

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273  
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2025

REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 PM

Edina Community Center Room 349  
5701 Normandale Road, Edina

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ms. Erica Allenburg  
Mr. Dan Arom  
Ms. Cheryl Barry  
Mr. Michael Birdman  
Ms. Karen Gabler  
Ms. Jennifer Huwe  
Mr. Elliot Mann

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Karen Gabler

7:00 PM - 9:36 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Daniel Bittman, Superintendent  
Nate Swenson, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Frannie Becquer, Director of Achievement Equity and Multilingual Learner Programming  
Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Daphne Edwards, Director of Marketing and Communications  
Jody Remsing, Director of Student Support Services  
Sonya Sailer, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

Lisa Masica, Principal, Cornelia Elementary School  
Leona Santillan, Administrative Dean, Cornelia Elementary School

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

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Ms. Erica Allenburg, Clerk

(Official Publication)  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD  
DISTRICT 273 EDINA, MINNESOTA DECEMBER 8, 2025

7:00 PM Chair Gabler called to order the regular meeting of the School Board. Members present: Allenburg, Arom, Barry, Birdman, Gabler, Huwe, Mann. Staff present: Bittman, Swenson, Becquer, De St. Hubert, Edwards, Remsing, Sailer, Woodard; Masica, Santillan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Truth in Taxation

HEARING FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CONSENT

- A. Minutes: *November 10 work session and regular meeting; November 18 work session*
- B. Personnel Recommendations
- C. Check Register - November 2025
- D. Electronic Fund Transfers - November 2025
- E. Gifts and Bequests - November 2025
- F. Facility Rental Fees - Fiscal Year 2027
- G. Kids Club Fees - Fiscal Year 2027
- H. Board Holiday Letter

DISCUSSION

- A. Legislative Action Committee (LAC) Update and Platform Discussion
- B. Audited Financial Statements – Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
- C. International Travel Proposed Change to the Approval Process
- D. 2026-2027 Courses General Add / Change Recommendations
- E. Concord Flood Risk Reduction Infrastructure Project Update
- F. Policy Review (305)

ACTION

- A. Audited Financial Statements & Assigned Fund Balances – Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
- B. Certification of Property Taxes Payable in 2026
- C. City of Edina Request – TIF District Extension
- D. 2025-2027 Data Metrics Plan Board Update
- E. Proposed 2025-2027 Education Minnesota/Edina Collective Bargaining Agreement
- F. Policy Review – Quick (622, 913)
- G. Policy Review (911)

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

### INFORMATION

- A. Investment Summary - November 2025
- B. Expenditure Summary - November 2025
- C. Enrollment Mobility - November 2025

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 PM. The minutes and resolutions are open to public inspection on the district website, and on file at the district office, 5701 Normandale Road.

Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

Ms. Erica Allenburg, Clerk

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## DECEMBER 8, 2025 REGULAR MEETING

7:00 PM Chair Gabler called to order the regular meeting of the School Board. Members present: Allenburg, Arom, Barry, Birdman, Gabler, Huwe, Mann. Staff present: Bittman, Swenson, Becquer, De St. Hubert, Edwards, Remsing, Sailer, Woodard; Masica, Santillan.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH CHANGE

Chair Gabler requested to remove the Board Holiday Letter from the Consent agenda; Member Allenburg moved, and Member Birdman seconded the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Allenburg moved and Member Mann seconded to approve the agenda with that change. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members discussed the letter.

### EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

This month's Excellence In Action segment highlighted Cornelia's Professional Learning Community (PLC) implementation. Principal Lisa Masica and Administrative Dean Leona Santillan presented their work which is a model for how to build collective efficacy for teachers to discuss Tier 1 instruction and learn from each other.

**Meeting recessed at 7:18 PM**

### PUBLIC HEARING

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing: In accordance with statutory requirements, Director of Finance and Operations Mert Woodard presented background information about school funding, the district's budget, and proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in 2026.

**Meeting resumed at 7:33 PM**

### HEARING FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the public spoke about safety concerns and support for Somali families.

### CONSENT

Member Mann moved and Member Arom seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

The resolutions were:

- A. Minutes: November 10 work session and regular meeting; November 18 work session
- B. Personnel Recommendations
- C. Check Register - November 2025

- D. Electronic Fund Transfers - November 2025
- E. Gifts and Bequests - November 2025
- F. Facility Rental Fees - Fiscal Year 2027
- G. Kids Club Fees - Fiscal Year 2027
- H. Board Holiday Letter - *removed from Consent agenda*

### DISCUSSION

Legislative Action Committee (LAC) Update and Platform Discussion: Committee chair Arom and students representatives presented the proposed platform.

Audited Financial Statements – Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025: Director Woodard and Mr. Lauer, district auditor, presented information about the annual audit.

International Travel Proposed Change to the Approval Process: Director De St. Hubert presented information about student travel experiences and the approval process.

2026-2027 Courses General Add / Change Recommendations: Director De St. Hubert presented information about proposals for new courses and recommendations for changes to courses.

Concord Flood Risk Reduction Infrastructure Project Update: Director Woodard shared an update on the City of Edina's request to construct a regional stormwater retention facility on the South View/Concord campus (McCarthy Field).

Policy Review (305): Policy Committee members presented the following policy for discussion. This policy will move forward for approval at the next regular meeting.

- Policy 305 Administrator Code of Ethics

### ACTION

Audited Financial Statements & Assigned Fund Balances – Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025: Member Birdman moved and Member Arom seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Certification of Property Taxes Payable in 2026: Member Birdman moved and Member Allenburg seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Edina Request – TIF District Extension: Member Mann moved and Member Arom seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

2025-2027 Data Metrics Plan Board Update: Member Mann moved and Member Allenburg seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed 2025-2027 Education Minnesota/Edina Collective Bargaining Agreement: Member Mann moved and Member Birdman seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy Review – Quick (622, 913): Member Mann moved and Member Allenburg seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

- Policy 622 Copyright
- Policy 913 Partnerships - Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Policy Review (911): Member Mann moved and Member Arom seconded to approve the motion. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

- Policy 911 District Volunteers

#### LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Member Arom shared about the MSBA Delegate Forum he attended over the weekend, and reminded everyone about the LAC Breakfast coming up on January 23rd.

Chair Gabler mentioned the special board meeting earlier this afternoon where board members received information about the superintendent search survey, leadership profile, and vacancy brochure. The board will meet again next week to finalize the position posting and determine next steps.

#### SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Bittman shared gratitude for the work of the board, administrators, staff, and everyone working on behalf of the district, students, and families.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 9:36 PM, Member Mann moved, and Member Arom seconded to adjourn the meeting. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.