



- Item 3: Increase American Indian Student Attendance needs continued assistance and support from the District's Grants Office working with the Indian Education Program to keep and secure grants that address attendance by inclusion of a cultural relationship piece.
- Item 4: The District's curriculum must be more inclusive of American Indian History, language, people, and cultures. The major concern is that the District's Professional Development Department provide more training on culturally responsive teaching.

Ms. Mervin stated there is still blatant ignorance and racist comments made to families, students and even Indian Education staff. She said no amount of reading and math intervention will increase academic achievement if American Indian students are faced with prejudice or treated with disrespect. The Parent Committee would like assurance that appropriate training is being offered to staff through district staff development. She concluded the presentation at this point.

Committee discussion followed. Ms. Street-Stewart stated in terms of process the Committee could accept the Resolution in the absence of the Administrative Response. She commented that once board members review the content of the Administrative Response an additional meeting would be scheduled to discuss the specific ideas and interest areas highlighted for the upcoming year.

Parent Committee members Greg Barrett and Angie Harper talked about the experience of the Indian Studies Program. Angie Harper, a teacher at Harding High School's Indian Options Program, said that it was a very positive experience. A coordinator was hired to monitor the three schools (Battle Creek Middle, American Indian Magnet Elementary and Harding High School) and the schools have come together to do more activities with the students. Ms. Harper said the programs are moving forward with a future and vision and this is something that is very positive and growing. Additionally, two new teachers have been hired to join the program. She commented this positive energy has made a big difference and having the support of the Board, administrators at the schools and buildings has been excellent. Ms. Kong-Thoa inquired about the marketing piece and the effect it had on student enrollment. Ms. Harper remarked the data on student enrollment was not completed at this time and hiring a coordinator for the marketing piece resulted in people in the community talking about the programs in a positive way.

After further comments the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Ms. Carroll that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education accept the American Indian Education Act Resolution of Concurrence 2005-2007.

There was further discussion and clarification regarding site councils, SCIP plans and services provided to schools by the American Indian Education Program.

Superintendent Carstarphen indicated a letter had been submitted to the Parent Committee accepting the Resolution on behalf of Administration. She said Administration would meet to develop the Administrative Response and design the right kind of policy to comply with MN Statute 120b.11 and Sub2. Administration is also developing an Educational Effectiveness Plan that integrates resources (instruction, curriculum, technology or staffing) to resolve the tougher issues. School plans (SCIP) also help to identify and elevate issues pertaining to low-income and students of color in Saint Paul. An Accountability Policy would go hand in hand with a Multicultural Policy which would be gender and equity fair. She acknowledged these policies do not currently exist so there is not clear guidance for Administration to follow.

Superintendent Carstarphen then commented this would be the most appropriate time to have an articulated policy to follow because there are three (3) Councils (Latino Consent Decree, American Indian Education Program and Special Education) to address. She added this could put a new face on how the district talks about gender, race, culture, and equity in Saint Paul Public Schools. Ms. Carroll said this was a good direction to be moving in and at what point would the Board be involved. Superintendent Carstarphen remarked the Administrative Response part is almost done and the piece that has not been developed is whether the Board is prepared to address and draft the policy.

Ms. Street-Stewart said a meeting would be scheduled to further discuss and formally accept the Administrative Response to the Resolution, and action would be taken at the full school board meeting.

Continuation of the motion:

**MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Ms. Carroll that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education accept the American Indian Education Act Resolution of Concurrence 2005-2007.**

**The above stated motion passed.**

2. Further Discussion of 2007-2008 SPPS Budget

Lois Rockney, Chief Business Officer, continued the third in a series of meetings related to the 2007-08 proposed district budget. She reviewed the previous meetings that occurred on May 8 – Presentation of Proposed District Budget, May 15 – the Public Input Forum and this meeting in a continuation of discussion related to the budget. Ms. Rockney laid out the four (4) areas of discussion:

- To share the input the district received and to hear questions and concerns the Board might have regarding the budget.
- To provide a summary of the proposed Omnibus Education Bill and the impact it will have on Saint Paul Public Schools if it is signed.
- To present a revised contingency plan based on the proposed Omnibus Education Bill.
- To seek recommendations to approve the 2007-08 budget for adoption at the June 19, 2007 School Board Meeting.

Ms. Rockney reviewed the results from the Public Forum held on May 15. The feedback was divided into three (3) topic areas:

- Budget questions
- Academic or schools and budgets related to them
- Transportation

She commented that questions on transportation were a major topic. Under each topic were key themes and questions raised. Ms. Rockney highlighted key themes and key questions under each topic. (Copies of the memo pertaining to budget forum feedback, were distributed to board members).

Committee member discussion followed. Ms. Rockney provided information related to questions raised by committee members. Superintendent Carstarphen made reference to the key themes under Transportation relating to the Superintendent's scheduled visits to Phalen Lake. She stated that visits to Phalen Lake were not cancelled and that she is willing to meet with the school at a future Committee of the Board meeting to discuss their transportation concerns. Other comments made by committee members under key themes and key questions:

- Place this type of information on the SPPS web site to get information out to all communities.

- Hiring of bilingual staff
- TOSA (Teachers on Special Assignment) concerns
- Referendum Questions

Ms. Rockney continued the presentation and provided a draft document to update committee members on the E-12 Education Omnibus Bill. (Copies were distributed).

- Article 1 – General Education (summary of provisions)
- Article 2 – Education Excellence
- Article 3 – Special Programs
- Article 4 – Facilities and Technology
- Article 5 – Nutrition and Accounting
- Article 9 – Early Childhood and Adult Programs

Ms. Rockney provided additional information which included:

- SPPS Analysis of Omnibus Education Bill for fiscal Year 2008 and 2009
- SPPS Proposed Contingency Plan 2007-08 (Ms. Rockney provided a contingency plan in the event of additional funding from the Legislature)
- SPPS Revenue and Expenditures Budget Summary for fiscal Year 2007-2008.

After further discussion the following motion was made:

**MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll and seconded by Mr. Brodrick that the Committee of the Board recommend that the Board of Education approve the 2007-08 Budget for Saint Paul Public Schools, as detailed on page seven (7), of the attachment included in the Contingency Plan on page six (6). This entire Resolution is contingent on the Governor’s approval.**

**MOTION PASSED**

### III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Kong-Thao, Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted by  
 Diana J. Sanders  
 Recorder  
 Saint Paul Board of Education