

School Board Meeting  
Monday, July 21, 2025 6:30 PM Central

Aitkin Public Schools - Media Center  
306 Second Street NW  
Aitkin, MN 56431

Jen Burgos: Present  
Roland Hill: Present  
Cindi Hills: Present  
Rev. Dawn Houser: Present  
Brian Leitinger: Present  
Holly Mindrum: Absent  
Kassie Peterson: Present  
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call meeting to order by the chairperson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

4. \*Comments from visitors

4.A.

- Comments from visitors must be in relation to Aitkin Public Schools and/or to agenda items.
- We recommend that you sign up at the comment table if you wish to speak. You will be called up in order as listed on the sign-up sheet. When you come forward to comment, please be seated at the comment table facing the Board Members. State your name prior to your comment. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.
- The Board will not engage in any discussion or debate during this comment session. The Board will take the information and find answers as appropriate.
- As part of Board protocol, it is unacceptable for any speaker to slander or engage in character assassination at a public board meeting.

5. Approval of agenda - revise or remove as needed

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Jen Burgos and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.

6. Scheduled presentations: (Max. 10 Minutes)

No presentations.

7. New business:

7.A. Approve consent agenda items as follows:

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Jen Burgos and seconded by Brian Leitinger, Passed.

7.A.1. Approve the following School Board Meeting Minutes: June 25, 2025

7.A.2. Approve financials for the month of June 2025:

- Office receipts in the amount of \$1,046,863.41.
- Report of expenditures, including \$678,142.76 for bills and \$987,458.60 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Donations in the amount of \$19,512.87.
- Wire transfers in the amount of \$1,600,000.00.
- Employee reimbursements.

7.A.3. Approve Resignations

7.A.3.a. Jason Cline - Activities Director, Physical Education Director

7.A.3.b. Kenna Grater - Alternative School Instructor

7.A.3.c. Kathleen Christy - Assessment Coordinator/ Title I

7.A.3.d. Tiffani Kullhem - Paraprofessional Rippleside

7.A.3.e. Ashley Kezar- Paraprofessional Rippleside

7.A.3.f. Sarah Morris - Rippleside kitchen staff

7.A.4. Approve Hirings:

7.A.5. Consider and approve extra curricular activities

7.A.5.a. Jen Waldorf - Tennis (girls) Head Coach

7.A.5.b. Julie Asmus - Tennis (girls) Assistant Coach

7.A.5.c. Justine Nordick - Tennis (girls) Jr. High Coach

7.A.5.d. Approve Volunteer Coaches

7.A.5.d.1. Tracey Kennedy - Tennis Coach

7.A.5.d.2. Blaise Sanford - Tennis Coach

7.A.6. MREA Membership Renewal for the 2025-26 school year

7.B. Discussion Items:

7.B.1. Discuss and Approve Policy Updates due to Legislative Changes. These updates do not affect the substance of the policy.

Motion to approve the policy changes as presented. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.

7.B.1.a. Policy 414 - Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse

7.B.1.b. Policy 418 - Drug Free Workplace/Drug Free School

7.B.1.c. Policy 501 - School Weapons Policy

7.B.1.d. Policy 503 - Student Attendance

7.B.1.e. Policy 515 - Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records

7.B.1.f. Policy 516 - Student Medication and Telehealth

7.B.1.g. Policy 516.5 - Overdose Medication

7.B.1.h. Policy 524 - Internet, Technology & Cell Phone

7.B.1.i. Policy 534 - School Meal Policy

7.B.1.j. Policy 602 - Organization of School Calendar and School Day

7.B.1.k. Policy 621 - Literacy and the Read Act

7.B.1.l. Policy 707 - Transportation of Public School Students

7.B.1.m. Policy 709 - Student Transportation Safety Policy

7.B.1.n. Policy 802 - Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material

7.B.1.o. Policy 806 - Crisis Manage Policy

7.B.2. Discuss and approve Milk and Bread Bids for 2025-26 school year

Motion to approve the bids as recommended. This motion, made by Kassie Peterson and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.

7.B.3. Discuss and approve Transportation Fuel Quotes for the 2025-26 school Year

Motion to approve the fuel quotes as recommended. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.

7.B.4. Approve Meal Prices for 2025-26

Breakfast: Student 2nd Meal, Staff and Guest \$3.00 (no change)

Lunch: Student 2nd Meal, Staff and Guest \$5.25 (no change)

Milk or Juice separate from meal: \$0.45 (increase from \$0.40)

Motion to approve the meal prices as proposed. This motion, made by Roland Hill and seconded by Brian Leitinger, Passed.

7.B.5. Discuss & approve the LTFM 10-year plan

Motion to approve resolution adopting FY26 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Ten-Year Plan. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Roland Hill, Passed.

7.B.6. Discuss a proposal from McGregor High School to partner with Aitkin High School for a Cross Country Program

Motion to approve the proposal from McGregor High School to partner with Aitkin High School for a Cross Country Program. This motion, made by Roland Hill and seconded by

Rev. Dawn Houser, Failed.

Holly Mindrum: Absent, Jen Burgos: Nay, Cindi Hills: Nay, Kassie Peterson: Nay, Roland Hill: Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Brian Leitinger: Yea

Yea: 3, Nay: 3, Absent: 1

Roland Hill: Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Brian Leitinger: Yea

Motion to approve the proposal with McGregor High School to partner with Aitkin High School for a Cross Country Program if there is no cost to Aitkin ISD 001. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.

Holly Mindrum: Absent, Jen Burgos: Yea, Roland Hill: Yea, Cindi Hills: Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Brian Leitinger: Yea, Kassie Peterson: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

## 8. Administrative reports:

### 8.A. Board Members Reports:

### 8.B. Committee Reports:

### 8.C. Principal's Report:

Mr. Dokken, Rippleside Elementary School

Ms. DeMars, Aitkin High School

*SP Goal 10*

### 8.D. Community Education -

*SP Goal 10*

### 8.E. Superintendent's report:

#### 1. Hiring updates

#### 2. Referendum updates

#### 3. Voting timelines

1. Absentee/early voting - Sept 19

2. We need to be talking to the community

3. Telling our story

#### 8.E.1. Other:

A Special Meeting will be held at Rippleside Elementary School in the cafeteria on Monday, August 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. This will be an informational meeting regarding the plans for a new elementary school and potential community and recreation center that will be voted upon on November 4, 2025.

### 8.F. Upcoming meetings:

July 30, 2025 - Personnel Committee - AHS Media Center - 3:45 pm

July 31, 2025 - Teachers Negotiations- AHS Media Center - 4:30 pm

August 4, 2025 - Special Meeting - Rippleside Elementary Cafeteria - 7:00 pm

August 18, 2025 - School Board Meeting - Media Center - 6:30 pm

## 9. Other:

### 9.A. 11. Close meeting under MN Statute 13D.03, labor negotiations strategy

Motion to close the meeting under MN Statute 13D.03, labor negotiations strategy. This motion, made by Kassie Peterson and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.

9.A.1. 11.A. Open Meeting

Motion to open the meeting. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Jen Burgos and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.

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Recorded by Heather Hipp

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Jen Burgos, Clerk

Dated: 08/18/2025

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