

**Memorandum of Understanding Between the Minneapolis Public Schools and the
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board**

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into on this ____ day of _____, 2016 (Effective Date) by and between the Minneapolis Public Schools, Special School District No. 1 (MPS) and the City of Minneapolis, acting by and through its Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) (collectively “the parties.”).

Recitals

Whereas, the MPS and MPRB are public stewards with a long and productive history of shared values, principles and leadership in community and human development; and

Whereas, both parties seek to establish a collaborative operational network within the Minneapolis community that builds, refines and sustains a continuum of accessible, inclusive, high quality athletic and fitness opportunities and facilities available to ALL children (ages 4-21); and

Whereas, both parties are committed to racial, cultural, economic and geographical equity and both continue to develop approaches that assure that these values are evident in all collaborative decision-making; and

Whereas, the MPRB builds, refines, and sustains a continuum of accessible, inclusive high quality athletic and fitness facilities available to all children and residents in the City of Minneapolis; and

Whereas, the MPRB will build and operate the Phillips Pool Facility (Pool); and

Whereas, the MPRB is in need of financial assistance to renovate and operate the Pool; and

Whereas, the MPS acted on June 23, 2015 to declare its intention to collaborate with the MPRB to create a Memorandum of Understanding “detailing specific points of future collaboration and sharing in the areas of facilities, athletic programming, child care programming, recreational and wellness programming, communication and marketing, collaborative planning, taxation and policies;” and

Whereas, the MPRB passed a resolution in July 2015 directing its staff to work with the MPS in achieving the goals as stated in the MPS June 18, 2015 resolution by creating an MOU;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, Special School District No. 1 and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board of Commissioners hereby agree to support in good faith and, with fidelity, execute the following collaborative initiatives and actions within the following timetables:

1. Value, Principles, Accountability

To ensure transparency, equity, and accountability, MPS and MPRB agree to meet annually for the first five years in joint session, with the first meeting occurring during August 2016, to assess their collaborative progress and plans, identify issues, address necessary operational agreements, and explore opportunities that will best serve the children and residents of Minneapolis. After the first five years, the joint sessions will be held every two years.

2. Joint Youth Sports Association

By January 1, 2017, MPRB and MPS will jointly develop, implement and sustain a volunteer advisory citywide “Minneapolis Youth Sports Association (MYSA).” Under the co-direction of the MPRB Assistant Superintendent for Recreation and MPS District Director of Athletics, the MYSA will advise MPS and MPRB on providing opportunities for youth in the City of Minneapolis to participate in athletic programs, from fundamental to competitive and adaptive, ensuring all youth equitable access to quality facilities and coaching in the following sports programs to include, but not limited to: basketball, hockey, football, soccer, gymnastics, baseball, softball, volleyball, wrestling, swimming, tennis, lacrosse, track and field, cross country running and skiing, golf and Nordic skiing. The MYSA will have sub-committees (commissions) comprised of MPS and MPRB staff and community stakeholders (to include representative coaches, community activity councils, external organizations, parents and students) in each of the sports listed above. The association shall make recommendations for establishing systemic improvements to include: sports offerings; league organization; registration; fees; transportation; and, facility supervision, maintenance and improvements. Furthermore, the MYSA will recommend guidelines for recruitment, training and certification of coaches, officials, volunteers and sponsors.

The advisory MYSA will exist under the mutually shared authority of MPS and MPRB and will be guided by a memorandum of agreement to be developed and approved by governing bodies of both parties. It is expected that the staffing, size and membership of the Association shall be mutually agreed to annually by the Superintendents of both organizations.

3. Facilities

a. Individually Owned

By August 1, 2016 and annually thereafter updated, each organization will compile and share a summary report of all athletic facilities owned by each organization detailing current utilization.

A condition assessment, annual operating costs, renovation needs with cost estimates and fees collected and identified by source will be compiled by February 2017.

The MPRB agrees to continue progress on the approved Bossen Field Master Plan with an anticipated completion date of August 1, 2018.

MPRB and MPS agree to work together with community organizations to ensure all fields are consistent in quality and in compliance with Title IX of The Civil Rights Act of 1964.

b. Shared Use Facilities

All existing “shared-use agreements” will be compiled and reviewed by November 30, 2016 and annually thereafter by a joint committee of staff from both parties as established and authorized by both superintendents. The intent of these reviews will be to discover and recommend improvements that provide equitable maintenance, operational efficiencies and optimal utilization of physical resources benefitting both parties and the residents of Minneapolis.

c. Future Facilities

By December 31, 2016 and annually thereafter, each party will share its capital improvement plans. The intention of this review will be to identify and prioritize facility projects that benefit both parties and explore the possibility of joint funding as well as the development of external resources. To the extent possible, both parties will work toward the goal of aligning future facility improvement cycles in order to maximize collaboration. Minimally, both parties will review, prioritize and demonstrate collaborative effort for projects seeking financial assistance from the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grants Program and other public and private sources of support.

4. Current Programming and Services

Programming currently being provided collaboratively between both parties will be summarized and shared regularly along with independent programs being offered. Where and whenever possible program information will be co-promoted to Minneapolis residents, including the registration processes for all programs.

It is recognized that both parties currently offer, share and contract for similar and complementary youth development services (i.e. Minneapolis Kids, Recreation Plus, Youthline, Teen Teamworks, Summer Meals, etc.). Both parties agree to have appropriate program leadership staff formally meet semi-annually to share program information and plans with the goal of ensuring optimal, equitable (racial, cultural, geographical and economic) access to “cost effective” and “high quality” youth development service coverage throughout Minneapolis.

5. Future Programming and/or Development

a. City Swims

By October 31, 2017 the MPRB will present plans for the establishment of a “City Swims” program with multiple partners to promote swimming lessons and classes led by professional staff and certified lifeguards for all Minneapolis children. MPS agrees to actively participate in the planning and implementation of the initiative through access to MPS swimming pool facilities, as well as academic, athletics and operations staff leadership. Both parties mutually recognize and share responsibility for financial development and success of the “City Swims” program. The “City Swims” initiative will be operational by February 15, 2018 contingent on the opening of the planned and renamed “Phillips Aquatic Center.”

b. Green Central Community School

By August 1, 2016 both parties will form and pilot a “community advisory committee” to initiate planning for the development of Green Central Community School and Gym as a “community hub” offering expanded social and recreational services to community residents. Staff will present findings and plans no later than August 1, 2017.

6. Scheduling and Registration

By February 2017, MPRB and MPS staff leadership will complete an analysis of both parties’ electronic reservation, registration and permission systems related to all athletic and recreational facilities owned by the MPRB and/or MPS. For facilities owned by both parties, “single source” system serving both parties proves feasible; a plan including the necessary requirements of both parties to implement a shared electronic centralized system for reservations and scheduling of all sports and/or recreational facilities will be pursued.

If feasible, the outcome will be a the new single source system for registration, age/residency/family income verification, facility scheduling/permitting, and fee collection will be launched for public use anticipated August 1, 2017.

7. Priority Usage

By August 1, 2016 and annually thereafter, each party will review its facility priority policies and recommend changes based on needs, equity and resources.

MPRB and MPS agree to establish a systematic citywide protocol to utilization of all Minneapolis aquatic facilities. Specifically, both parties agree to establish a scheduling protocol providing MPS and MPRB priority at all Minneapolis aquatic facilities including the planned “Phillips Aquatic Center” upon its completion. In addition, both parties agree to establish a

scheduling protocol providing MPS and MPRB programming priority through the 2020 year at Parade, Northeast and Ice Arenas, and Neiman, Bossen, and Parade Fields, to be established by August 1, 2016.

8. Fees and Finance

a. Pool

Starting with FY 2017, MPS will maintain its commitment of \$150,000 per year, through the year 2021, in operating support for the Pool. The first \$150,000 shall be paid on or before 6/30/2017 and on or before 1/1 of each subsequent year through the year 2021.

MPS will contribute a total of \$1,750,000 for the renovation of the Pool. This amount shall be paid in three installments as follows:

First payment of \$550,000 due and payable on 9/30/2016

Second payment of \$550,000 due and payable on 9/30/2017

Third payment of \$650,000 due and payable on 9/30/2018

b. Joint Efforts

By July 1, 2017, both parties will explore impacts of eliminating the transference of fees for both parties and define budgetary implications. Both parties desire a strategy for sharing resources at reduced administrative cost; and, both parties will work collaboratively to find alternative sources of funding to maintain, remodel and build new shared athletic facilities.

c. State Funding

MPS will also review the potential for the State of Minnesota Long Term Facilities Management (LTMF) funding through the property tax levy to manage athletic asset replacements at MPRB facilities utilized by the Minneapolis Schools.

9. Other Meetings

To ensure fidelity, both parties and their respective governing boards agree to meet at the request of either Superintendent to review progress and address issues on the areas addressed in this agreement and to share information regarding collaborative planning, taxation scenarios and/or shared policy development.

Signed by:

Special School District No. 1

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Chairperson, Board of Education

President, Board of Commissioners

Clerk, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Commissioners

Superintendent, MPS

Superintendent, MPRB