

MARCH 24, 2025

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2689, PIPESTONE COUNTY, PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA. A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Pipestone Area Schools was held on Monday, March 24, 2025 beginning at 6:30 PM in Conference Room 1148. MS/HS.

The following members were present: Daphne Likness, Katie Wiese, Tami Taubert, Brad Carson, Chrissy DeBates, and Mark Hiniker. Absent: Tyler Fruechte. Also present: Dr. Klint Willert, Jennifer Moravetz, Lisa Pease, Deb Peschon, Jacque Kennedy, Natalie Resch, Stephanie Backer, Josh Stukel, Shauna Kuehl, Deb Melby, and Kyle Kuphal.

Chairman Carson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Wiese, second by DeBates, approved the agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Likness, second by Wiese, approved all items in the Consent Agenda. Motion unanimously carried. Items approved were minutes of the February 24 regular meeting, minutes of the February 27 special meeting, minutes of the March 20 special meeting; contracts for Sonja Ortman, MS/HS Principal, Jennifer Moravetz, Elementary Principal; letter of resignation from Craig Boeddeker, Heartland Colony teacher, Matti Boomgaarden, Ag teacher and FFA advisor, Samantha Rowden, special education teacher, and Selestia Lindstrom, 4/5th Title teacher; Abbey Heckroth and Jessica Nygaard, para subs; and recommendation for Shelly Hennager as head volleyball coach for 2025-2026.

Financials:

- The budget year-to-date shows expenditures as of March 20, 2025 at \$10,975,598.17 or 63%. This was non-action.
- The treasurer's report for month ended February 28, 2025 shows a cash balance of \$8,838,685.54. Motion by Wiese, second by DeBates, approved the treasurer's report
- The MN Trust 2023A Bonds treasurer's report for month ended February 28, 2025 has a cash balance of \$2,808,031.48. Motion by DeBates, second by Likness, approved the 2023A bonds treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- Regular bills paid through March 18, 2025 totaled \$600,131.75. Motion by Taubert, second by Hiniker, approved payment of the regular bills. Motion carried unanimously.
- High school activity bills paid through March 19, 2025 totaled \$10,924.04. Motion by Wiese, second by DeBates, approved payment of the high school activity bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Report:

- The calendar committee met to develop the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school calendars.
- The negotiations committee reached a tentative agreement with the ESP group.
- Agreements were also reached with the principals; their contracts are up for board approval tonight.
- The committee met with Len and Lisa today and will meet next with Ludolph.
- The board thanked the community for attending the Knowledge Works presentation and shared feedback about the event.

Superintendent Board Report:

- Budget: Future funding remains uncertain; budget parameters for FY26 included as action item.
- Roof Project: Pre-construction meeting held; facade work begins in April; equipment arrives end of April.
- Focus Groups: Student and staff focus groups held March 19; community session March 20 for Portrait of a Graduate input.
- School Calendars: Revised 2025-26 and proposed 2026-27 calendars developed.
- Legislation: Updates include power-sharing in MN House and various education-related bills under review.
- ESP Agreement: Tentative agreement reached, pending member approval.
- Culture Survey: Staff survey showed strengths in alignment and expectations; areas to improve include recognition and professional development.
- Food Service: Exploring ways to use fund balance; initial improvements well received.
- Communications: Ongoing outreach via radio, newspaper, and internal staff updates.
- Graduate Survey: Upcoming survey through Knowledge Works to support Portrait of a Graduate.

- Chamber Recognition: Nancy Siebenahler honored as the first Outstanding Educator by the Chamber.
- Legislative Testimony: Superintendent invited to testify on HF1607, supporting expanded instructional hours through experiential learning.

Elementary Principal Board Report:

- I Love to Read Month: 75 students completed blackout BINGO reading cards; participation celebrated across all grade levels.
- Math Night: Over 60 students and families attended a successful evening with 30+ interactive activities. Positive feedback received. Thanks extended to the elementary math team and NHS volunteers.
- Knowledge Works: Representatives met with staff and 3rd-5th grade students for input on the Portrait of a Graduate.
- Quarter 3: Ended March 20; report cards to be sent home March 31.
- March 24: Teacher Workday focused on planning and collaboration.
- March 24-25: Third round of student focus meetings to support student needs.

Middle/High School Principal Report:

- March athletics and activities are in full swing.
- Planning is underway for graduation; a proposed senior end date will be presented.
- Scheduling work continues, with in-person student registration expected to begin in mid-April.
- Teams collaborated with Knowledge Works on the Portrait of a Graduate, gathering input from staff, students, and parents. Next steps in the process are underway.

Curriculum Director Report:

- NWEA data and student growth reviewed with ELA teachers.
- FY25 Achievement & Integration Plan approved, includes Literacy Lead stipend, Cultural Liaison, and Summer School pay.
- ACCESS testing complete; MCA testing begins April 2.

Board Action:

- Motion by Taubert, second by Hiniker, approved the district to pay for hotel rooms, sub teacher for two staff members and the intent to use school suburban's and/or the activity bus for transportation, and an overnight trip on April 27-29 for the State FFA Convention. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Wiese, second by Hiniker, approved Policy 409 - Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions, and Creations. Motion carried unanimously.
- **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: "The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.", and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: "Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full." and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Pipestone Area Schools, ISD 2689, gratefully accepts the following donations to High School Activities as identified below:

Eagle Trucking	\$1,500.00	Donation to Robotics
Scott's Auto	\$50.00	Donation to Robotics
Whip's Auto Sales	\$25.00	Donation to Robotics
First Farmer's & Merchant's	\$50.00	Donation to Robotics

Pepsi-Cola Bottling	\$50.00	Donation to Robotics
Double D Gravel, Inc	\$200.00	Donation to Robotics
Pipestone Family Chiropractic	\$100.00	Donation to Robotics
G & S Body Shop, Inc	\$100.00	Donation to Robotics
Midland Tire, LLC	\$200.00	Donation to Robotics
Windy Ridge Vet Clinic	\$50.00	Donation to Robotics
First State Bank SW	\$500.00	Donation to Robotics
First Bank & trust	\$250.00	Donation to Robotics
Dr. Paul Henriksen	\$60.00	Donation to Robotics
Sandra Rieck & Associates	\$100.00	Donation to Robotics

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution made by Member Wiese, and duly seconded by Member Likness, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Carson, Taubert, and Hiniker.

and the following voted against the same: None

The foregoing resolution was approved 6-0 this 24th day of March, 2025.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

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WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Pipestone Area Schools, ISD 2689, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

Christ the King Lutheran	\$100.00	Donation to Wellness Room
Pipestone Publishing Co.	\$1,425.00	Donation to Athletic Help Fund from Spring Poster
Jasper Lions Club	\$600.00	Donation to K & 1 st Grade for Bookfair Books
Pipestone United Way	\$2,000.00	Donation to Youth Football (Community Ed)

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution made by Member Wiese and duly seconded by Member DeBates, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Carson, Taubert, and Hiniker.

and the following voted against the same: None.

The foregoing resolution was approved 6-0 this 24th day of March, 2025

- First reading of the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school calendars. Non-action.
- Mrs. Ortman recommends May 20, 2025 as the last day for seniors, provided they are in good standing. Motion by Hiniker, second by Wiese, approved May 20, 2025 as the last day for seniors. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Taubert, second by DeBates, to approve a gas powered burnisher as obsolete. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Wiese, second by Hiniker, approved the 25-26 budget parameter recommendations. Motion carried 4-2, with Likness and DeBates opposing.
- Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contract of a Probationary Teacher:

Member Mark Hiniker introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION AND NONRENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT OF A PROBATIONARY TEACHER

WHEREAS, Anne Shelton is a probationary teacher employed by Independent School District No. 2689. Pipestone Area Schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2689, Pipestone, as follows:

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 122A.40, subdivision 5, the teaching contract of Anne Shelton, probationary teacher employed by Independent School District No. 2689, is hereby terminated at the close of the current 2024-2025 school year and not renewed for the 2025-2026 school year;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and nonrenewal of the contract as provided by law. The Board has reviewed and hereby approves the letter to be sent to the teacher.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Daphne Likness, and upon a vote being taken thereon, the follow voted in favor of the motion: Mark Hiniker, Daphne Likness, Katie Wiese, Chrissy DeBates, Brad Carson, and Tami Taubert
and the following voted against the motion: None
Where upon said resolution was declared duly passed 6-0.

Motion by Hiniker, second by Wiese, to adjourn the meeting (7:37 p.m.). Motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Brad Carson
Brad Carson, Chairman

/s/ Christina DeBates
Christina DeBates, Clerk

Approved and dated by the board April 28, 2025
Submitted, Deb Peschon