

# **Intermediate District 287**

Responsive. Innovative. Solutions.



**Intermediate District 287**

**Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, September 11, 2014 6:30 PM**

# Intermediate District 287

## RESPONSIVE. INNOVATIVE. SOLUTIONS

### GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

Thursday, September 11, 2014

6:30 PM @ District Service Center Board Room

#### AGENDA

	<u>Page #</u>
1. CALL TO ORDER (Action)	
2. APPROVAL OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA (Action)	
3. OPEN FORUM FOR COMMUNITY COMMENTS (Information)	
4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Action)	
4. 1. General Board Meeting Minutes from August 28, 2014	4
4. 2. Math and Science Teacher Partnership Grant	6
4. 3. Carl D. Perkins Education Act-Basic Grant	7
4. 4. Federal Title II, and Federal Title III	8
4. 5. Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Rehabilitation Services Youth Workforce Grant	9
5. SHARE THE SUCCESS & RECOGNITION - (10 minutes) (Information)	
5. 1. Resolution Honoring Sara Ruff (Resolution)	10
6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - (5 minutes) (Information)	
6. 1. American Association of School Administrators (AASA) Ambassador Program Superintendent Lewandowski will update the board on her upcoming participation in the AASA's International Education Seminar. This delegation of educators seeks to learn about different cultures and their system of education in an effort to improve local efforts in the United States. The delegation is led by the President of the American Association of School Administrators. This year the delegation will be traveling to Australia and New Zealand from October 16-25, 2014.	
7. INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT - None	
8. BUSINESS SERVICES & LABOR RELATIONS REPORT - (5 minutes) (Information)	
8. 1. Facilities Report	
8. 1. 1. South Education Center Playfield Update Mr. Michael Cowles, Director of Facilities will provide the school Board with an update on the status of the South Education Center Playfield project.	
8. 2. Financial Report - None	
8. 3. Human Resource Report - None	
9. BOARD BUSINESS - (5 minutes)	
9. 1. Policy Review & Revision	
9. 1. 1. Health & Medical Policy (Action)	12
Mrs. Anne Becker, General Counsel/Executive Director of Labor Relations, will present the Health & Medical policy as a Second Read.	
9. 2. Board Reports	
9. 2. 1. Chair Report - None	
9. 2. 2. AMSD Report (Ann Bremer)	
9. 2. 2. 1. AMSD Connections Newsletter September 2014	15
9. 2. 3. District News	
9. 2. 3. 1. School Board Planning Calendar 2014-2015	19

## 9. 3. Once Around the Table

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

10. 1. General meeting of the Board will adjourn for a Board Work Session **(Information)**

**Recommended Action: Board Chair calls meeting adjourned @ \_\_\_\_\_PM**

11. **WORK SESSION**11. 1. **A Better Way**

23

Educational Leadership Consultants, Dr. Charlene Myklebust, and Wendy Loberg will provide culturally responsive, positive school climate cohort training and coaching to school leaders from several suburban Minneapolis school districts and St. Cloud Public Schools. Minneapolis Public Schools intends to join the project if a Federal School Transformation Grant is awarded in October to Intermediate District 287 and Minneapolis.

“A Better Way” will fulfill a priority to provide professional learning experiences and technical assistance to schools so that they can implement a multi-tiered behavioral framework to improve school climate and behavioral outcomes for all students. This cohort training aligns with the U.S. Government’s Guiding Principles: A Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline (2014), the Minnesota Safe and Supportive Schools Act, Accountability 2.0, and the World’s Best Workforce legislation. The project will coordinate with existing, separately funded activities related to improving school climate and behavioral outcomes, including a statewide PBIS project, the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) project to close the racial and special education achievement gap, and the Hennepin County Accelerating Graduation Rates by Addressing Disparities (A-GRAD) initiative. The objectives of this project are to improve school leader attitudes, skills, and behavior relative to school culture and disciplinary practices that result in significant disparities for children of color and children with disabilities; and to ensure that students attend schools with an array of tiered supports and evidenced-based programs and services that are positive, engaging, culturally competent and designed to teach new behavior instead of punishing and excluding.

**DISTRICT 287 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Intermediate District 287**  
**August 28, 2014**  
**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ann Bremer called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 PM in the District Service Center Board Room. A quorum was declared with the following members in attendance:

286	Brooklyn Center	Jeffrey Palm
272	Eden Prairie	Carol Bomben
273	Edina	Regina Neville
276	Minnetonka	Karen Filla
278	Orono	Michèle Kunz
279	Osseo	Dean Henke
280	Richfield	Nancy Rowley
281	Robbinsdale	Sherry Tyrrell
283	St. Louis Park	Nancy Gores
284	Wayzata	Carter Peterson
277	Westonka	Ann Bremer

Absent: 270/Ronbeck

Guests:

287 Administration: Sandra Lewandowski, Anne Becker, Michael Cowles, Mae Hawkins, Tina Houck, Chad Maxa, Jennifer McIntyre, Elisabeth Rogers, Jon Voss, and Wauneen Mgeni

287 Staff Members: Doug Booth, and Julie Tuorila

**2. APPROVAL OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

The general meeting agenda was presented for approval. *Motion by Ann Bremer, seconded by Sherry Tyrrell, to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

**3. OPEN FORUM FOR COMMUNITY COMMENTS - None**

**4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda was presented for approval. The Consent Agenda included the general meeting minutes from June 26, 2014, Authorizing Superintendent to Sign Contracts and Purchase orders, People Inc. Contract, Technology and Information Educational Services (TIES) contract, Lease Agreement with Hennepin Technical College, and Routine Human Resource Activities for August 28, 2014. *Motion by Ann Bremer, seconded by Carol Bomben, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

**5. SHARE THE SUCCESS & RECOGNITIONS**

Superintendent Lewandowski announced to the Board the August 2014 “Above & Beyond” employees Ms. Sherry Krause and Ms. Sandra (Sam) Kast, educational assistants at North Education Center.

Sandy informed the Board, Intermediate District 287 had received the “2014 School Finance Award”. This award is presented to districts that meet criteria in the following areas: Timely Submission of Financial Data and Compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Presence of Select Indicators of Fiscal Health and Accuracy in Financial Reporting.

**6. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Sandy presented to the Board the 2014-2015 Superintendent Results. The proposed two results will shape her work for the upcoming school year: 1) Create a three-year school improvement plan, by utilizing the three major result areas of innovative instruction, student success and collaborative curricula. 2) Work with Hennepin County school districts and Hennepin County Commissioners to improve regional graduation rates by:

- a) actively participating in the data portability project led by Hennepin County;
- b) providing active leadership to raise the funding streams for students attending District 287 Area Learning Center programs;
- c) by identifying and implementing effective strategies to recover and re-engage students who are at very high risk of dropping out of school; and,
- d) providing regional evidence based professional development aimed at reducing suspensions and other exclusionary practices (A Better Way) that prevent students from graduating.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Bremer, *a motion was made by Nancy Rowley, seconded by Ann Bremer to approve the 2014-2015 Superintendent Results as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

Sandy presented to the Board a summary memo *What Board Members Should Know about Our 2014-2015 Back to School Start-Up.*

Sandy presented to the Board a video clip from the August 25 “Welcome Back Event”. She also highlighted Brave New Workshop Team, who used laughter and improvisation to show how these skills can increase learning, innovation, leadership, creativity, and productivity. The Board also applauded the speech of Board Chair Ann Bremer (Westonka) who greeted staff at the workshop.

**7. INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT**

Superintendent Lewandowski introduced Ms. Elisabeth Rogers, Executive Director of Special Services & Educational Programs, Mr. Chad Maxa, Executive Director of Technology & Innovation, Dr. Jon Voss, Director of Teaching & Learning, Ms. Christina Houck, Director of Mental Health & Partnerships, and Ms. Jennifer McIntyre, Directors of Special Education. They provided an overview of three major results: 1) innovation instruction, 2) student success, and 3) collaborative curricula. They discussed how all instructional and operational leaders will focus and align their work on these goals.

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE REPORTS**

**Facilities Report**

Mr. Michael Cowles, Director of Facilities presented and recommended approval of the Health and Safety policy. *A motion was made by Ann Bremer, seconded by Carter Peterson, to approve the Health and Safety policy as presented. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Michael Cowles, Director of Facilities presented and recommended approval of the Health and Safety application. *A motion was made by Ann Bremer, seconded by Nancy Rowley, to approve the Health and Safety application as presented. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Financial Report**

Ms. Mae Hawkins, Executive Director of Business Services, presented the monthly financial reports for June 2014 and July 2014. *Motion by Carter Peterson, seconded by Sherry Tyrrell, to approve the June 2014 monthly financial reports as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Ann Bremer, seconded by Michèle Kunz, to approve the July 2014 monthly financial reports as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Information Technology Report - None**

**Human Resources Report - None**

**9. BOARD BUSINESS**

**Policy Review & Revision**

Ms. Anne Becker, General Counsel/Human Resource Director, presented for a first read the Health & Medical policy.

**Chair Report**

Board Chair Bremer briefly updated the Board on the nomination of Superintendent Lewandowski for 2015 Superintendent of the Year.

Board Chair Bremer reminded the Board to share the “Remarkable Results” video with the Board members and Superintendent.

**Closed Session**

At the recommendation of Board Chair Bremer, *a motion was made by Sherry Tyrrell, seconded by Dean Henke, the school Board may hold a closed meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.05, subd.2 and 3, this agenda item will be closed for preliminary considerations of allegations against one or more of its employees, and a discussion with its attorneys. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was closed to the public at 8:23 PM. *A motion was made by Michèle Kunz, seconded by Regina Neville, to reopen the general meeting. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.* The general meeting reopened at 8:39 PM.

At the recommendation of Board Chair Bremer, *a motion was made by Carol Bomben, seconded by Michèle Kunz, to access the resignation of one its employees, as presented. One no vote. Motion carried.*

**AMSD Report - None**

**Once Around the Table - None**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion was heard and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.*

The next general meeting will be held on September 11, 2014, at 6:30 PM in the DSC Board Room.

Submitted by  
Wauneen Mgeni  
Secretary to the Board

Signed: Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Intermediate District 287

## *Responsive. Innovative. Solutions*

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### INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 11, 2014

TO: Sandra Lewandowski, Superintendent

FROM: Mae Hawkins, Executive Director of Business Services

**RE: Recommendation for Board Acceptance of the Math and Science Teacher Partnership Grant**

District 287 has been awarded \$750,000.00 from the Minnesota Department of Education – Title II, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to continue last year’s work with the Region 11 Math & Science Teacher Academy. Intermediate District 287 is the fiscal host for the partnership that will offer high quality professional development in Grades 3-5 Algebra and High School STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). As with last year, the regional education agency sponsors – the Grants and Research Office (GRO) of Intermediate Districts 287 and 916 and the Metro Education Cooperative Service Unit (ECSU) will coordinate training and communicate with districts. The higher education partners-the University of Minnesota (U of M), Hamline University, and Normandale Community College-will provide content expertise and training corps members. SciMath MN will disseminate grant products and work with business partners to support the centers. This grant runs from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, this is year 3 of a 3 year grant.

# Intermediate District 287

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### INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 11, 2014

TO: Sandra Lewandowski, Superintendent

FROM: Mae Hawkins, Executive Director of Business Services

**RE: Recommendation for Board Acceptance of the Carl D. Perkins Education Act-Basic Grant**

District 287 has been awarded \$19,000.00 for FY15 from the Carl D. Perkins Education Act-Basic Grant. This grant will be used to provide programs and services for special population students in vocational education.

# Intermediate District 287

## *Responsive. Innovative. Solutions*

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### INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 11, 2014

TO: Sandra Lewandowski, Superintendent

FROM: Mae L. Hawkins, Executive Director of Business Services

**RE: Recommendation for Board Acceptance of Federal Title II, and Federal Title III**

District 287 has been awarded \$5,541.91 for Federal Title II – Part A, Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting, and \$28,844.45 for Federal Title III – Part A, English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement and Academic Achievement funding for FY15.

- a) Title II funds are for the improvement of teaching skills and in the instruction of core curricula area, specifically mathematics and science.
- b) Title III funds are designed to help ensure that children who are limited English proficient, including immigrant children and youth, attain English proficiency. The funds are for a consortium of four districts – District 287, Westonka, Princeton, and St. Francis districts, with 287 managing these funds for FY15. The consortia provision allows school districts with small awards to pool resources for maximum effectiveness.

# Intermediate District 287

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### INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 11, 2014

TO: Sandra Lewandowski, Superintendent

FROM: Mae Hawkins, Executive Director of Business Services

**RE: Recommendation for Board Acceptance of the MN Dept of Employment and Economic Development Rehabilitation Services Youth Workforce Grant**

District 287 has been awarded for FY15 \$200,600.00 from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development Rehabilitation Services under the Minnesota Workforce Development Project. The VECTOR/InVEST D/HH Youth Workforce Project will provide comprehensive work readiness and work experience services exclusively for at-risk young adults, age 16 to 24 who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing to promote positive employment outcomes toward self-sufficiency. The project components are supported with the communication/interpreter/assistive technology essential to D/HH individuals. The funds are for a not-to-exceed amount of \$200,600.00 from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

**INTERMEDIATE DISTRICT 287  
PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Regular Meeting – September 11, 2014

**AGENDA SECTION:** SHARE THE SUCCESS & RECOGNITIONS

**ITEM:** 5.2 Resolution Honoring Sara Ruff

**PRESENTED BY:** Superintendent Lewandowski

**1. Background Information**

Sara created the legal services model for Intermediate District 287 and was solely responsible for providing high quality legal services to many member districts for the first several years.

Sara’s thoughtful, thorough and wise counsel was instrumental in avoiding, minimizing or defending against legal actions brought against the Intermediate and its members.

Even when faced with some very sobering facts or troubling situations, Sara retained her wonderful sense of perspective and humor, which calmed many a worried district administrator.

**2. Fiscal Impact/Funding Source: None**

**3. RECOMMENDED ACTION: School Board hereby presents a Certification of Appreciation to Sara in gratitude for her many years of service and proclaims September 11, 2014 as Sara Ruff Appreciation Day.**

Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ Passed \_\_\_\_

Second by: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ Failed \_\_\_\_

Abstentions: \_\_\_\_\_

# Intermediate District 287

*RESPONSIVE. INNOVATION. SOLUTIONS.*

Member \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE SARA RUFF FOR HER MANY YEARS OF PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES TO INTERMEDIATE DISTRICT 287 AND ITS MEMBER DISTRICTS**

**WHEREAS**, Sara created the legal services model for Intermediate District 287 and was solely responsible for providing high quality legal services to many member districts for the first several years;

**WHEREAS**, Sara's thoughtful, thorough and wise counsel was instrumental in avoiding, minimizing or defending against legal actions brought against the Intermediate and its members,

**WHEREAS**, even when faced with some very sobering facts or troubling situations, Sara retained her wonderful sense of perspective and humor, which calmed many a worried district administrator;

**WHEREAS**, Board members and administrators who know and have worked with Sara will miss her and wish her well as she takes this pause in her professional career,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the School Board of Intermediate District 287 as follows:

That the School Board hereby presents a Certification of Appreciation to Sara in gratitude for her many years of service and proclaims September 12, 2014 as Sara Ruff Appreciation Day.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Member \_\_\_\_\_ and the motion was approved.

**INTERMEDIATE DISTRICT 287**  
**PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Regular Meeting – September 11, 2014

**AGENDA SECTION:** BOARD BUSINESS

**ITEM:** Tobacco-Free Schools Policy

**PRESENTED BY:** Anne Becker, Executive Director of Labor Relations/General Counsel

**1. Background Information**

Tobacco-Free Schools policy is presented for a second read and approval. A motion is necessary to approve this policy as presented.

**2. Fiscal Impact/Funding Source: None**

**3. RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Tobacco-Free Schools Policy as presented.**

Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ Passed \_\_\_\_

Second by: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ Failed \_\_\_\_

Abstentions: \_\_\_\_\_

# Intermediate District 287

RESPONSIVE. INNOVATIVE. SOLUTIONS.

## DISTRICT POLICY

### Second Read

**POLICY SERIES:** Health and Medical

**SUBJECT:** Tobacco-Free Schools

**BOARD APPROVED:** October 2010

**REVISION DATE:** August 2014

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## HM160 TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS

### TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS

#### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning and working environment that is tobacco-free. The Board's primary concern is to promote the health of students and employees.

#### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. No person may smoke or use tobacco, or tobacco-related devices or electronic delivery devices in a public school, including any building or vehicle owned, rented, or leased by the District. This prohibition includes all District property and all off-campus events sponsored by the District.
- B. No student may possess any type of tobacco, or tobacco-related device or electronic delivery device on District property, including any facilities or vehicles owned, rented, leased, contracted for, or controlled by the District. This prohibition includes all District property and all off-campus events sponsored by the District.
- C. The District will intervene, discipline or take other appropriate action against any person who is found to have violated this policy.
- D. Smoking cessation program information and education about the health benefits of a tobacco-free lifestyle will be made available to all students through the School Counselor and/or health and science teachers and to employees through the Employee Assistance Program.

#### III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Tobacco" means cigarettes; cigars; cheroots; stogies; perique; granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready rubbed, and other smoking tobacco; snuff; snuff flour; Cavendish; plug and twist tobacco; fine cut and other chewing tobacco;

shorts; refuse scraps; clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco; and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner as to be suitable for chewing or smoking in a pipe or other tobacco-related device.

- B. “Tobacco-related devices” means cigarette papers or pipes for smoking or other devices intentionally designed or intended to be used in a manner which enables the chewing, sniffing, smoking, or inhalation of vapors of tobacco or tobacco products. Tobacco-related devices include components of tobacco-related devices which may be marketed or sold separately.
  
- C. “Electronic delivery device” means any product containing or delivering nicotine, lobelia, or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or any other substance through inhalation of vapor from the product. Electronic delivery device includes any component part of a product, whether or not marketed or sold separately.
  
- D. “Smoking” includes carrying a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lit tobacco or tobacco-related device. Smoking also includes the use of electronic cigarettes, including the inhaling and exhaling of vapor from any electronic delivery device.

**Legal References:**

Minn. Stat. §§ 144.411 – 144.417 (Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.685 (Sale of Tobacco to Children)

**Cross References:**

Health and Medical Goals Policy  
Employee Responsibilities Policy  
Student Conduct and Discipline Policy

September 2014  
vol 11 ♦ no 11

## AMSD: 40 Years of Education Advocacy for Metropolitan School Districts

**"For the past 40 years, the Association of Metropolitan School Districts has served as the premier organization advocating for excellence in education in Minnesota. AMSD has served metropolitan school districts as a source of wise counsel, excellent data, valid research and sound leadership. AMSD has always, and will always, place the wellbeing of its member students above all else in its quest for excellence in education."**

**- Superintendent John Thein, Roseville Area Schools**

On January 16, 1974, Governor Wendell Anderson delivered his State of the State to the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the Minnesota Legislature. In his address, Governor Anderson talked about exploring ways to keep a strong dual system of public and private education in the state, as well as students driving to school and providing flexibility for districts to adjust to energy conservation. That same year, a group of like-minded, suburban school administrators agreed to join together to create a new education organization. The organization was formed to provide research on legislative matters for member school districts, inform members of the impact of existing and emerging legislation and relay concerns to persons and groups concerned with education matters. That organization was the Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD).

The initial months of AMSD's existence were spent establishing committees, managing logistics and creating the structure of the organization. The founding school district members were Edina, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield, Robbinsdale, Roseville, St. Louis Park and White Bear Lake. Advocacy efforts during the 1975 Legislative session were spent addressing emerging issues from the 1971 passage of the *Minnesota Miracle* education finance reform legislation that increased the State's share of school operating revenues from 43% to 65%. Metro school districts

*Continued on page 2*



**AMSD board members at a press conference in December 2004.**

### September 5, 2014

**Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 a.m.,**  
Grand Hall,  
TIES Conference Center,  
St. Paul

### September 26, 2014

**Executive/Legislative Committee Meeting**  
7:30 a.m., TIES  
Conference Center,  
St. Paul

### October 3, 2014

**Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 a.m.,**  
Grand Hall,  
TIES Conference Center,  
St. Paul

### Save the Date!

### November 17, 2014

**AMSD Policy Conference: Developing College and Career Ready Students**  
Details forthcoming!

## AMSD's Mission

*To advocate for state education policy that enables metropolitan school districts to improve student learning.*



Association of  
Metropolitan School Districts

## From the Chair

In recent years, the topic of shared services among local government units has received considerable attention. AMSD's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a great reminder that service sharing and collaboration among metro school districts is not a new concept.

Forty years ago, a group of metropolitan school leaders understood that forming a joint organization to conduct research, analyze legislative proposals and advocate collectively, not only made good economic sense, but also strengthened their voice and helped them make a positive difference for their students.

I am happy to report that the tradition continues today as AMSD members meet monthly to share best practices, explore new partnerships and develop legislative proposals that will allow metropolitan school districts to advance student achievement.

It is energizing to have the opportunity to chair an organization with so many strong and dedicated leaders who are committed to carrying on this legacy. Here's to another 40 years of AMSD advocating for metro school districts and their students!

*Bruce Richardson, school board member from St. Louis Park Public Schools, is chair of AMSD.*

# Reflections on 40 years of AMSD

Continued from page 1

faced significant challenges at the time including declining enrollment, a high degree of experience and training of teaching staff, higher living costs in the metropolitan area and the need for extensive and specialized educational programs. Historical minutes of the organization note “oppositional statements” to pending legislation that conflicted with the organization’s members and platform. The organization’s first bill tracker was distributed at an April 8, 1975 meeting and it was titled “Bills Introduced Consistent with AMSD Legislative Program.” Serving as the school district representative to AMSD quickly became a coveted position.

*“We school board members on the Roseville Area Schools Board in the 1980s jockeyed to be the AMSD representative. The lucky person selected could network with metro school board members and district staff at breakfast meetings in downtown Minneapolis and find out what was going on at the State Legislature. I didn’t question much why we didn’t have much actual success at the Legislature for inner-ring suburban school funding issues, until I myself was elected to the Minnesota House in 1992. Then I found out with the force of a smack in the face that AMSD legislators were a perpetual minority and not a very popular one at that. Other legislators from both parties believed our districts had all the money and we should cough it up. Minneapolis and St. Paul couldn’t pass levy referenda to save their souls, so I didn’t recognize that inner-ring suburban schools had similar funding and property tax needs. This similarity only increased over time, as inner-ring suburban districts experienced student populations that more and more mirrored those of core city school districts. The world changed after suburban and city districts joined forces to become the dynamic and successful lobbying force AMSD is today. Instead of fighting over an inadequate funding pot, AMSD helped other districts to see that the problem wasn’t that their districts had all the money. The problem was that all districts were lacking sufficient funds for today’s students.*

**-Mindy Greiling, Roseville School Board 1987-1992  
Minnesota House of Representatives 1993-2012**

Forty years after Governor Anderson gave his State of the State, Governor Mark Dayton delivered his State of the State address to the 88<sup>th</sup> session of the Minnesota Legislature on April 30, 2014. Dayton discussed his commitment to investing in public education over his term. He cited investments in key areas such as the basic formula, special education, early childhood scholarships and all-day Kindergarten – all AMSD priorities. Governor Dayton also highlighted recent policy initiatives such as alternative pathways for licensure, reading well by third grade, teacher and principal evaluations and anti-bullying legislation.

*“It was great to be a part of AMSD for many years and to work with board members and superintendents from the metro districts. It was a great experience and helped me a lot to be informed about education around the metro.”*

**-Arlene Bush, Bloomington School Board 1981-2013  
AMSD board member, and AMSD Board Chair 1986-1987**

With great strides, AMSD has continued in its original purpose of advocating for metropolitan school districts at the Capitol. The organization now includes 38 K-12 school districts, 4 intermediate/educational cooperative districts, and 3 integration districts representing almost half the state’s PreK-12 enrollment. AMSD operates with three staff members and contracts for lobbying and communications services. The organization is highly regarded for its communication efforts, providing timely legislative updates, opportunities for networking and extensive legislative summaries. AMSD also annually recognizes

Continued on page 4

## AMSD FUN FACTS

- ◇ The nine founding member districts of AMSD were: Edina, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield, Robbinsdale, Roseville, St. Louis Park and White Bear Lake.
- ◇ During a December 1974 Board of Directors meeting, a motion was made to name the Minneapolis Star the official paper of the association. The motion was tabled after agreement could not be reached.
- ◇ AMSD’s first office space was in the media center of the Richfield Public Schools. AMSD was billed at a rate of \$3.10 per hour of use.
- ◇ At early AMSD Board of Directors meetings, board members sang “Happy Birthday” to those who were present and celebrating a birthday. The minutes reflected whose birthday it was and who led the singing.
- ◇ In May of 1983, the Executive Committee approved the first purchase of a microcomputer for data storage and reporting for legislative use. The computer was an IBM with 128 K of memory for \$4000.
- ◇ In November 1986, AMSD hires Duane Mattheis as executive director, the first to hold that title, taking over for Mary Anderson Roberts, who had served as executive secretary since 1975.
- ◇ Always looking to keep up with hot topics of the day, in October of 1987, AMSD’s Board of Directors meeting was focused on the AIDS epidemic. The guest speaker, Dr. Henry, discussed the seriousness of the disease and the importance of education in caring for and accepting those who had the disease as well as the best hopes for prevention.
- ◇ November 1987, Governor Rudolph Perpich speaks to the AMSD Board of Directors.
- ◇ AMSD debuts letterhead in 1988.
- ◇ In 1988-1989, the equity lawsuit is the focus of most meetings.
- ◇ In 1990, AMSD’s contract lobbyist Susan Shepherd Carlson must terminate her contract with AMSD as her husband, Arne Carlson, is elected governor. Ms. Carlson had been under contract with AMSD since 1987.
- ◇ Mark Mallander assumes the role of executive director in 1993.
- ◇ At the January 2000 Board of Directors meeting, Scott Croonquist is introduced as AMSD’s new executive director.
- ◇ In June of 2002, AMSD moves to the TIES Building after officing out of the Richfield Public Schools for 28 years.

# Gallup Poll Shows More U.S. Citizens Satisfied With Quality of Education

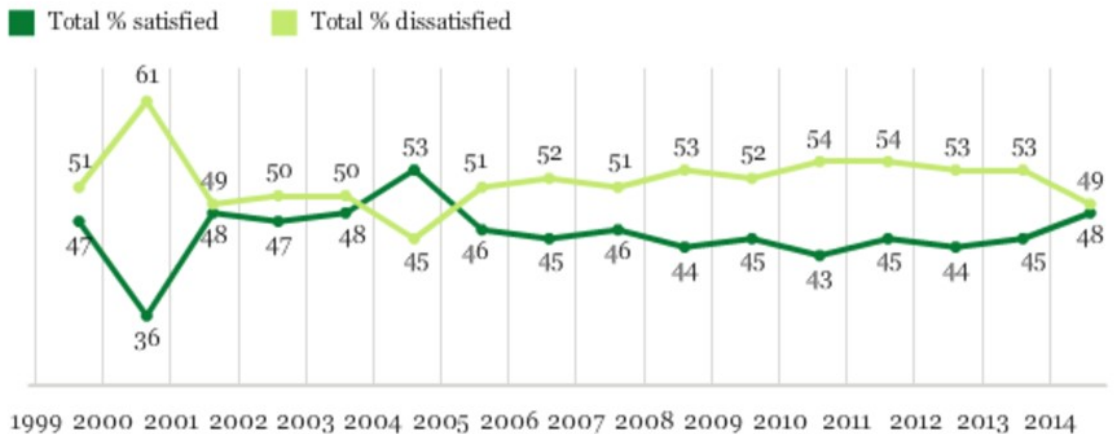
Students throughout Minnesota have returned to school as another year of learning gets underway. This is always an exciting time of year for students, parents and educators. And, a recent survey shows that an increasing number of Americans are beginning the school year with a higher level of satisfaction with the quality of education being provided.

As shown in Figure 1, a Gallup Poll conducted between August 7-10, 2014 found that 48% of Americans are “completely” or “somewhat satisfied” with the quality of Kindergarten through high school. Gallup notes that this percent is the highest since 2004 and for the first time since 2007, respondents are equally able to say they are satisfied as dissatisfied. The poll reveals that parents are even more positive when discussing their satisfaction, with three in four parents (75%) saying they are satisfied with the quality of education (Figure 2). Last year, parent satisfaction was at 67%.

*Continued on page 4*

**Figure 1: Gallup Poll: Americans’ Satisfaction with K-12 Education in U.S.**

Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of education students receive in kindergarten through grade 12 in the U.S. today -- would you say you are completely satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or completely dissatisfied?

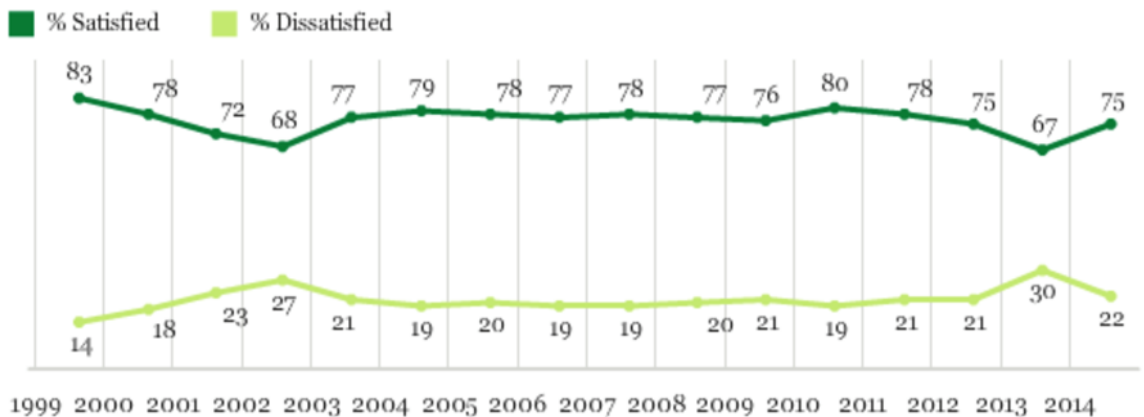


Satisfied percentage is those completely and somewhat satisfied; dissatisfied percentage is those somewhat and completely dissatisfied

Source: Gallup August 28, 2014

**Figure 2: Gallup Poll: U.S. Parents’ Satisfaction With Their Child’s Education**

How satisfied are you with the quality of education your oldest child is receiving? Would you say you are completely satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or completely dissatisfied?



Asked of parents with children in grades kindergarten through 12

Source: Gallup August 28, 2014

**AMSD Members:** Anoka-Hennepin School District, Bloomington Public Schools, Board of School Administrators (Associate Member), Brooklyn Center Community Schools, Burnsville-Eagan-Savage, Columbia Heights Public Schools, East Metro Integration District, Eastern Carver County Schools, Eden Prairie Schools, Edina Public Schools, Elk River Area School District, Farmington Area Public Schools, Fridley Public Schools, Hopkins Public Schools, Intermediate School District 287, Intermediate School District 917 (Associate Member), Inver Grove Heights Community Schools, Lakeville Area Public Schools, Mahtomedi Public Schools, Minneapolis Public Schools, Minnetonka Public Schools, Mounds View Public Schools, North St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale School District, Northeast Metro Intermediate School District 916 (Associate Member), Northwest Suburban Integration District (Associate Member), Orono Schools, Osseo Area Schools, Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools, Richfield Public Schools, Robbinsdale Area Schools, Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools, Roseville Area Schools, Shakopee Public Schools, South St. Paul Public Schools, South Washington County Schools, SouthWest Metro Educational Cooperative, Spring Lake Park Schools, St. Anthony/New Brighton Independent School District, St. Cloud Area Schools, St. Louis Park Public Schools, St. Paul Public Schools, Stillwater Area Public Schools, TIES (Associate Member), Wayzata Public Schools, West Metro Education Program, West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools and White Bear Lake Area Schools.

# Minnesotans Rate Education Quality High

**Figure 3: Gallup Poll: States Where Residents Most Frequently Rate Quality of Education as Excellent or Good**

Overall, how would you rate the quality of public education provided in grades K through 12 in this state -- as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	% Excellent/good
North Dakota	87
Iowa	83
Minnesota	81
Nebraska	80
South Dakota	80
Wyoming	79
Massachusetts	78
Kansas	78
Wisconsin	78
Montana	78

June-December 2013

Source: Gallup April 9, 2014

*Continued from page 3*

The latest survey follows data released by Gallup in April 2014 showing that Minnesotans have an even higher level of satisfaction with the quality of education in the state (Figure 3). That survey showed that 81% of Minnesotans ranked the quality of education as excellent or good – the third highest percentage among the 50 states.

## 40 Years of AMSD

*Continued from page 2*

policymakers or citizens for outstanding contributions to public education through its Friend of Public Education Award.

*“AMSD helped educate me as a fledgling school board member way back in 1987-88. I benefitted from listening to the debates of experts on our finance structure for our schools and listened to many a legislator debate their views on how we could improve education. Little did I know that all of this experience would help me when I became a legislator and ultimately education finance chair. Receiving the Friend of Public Education Award was one of the high honors of my career. And that wonderful award traveled with me from my office at the Capitol to my office at the Education Department when I became Commissioner of Education. I continued to count on AMSD, the wonderful, talented staff and the many school board members of AMSD for sound advice and guidance.”*

**-Alice Seagren, Bloomington School Board 1988-1992**

**Minnesota House of Representatives 1993-2004**

**Minnesota Department of Education Commissioner 2004-2011**

The celebration of AMSD’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary marks an opportunity to celebrate a long list of accomplishments in advocating for metropolitan school districts. AMSD has led the way in addressing a wide array of important education issues including providing adequate funding, reforming and enhancing special education funding, maintaining and reforming integration funding, reducing mandates, and strengthening local control by enhancing local levy authority and simplifying the requirements associated with referendum elections.

*“AMSD has been at the forefront of representing the financial and program needs of metropolitan school districts for 40 years. Thousands of students, staff and community members have experienced a better educational system due to the professional leadership of this organization.”*

**-Ken Dragseth, former Superintendent, Edina**

**MASA MN Superintendent of the Year 2003, AASA National Superintendent of the Year 2003**



AMSD Chair Lori Grivna and Board Member Sandy Rummel present the 2005 Friend of Education Award to Representative Doug Meslow. Rummel received the award as a state senator in 2009.

# School Board Planning Calendar January 2014 – December 2014

1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Month	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Month
<b>START TIME 6:30 PM</b>	
<p><b>JANUARY 9, 2014</b> <i>Organizational Meeting</i> Election of Board Officers Oath of Office Financial Report November</p>	<p><b>JANUARY 23, 2014</b> Financial Report December FY13 Audit Legislative Platform Uber Goal #2</p>
<p><b>FEBRUARY 13, 2014</b> ALC Plus Report DI Presentation Communication with Local Boards Hennepin County Graduation Update Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation Procedure Teacher Eval Presentation What the Board Needs to Know about Children’s Health Grant Award</p>	<p><b>FEBRUARY 27, 2014</b> Financial Report January FY15 Budget Assumption FY14 Budget Revision Program Withdrawal Report Report on Uber Goal Staff Reduction ULA Resolution Changes for following Year</p>
<p><b>MARCH 13, 2014</b> SEC Playfield Update Teacher Evaluation</p>	<p><b>MARCH 27, 2014</b> Financial Report February FY14 Budget Reduction Realignment Proposal Program Reduction Resolution Proposed District 287 School Calendar 2014-2015 Reduction ULA for tenured staff (<i>provide names</i>) Strategic Plan Report</p>
<p><b>APRIL 10, 2014</b> <i>(Only one Board meeting this month!)</i> Local 284 Parameters - (Closed Session) Superintendent &amp; Board Evaluation Update</p>	
<p><b>MAY 8, 2014</b> Financial Report March Morris-Leatherman Survey Results Summary Status Report on Board Policy &amp; Procedure</p>	<p><b>MAY 22, 2014</b> Areas of Literacy Focus for 2013-2014 (Sherry/Mary) Financial Report April Non-Renewals/Layoffs Probationary Licensed, and Non-Licensed Staff Reduction ULA Resolution What The Board Needs To Know About District 287 Purchasing Efforts</p>
<p><b>JUNE 12, 2014</b> Read 180 &amp; Math 180 Results Superintendents Evaluation Update</p>	<p><b>JUNE 26, 2014</b> 2014-2015 Budget Approval Financial Report May Final ULA Resolution for Licensed Staff Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Plan Final (Report &amp; DVD)</li> <li>• Written PLC Report</li> </ul>

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO REMEMBER:**

\*\* Board role in setting/supporting goals  
Board TLC

Community use of Facilities Bucket

## School Board Planning Calendar January 2014 – December 2014

1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Month	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Month
<p><b>AUGUST 28, 2014</b></p> <p>Instructional Results Report</p> <p>What Board Members Need to Know About “2014-2015 Back to School Start-Up”</p> <p>SNEAK PREVIEW of Legislative Platform</p> <p>What Board Members Need to Know About “2014-2015 Crisis Plans”</p> <p>Financial Report July</p> <p>Superintendent Uber Goals</p>	
<p><b>SEPTEMBER 11, 2014</b></p> <p>Work Session: A Better Way</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 25, 2014</b></p> <p>Cultural Competency Work</p> <p>Financial Report August</p> <p>Operational Results Report</p>
<p><b>OCTOBER 9, 2014</b></p>	<p><b>OCTOBER 23, 2014</b></p> <p><i>(Superintendent Lewandowski will be absent, due to participation in AASA Ambassador program)</i></p> <p>Financial Report September</p> <p>What the Board Should Know About Restrictive Procedures</p> <p>What the Board Needs to Know about Emergency and Crisis Plans for 2014-2015</p> <p>Work Session: Personalizing Education</p>
<p><b>NOVEMBER 13, 2014</b></p> <p><i>(Only one Board meeting this month!)</i></p> <p>OPEB Reporting &amp; Funding</p>	
<p><b>DECEMBER 11, 2014</b></p> <p><i>(Only one Board meeting this month!)</i></p> <p>Financial Report October</p> <p>Prior Year Finance Review</p>	

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO REMEMBER:**

\*\* Board role in setting/supporting goals  
Board TLC

Community use of Facilities Bucket

**INTERMEDIATE DISTRICT 287**  
**September 11, 2014**  
**SCHOOL BOARD CALENDAR**

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September 2014

11	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
25	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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October 2014

09	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
23	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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November 2014

13	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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December 2014

11	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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**TENTATIVE 2015 DATES**

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January 2015

08	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
22	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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February 2015

12	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
26	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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March 2015

12	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
26	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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April 2015

09	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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May 2015

14	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
21	Thursday	Career & Tech High School Award Ceremony	4:00PM	Eden Prairie Campus
28	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm

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June 2015

02	Tuesday	Gateway Graduation	11:00AM	Brklyn Park Campus
03	Wednesday	West Education Center & W-ALT Graduation	4:00PM	WEC
03	Wednesday	Focus/Invest/Vector (South & North) Graduation	12:00PM	SEC
03	Wednesday	South Education Center Alternative Graduation	6:00PM	SEC
04	Thursday	South Education Center/SUN Transition/ PHASE Graduation	12:00PM	SEC
04	Thursday	Northwest Tech Center High School Graduation	TBD	Brklyn Park Campus
04	Thursday	North Education Center Graduation	11:00AM	NEC
04	Thursday	North Education Center Elementary Graduation	1:00PM	NEC
04	Thursday	North Education Center Alternative Graduation	6:00PM	NEC

05	Friday	EEC Transition/Explore Graduation	TBD	TBD
05	Friday	Epsilon Graduation	1:30PM	Board Rm
25	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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August 2015				
27	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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September 2015				
10	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
24	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
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October 2015				
08	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
22	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
-----				
November 2015				
12	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
-----				
December 2015				
10	Thursday	General Board Meeting	6:30PM	Board Rm
-----				

◆ General Board Meeting – Date Change

◆ New Event

## A Better Way trainers and on-site coaches:



**Char Myklebust, Psy. D.**, Director on Special Assignment, Intermediate District 287, former Executive Director of Mental Health and Partnerships, Intermediate District 287, and former teacher and administrator in Hopkins District 270. She conducts national training in the areas of social emotional learning, brain-based learning, and positive behavior interventions and supports.



**Wendy Loberg**, retired principal and system leader from Osseo Area Schools and former teacher, counselor, and administrator in Anoka-Hennepin schools, is a passionate, proactive champion for kids. She develops multi-tiered systems of intervention and support that reduce suspensions/exclusionary practices. Over a three-year period in Osseo, she led systemic efforts to reduce out-of-school suspensions by 2,285 days.

### Coaching

In addition to leading the eight training sessions, Wendy Loberg and Dr. Char Myklebust will provide coaching for each school or district. The coaching support will take place between training sessions, and it will be custom designed to meet each district's unique needs.

### Registration

Go to [www.district287.org/abetterway](http://www.district287.org/abetterway)  
For registration assistance, contact: Kris Peterson, [kjpeterson@district287.org](mailto:kjpeterson@district287.org), 763-550-7111.

### Training location

District 287 Service Center in Plymouth, MN —1820 Xenium Lane North, Room 318

### Cost

\$16,000 per district/school team  
The cost covers both the training and on-site coaching for up to 6 team members. Participants in *A Better Way* Training are eligible to receive CEUs or graduate credit.

### For more information about *A Better Way*

Contact Wendy Loberg, [lobergwl@gmail.com](mailto:lobergwl@gmail.com), 763-443-3162, or Char Myklebust, [ckmyklebust@district287.org](mailto:ckmyklebust@district287.org), 763-550-7110.

COHORT TRAINING FOR SCHOOL LEADERS (2014-2015)

# A Better Way

Eliminate exclusionary practices and increase graduation rates for ALL students.

If kids don't know how to read, **we teach them.**

If kids don't know how to do math, **we teach them.**

If kids don't know how to shoot a basket, **we teach them.**

If kids don't know how to behave, **we typically punish them.**

*There is a better way.*

*“This is the civil rights issue of our time.”*

—Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education

## The dropout and disproportionality crisis

Minority students and students with disabilities are being suspended at far greater rates and for longer periods than their white peers (for similar offenses), leading to a dropout and disproportionality crisis.

**3.3 million students in the U.S. were suspended during the 2009-2010 school year**



**1 in 20** Whites



**1 in 13** Latinos



**1 in 13** Native Americans



**1 in 6** African Americans



**1 in 3** African Americans with disabilities

Source: National Civil Rights Project at UCLA


The more students are suspended, the more likely they are to drop out, and the dropout rates are alarming. In Hennepin County alone, over 4,000 students drop out of high school every year, and the graduation rate in 2012 was only 68%.


Exclusionary practices and zero-tolerance policies haven't made schools safer or more effective. There should be a better way, and there is.

## *A Better Way* is an evidence-based learning series that enables school leaders to:

- ✓ Increase graduation rates
- ✓ Close the achievement gap
- ✓ End the disproportionality of discipline
- ✓ Produce the World's Best Workforce
- ✓ Align practices with anti-bullying legislation
- ✓ Establish a positive and proactive culture
- ✓ Use data to achieve equitable outcomes

## *A Better Way* is aligned with:

 Safe and Supportive Schools Act, particularly the section stating, “Districts and schools must establish strategies for creating a positive school climate and use evidence-based social-emotional learning to prevent and reduce discrimination and other improper conduct.”

 Accountability 2.0 and The World's Best Workforce legislation (specifically to increase graduation rates and close the achievement gap)

 The U.S. Government's *Guiding Principles: A Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline* (2014)

## *A Better Way* philosophy

To make the adaptive changes needed in schools, we must start with the adults, and reform beliefs and behaviors. Adaptive change requires learning new skills, and can be transformational. Rather than focusing on what to “do to” disruptive students, adults must focus on what to “do with and for” them.

*A Better Way is driven by evidence-based social-emotional learning (SEL), not the urge to punish.*

## Data-driven approach

*A Better Way* is grounded in the latest research from PBIS, CASEL, The Civil Rights Project, MN Dept. of Education, MN Minority Education Partnership, PROJECT ACHIEVE, US Dept. of Education, and Hanover Research.

## Cohort model

*A Better Way* training is designed for teams of up to 6 school and district-level leaders to learn together throughout the course of a year. Recommended team make-ups:

**School level:** Principal, Assistant Principal, Dean/Administrative Assistant, Lead Counselor, SPED Building Coordinator, Intervention Specialist

**District level:** Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Coaches, Directors of Teaching and Learning, Equity, Student Services, and/or Assessment

Training sessions are offered at two different times monthly so team members don't all need to be off-site at the same time.

## Training sessions for leadership teams

### SESSION 1

#### Why Suspensions & Exclusionary Practices Don't Work

Monday, October 6 or Tuesday, October 7, 2014 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 2

#### Restorative Practices vs. Punitive Consequences

Monday, October 27 or Tuesday, October 28, 2014 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 3

#### Alternatives to Suspension

Monday, November 17 or Tuesday, November 18, 2014 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 4

#### Culturally-Responsive Instruction

Monday, December 15 or Tuesday, December 16, 2014 (8:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 5

#### SEL, Brain Research, and Trauma-Sensitive Schools

Monday, February 9 or Tuesday, February 10, 2015 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 6

#### Disrupting Disproportionality: Re-routing the School-to-Prison Pipeline

Monday, March 9 or Tuesday, March 10, 2015 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 7

#### Creating the World's Best Workforce

Monday, April 13 or Tuesday, April 14, 2015 (8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.)

### SESSION 8

#### Celebration Breakfast and Action Plan Presentations

Monday, May 11, 2015 (8:00a.m.-11:00a.m.)  
*Both cohorts meet at the same time*