School District 197
West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools
Regular Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026
ISD 197 District Office, Mendota Heights, MN

A meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 197 was held on Monday, June 15, 2026 beginning at 5:00 p.m. pursuant to due notice.

The meeting was called to order by current Chair Larsen at 5:00 p.m. The following School Board members were present: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill. Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz. Superintendent Peter Olson-Skog was present.

Also present for the meeting were: Peter Mau; Assistant Superintendent; Cari Jo Drewitz, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Sara Lein, Director of Special Programs; Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources; Brian Schultz, Director of Finance; Lisa Grathen, Director of Community Education; Dave Sandum, Director of Technology.

Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Schwab and seconded by Mr. Aune to approve the agenda as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Hill to approve the consent agenda items as presented:

- Approval of the June 1, 2026 School Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of 2026-2027 Routine Organizational Matters
- Approval of April 2026 Accounts Payable Report
- Approval of April 2026 Treasurer's Report
- Approval of 2026-2027 Membership in the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL)
- Approval of Resolution Establishing Dates for Filing Affidavits of Candidacy
- Approval of Census Population Estimate for the 2026 Payable 2027 Levy
- Approval of FY27 South Suburban Adult Basic Education Consortium Agreement Renewal
- Approval of TRHS Football Team Field Trip
- Approval of TRHS Dance Team Field Trip

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Comments to the School Board
There were no comments to the School Board.

Recognitions

Three state-qualifying student-athletes from the Two Rivers High School Track and Field Team were recognized for their outstanding achievements during the 2026 season. 19 out of 180 track and field participants went to the State Championship this year, with seven school records being broken, including an incredible 49-year record in the 4x200 meter relay race. The students were praised for their efforts as well-rounded individuals, including activity in other athletics, clubs, and activities in and out of school.

Native Land Acknowledgement, Mural and Plaque Update

Aubrey McMahon and Clara Rebhan, students from the Native Student Curriculum Advocates group, presented an update to develop a Native Land Acknowledgement, mural, and commemorative plaque designed to recognize the traditional and contemporary lands of the Dakota people, elevate Native voices, and provide historical context regarding the school's transition from Henry Sibley High School to Two Rivers High School. The project was developed through ongoing equity work and Strategic Framework implementation efforts, with collaboration from students, staff, the Native Student Group, the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, and community partners, and will be funded through American Indian education resources. The presentation included the proposed mural and land acknowledgement, a plaque describing the history behind the 2020 school renaming decision and the significance of the Two Rivers name, and several potential future initiatives to further expand Native cultural awareness and educational opportunities at the school.

Presentation of Alternative Teacher Professional Pay System (ATPPS) Update

Cari Jo Drewitz, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, presented the annual ATPPS update which highlighted implementation and effectiveness data related to peer coaching, teacher evaluation, mentoring, collaborative teams, and performance pay. During 2025-26, instructional peer coaches and administrators completed more than 1,000 teacher observations and extensive coaching and feedback conversations, while collaborative teams continued to focus on equitable practices, student data analysis, curriculum alignment, and instructional improvement. The report also outlined revisions to evaluation rubrics, mentoring structures, and performance expectations implemented this year, along with recommendations and planned updates for 2026-27 to strengthen coaching, mentoring, collaboration, and teacher growth processes.

Approval of One-Time Fund Balance Transfer

Superintendent Olson-Skog presented the recommended approval of the One-Time Fund Balance Transfer of $4.5 million from the Building Construction Fund to the Operating Capital account within the General Fund. The transfer is made possible through legislative authority obtained by the district after completing indoor air quality and facility improvement projects financed through facility maintenance bonds, which left approximately $4.5 million in remaining funds. The transfer will provide flexibility to address future facility maintenance, equipment, technology, and other capital needs without increasing taxes.

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Schwab to approve the One-Time Fund Balance Transfer as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of FY27 Budget

Brian Schultz, Director of Finance, presented proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budgets for the General, Food Service, Community Service, and Debt Service funds following the original presentation and discussion at the June 1 meeting, with no revisions recommended. The budgets are aligned with the District's Strategic Framework and prioritize equitable resource allocation to support student success, including funding for compensatory education, intervention services, English Learner programming, and achievement and integration initiatives designed to reduce disparities and improve outcomes for all students.

It was moved by Mr. Vaupel and seconded by Mr. Schwab to approve the FY27 Budget as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Tentative Agreement between School District 197 and Paraprofessionals

Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources, presented the 2025-2027 tentative agreement with the School District 197 Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 284, representing approximately 150 paraprofessionals, for the 2025-2027 contract period. The agreement includes salary increases of 1.75% in the first year and 1.25% in the second year, updates to health insurance benefits effective July 1, 2026, the addition of New Year's Day as a holiday, an increase to longevity pay, and other minor language revisions. The union previously ratified the agreement, and district contributions toward employee health insurance coverage will remain unchanged.

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Aune to approve the Agreement between School District 197 and Paraprofessionals as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Tentative Agreement between School District 197 and Transportation

Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources, presented the tentative agreement with the School District 197 Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 284, representing approximately 50 transportation employees, for the 2025-2027 contract period. The agreement includes salary increases of 1.25% in the first year and 1.75% in the second year, updates to health insurance benefits effective July 1, 2026, an additional personal leave day for a total of three days annually, a $250 increase to the TSA benefit, and other minor language revisions. The union previously ratified the agreement, and district contributions toward employee health insurance coverage will remain unchanged.

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Vaupel to approve the Agreement between School District 197 and Transportation as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Tentative Agreement between School District 197 and Mechanics

Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources, presented the tentative agreement with IAM Union District 77, AFL-CIO, representing approximately three mechanics, for the 2025-2027 contract period. The agreement includes salary increases of 2.0% in the first year and 1.75% in the second year, updates to health insurance benefits effective July 1, 2026, and other minor language revisions. The union previously ratified the agreement, and district contributions toward employee health insurance coverage will remain unchanged.

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Aune to approve the Agreement between School District 197 and Mechanics as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Tentative Agreement between School District 197 and Buildings & Grounds

Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources, presented the tentative agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 70, representing approximately 51 building and grounds employees, for the 2025-2027 contract period. The agreement includes salary increases of 1.5% in each year of the contract, updates to health insurance benefits effective July 1, 2026, a $200 increase to the TSA benefit, an increase to longevity pay, and other minor language revisions. The union previously ratified the agreement, and district contributions toward employee health insurance coverage will remain unchanged.

It was moved by Ms. Steele and seconded by Mr. Vaupel to approve the Agreement between School District 197 and Buildings & Grounds as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agreement between School District 197 and Directors

Superintendent Olson-Skog presented the 2025-2027 agreement with the District's Cabinet employee group, representing approximately 10 employees. The agreement includes salary increases of 1.5% in the first year and 1.75% in the second year, updates to health insurance benefits effective July 1, 2026, a retention stipend based on years of service, an increase to Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) contributions, and other minor language revisions. District contributions toward employee health insurance coverage will remain unchanged.

It was moved by Mr. Schwab and seconded by Ms. Steele to approve the Agreement between School District 197 and Directors as presented.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3A, the board recessed to closed session to discuss the Superintendent Evaluation.

It was moved by Mr. Schwab and seconded by Mr. Hill to recess to a closed session at 6:33 p.m.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz.
Nay: none.

The motion carried unanimously.

The board reconvened to their open meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Schwab and seconded by Mr. Hill to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Aye: Tim Aune, Marcus Hill, Sarah Larsen, Byron Schwab, Morgan Steele, Jon Vaupel, Randi Walz
Nay: none

The motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting of Independent School District 197 will be Monday, August 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. It will be held at the City of Mendota Heights Council Chambers, 1101 Victoria Curve, Mendota Heights, MN. *Please refer to the district website for possible changes to any meeting times/locations.*

Upon approval by the School Board, official minutes will be available at the District Office, 1897 Delaware Avenue, Mendota Heights, and on the district website. The full meeting materials are available for public inspection at the administrative offices of the school district and on the district website.

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Sarah Larsen	Jon Vaupel
School Board Chair	School Board Clerk