

# INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 196

Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools

*Educating our students to reach their full potential*

## **Legislative Advisory Council Meeting**

MINUTES

6–7:30 p.m., November 18, 2015

District Office

**Present:** Sarah Carlson, Kim Craven, Valerie Dosland, Cindy Ford, Carita Green, Gary Huusko, Gary Krueger, Jackie Magnuson, Chas McCready, Jason Nord, Retno Saridewi-Wong, Tony Taschner and David Unmacht.

### **I. Legislative Priorities for the 2016 Session**

Members of the Budget Advisory Council attended the meeting to participate in discussion of this item. Communications Director Taschner reviewed draft platforms for the Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) and Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) as well as the district's 2015 legislative priorities. LAC and BAC members split into small groups to discuss possible district priorities for the 2016 session. Topics suggested included the following: general education formula funding (5) preschool (5) facility funding (5) special education funding (4) local control (3) equalization (3) teacher shortage and integration. LAC member Nord suggested determining a potential dollar value for each area to help in deciding which priorities to focus on.

Taschner will use this input to develop a draft legislative priorities document that will be shared prior to the LAC meeting on January 20, 2016, where they will be approved for presentation at the February 8 School Board meeting. Taschner invited BAC members to join the LAC and district administrators for a Capitol visit that is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 29.

### **II. Co-Chairs for 2015-16**

The group voiced approval for Gary Krueger and Chas McCready to continue as co-chairs for the 2015-16 school year.

### **III. Advocacy Efforts for the 2016 Session**

This year's District 196 Day at the Capitol is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, depending on the legislative schedule. It was suggested that Governor Dayton, Lt. Governor Smith and Senate Majority Leader Bakk be included on the list of leaders to request meetings with that day.

Because this session will be short and does not start until March 8, Taschner asked if the group would be interested in hosting a meeting with local legislators at a school prior to the start of the session. He said the location of the meeting would allow them to show legislators something related to one or more of the district's priorities for the 2016 session. Taschner said he will research possibilities and provide more information prior to the January 20 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**6-7:30 p.m., January 20, 2016**

**District Office**