

## Mark Your Calendar

The next School Board meeting is Monday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Edina Community Center in room 349.

## Edina Public Schools School Board

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You can also email the entire Board at:  
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## Contact Information

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### 2010-2011 budget and staffing plans

The state's financial crisis will impact the funding available for the upcoming school year. District leadership will closely follow the 2010 legislative session to monitor the budget crisis' impact on funding. Edina Public Schools (EPS) is preparing for budget reductions for 2010-2011, but the projected dollar amount remains unknown until mid-February. The target dates for finalizing class size guidelines, staffing plans and the budget are March, May and June, respectively.

### Student assessment update

Edina students in grades two through seven are performing above the national average in both reading and math at all tested grade levels, said Dr. Chad Schmidt, EPS director of research & evaluation, in a report to the board on student assessment.

Schmidt noted performance gaps for some student groups, including black students' performance compared to white students, as well as students who do and don't qualify for free and reduced price meals. There was no appreciable difference when comparing Asian students' performance to that of white students or residents to non-residents.

Lastly, in both math and reading, EPS students in the lowest quartiles at many grade levels are growing at or above typical growth targets when compared to similarly performing students.

### Negotiations update

Board Chairman Randy Meyer issued a statement that the board continues to work with the teacher's union to reach a new agreement. He noted that both sides have worked hard to find common ground and will continue to do so as negotiations move forward.



### Teacher recognitions

The Board congratulated three teachers for their achievement of National Board Certification. From left to right they are: Steve Sanger, science teacher, Edina High School (EHS); John Hannemann, physical education, Normandale Elementary; and Elizabeth Barniskis, language arts, EHS. The board also congratulated Jennifer Buckley, a language arts teacher at South View Middle School and Tracy Purdy, a fourth-grade teacher at Concord Elementary, for being named TIES Exceptional Teachers, an award that recognizes teachers who model the best practices in using technology in their classroom and engaging students in learning.

### Chemical health program update

Penny Kodrich, director of special services, and Janet Schank, chemical and mental health coordinator, presented their chemical health update to the Board, highlighting the District's prevention focus.

Sober Squad, a group of students who signed a pledge not to use drugs or alcohol, outlined their advocacy work, including presenting to younger students on how to avoid chemical use. Other activities by District staff include the sophomore safe-driving program, the mock auto crash at EHS, identification of at-risk secondary students, various presentations and trainings, and the Against the Flow (quit or cut down use) group. "The data demonstrates a significant decline in student suspensions for alcohol, drug and/or tobacco use at school-related activities and functions," said Kodrich.