

## **RESOURCES**

### **Accountability for all**

Keep your School Board accountable  
for what we discussed this evening.  
[http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/Board\\_of\\_Education.html](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/Board_of_Education.html)

Keep your local teachers' union, MFT Local 59, accountable by  
checking out <http://www.mft59.org> and by listening to  
Education Matters on 950AM, Saturdays at 11AM

Keep informed about what is  
happening statewide with other parents:  
PARENTS UNITED <http://www.parentsunited.org>

Keep informed about education bills  
at the Minnesota legislature:  
<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/statutes.asp>

Keep informed about what is happening nationwide with parents  
and public schools with the weekly Newsblast from the  
PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK  
at <http://www.publiceducation.org>

And stay tuned to see what MPS Parents are talking about by  
logging on to one MPS parent's blog,  
CHOOSING PUBLIC EDUCATION at  
<http://mnparents.blogs.com>

**AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY,**  
KEEP yourself accountable by staying involved and  
encouraging others to join you

## ***MPS PARENT FORUM***

# **Advocating for Teacher Stability**

***March 22, 2005***

***Just as student attendance is the  
cornerstone of student achievement, so is  
teacher stability  
bedrock for successful schools.***

## **Welcome MPS Parents and Invited Guests**

### **PANEL MEMBERS**

Panel Moderator: Mary Ford, *Seward*

Opening/Closing remarks: Carla Bates, *Seward*

Casey Rush, *Bancroft*

Richard Powell, *Barton*

Judy Sharken Simon, *Cooper*

Patricia Torres Ray, *Emerson*

Carol Markham Cousins, *Lake Harriet and Southwest*

Elizabeth Short, *Lyndale*

Alison Hennen, *Marcy*

Annette Olson, *Sullivan*

JoAnn Ulm, *Jordan Park*

Brionna Harder and Jerry Pedersen, *MFT Local 59*

Statement by Hashi Abdi on behalf  
of the Somali Community

## **A CHECKLIST FOR NEGOTIATING the 2005-2007 Pre-K-12 Teacher's Contract**

We urge the MPS School Board and MFT Local 59 to work together to negotiate language to secure the management flexibility the District needs to promote academic achievement for all students:

- ✓ Allow greater site-based decision-making, and work to strengthen and empower MPS corps of principals
- ✓ Provide stable and high quality staffing at schools across the District, to include:
  - a) Recruiting and retaining teachers in such a way that facilitates building and maintaining strong teams of teachers;
  - b) Recruiting and retaining teachers to ensure that qualified teachers choose and remain in highly-mobile, high-poverty schools;
  - c) Recruiting and retaining teachers who are properly qualified to teach in unique learning environments not currently articulated in MN licensure language: e.g. Montessori, Open, Spanish Immersion, IB, etc;
  - d) Recruit and retain bilingual teachers/administrators with cultural expertise in working with specific communities
- ✓ Provide properly licensed and experienced special education teachers in sufficient numbers
- ✓ Recruit and retain a higher percentage of principals and teachers of color.
- ✓ Retain as many positions as possible, even if this means making painful decisions to freeze salaries
- ✓ Invite parents to be part of the negotiating process.