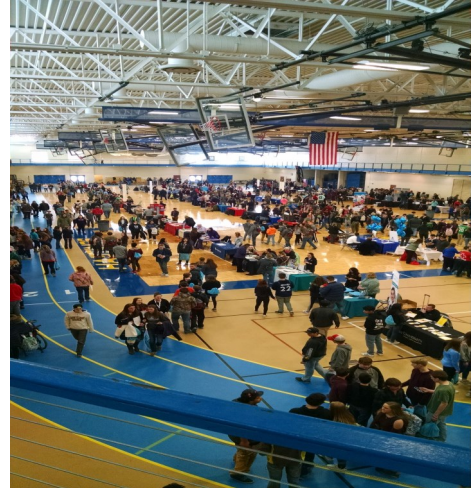
- Networking and Repair students started their Pilot of the Lab Midwest AC/DC Electrical Trainer graciously donated by the **South St. Paul Rotary Club**. The students will complete an e-learning segment, then a simulation of the actual trainer, and finally test their skills on the physical device. This will allow our students to work up to the Skill Boss and the CPT+ certification (Certified Production Technician). Dale Engman-Instructor

- Principal Eric Van Brocklin and teachers Lynn Morris and Dale Engman** are showing off the equipment purchased through a grant from the South Saint Paul / Inver Grove Heights Rotary Club. Thank you Rotarians for supporting our students! We were able to present to the group at their weekly noon meeting on January 23rd at Southview Country Club in West St. Paul. This rotary group has been very generous to all our programs. In 2014 they provided a set of chromebooks, a cart, and wireless network port for our DCALS North program.



GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- As of now we have 95 different vendors taking part in our 5th Annual Career and College Fair at Hastings High School on Thursday, February 28th. We have representatives from Business/Industry, Training Centers, Community Agencies, Government Agencies, 2 and 4 year Colleges/Universities, and various branches of the Military. We anticipate well over 1500 students having the opportunity to explore all these options for post-secondary life.



- On Friday, February 8th the Dakota County Perkins Consortium will hold its monthly Leadership Meeting at Uponor, Inc. in Apple Valley. We will hold our regular meeting from 8-9 a.m. and then partake in an overview and tour of the facility.
- Over the 4 day "weather break" we didn't have any assignments for our students, but we had 55 students working on the Odysseyware online program. We had several of them working every single day. By Thursday afternoon, we had 20 students who earned a total of 30 semester credits and two of them finished their credit requirements for graduation. I thought this was impressive given they were not required to do school work during this time! **Pam Biegler-DCALS teacher**
- CT and HDT had an impromptu visit on February 1st from **Larry Wall of C.S. McCrossan Inc.** Larry talked to students about the upcoming expansion of the Green Line which their company and partnering company Lunda Construction Co. have been contracted to complete. As well as being the largest construction deal in the state he talked about the need for qualified employees that's pending for both companies to complete the 14 mile rail line which includes 28 new bridges. He also told students about the potential opportunity for HDT and CT students if they were interested in pursuing employment with their company's. Larry left an open invitation for students to contact him about employment options and said his company would be willing to partner with our district if possible to help our students enter into his career pathway. **Tom LeDoux-Heavy Duty Truck teacher and Paul Landwehr-Construction Trades teacher**