

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
August 19, 2026**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Gina Acevedo, Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Shannon Haws. Absent: Diana Fenton and Heather Weems.

I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to approve the Board Meeting agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to:

Approve Board Meeting minutes from July 22, 2026.

Approve Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$9,017,419.24.

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Melanie Childrey, Tier 4 Social Studies Teacher, Tech High School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$63,989.

Jessica Willson, Tier 4 Math Teacher, North Junior High School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+10, Pay Level 9 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$77,160.

Finn Mroz-Roakes, Tier 4 Guidance Counselor, North Junior High School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$61,597.

Maria Rebella, Tier 3 Guidance Counselor, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$66,382.

Leave of Absence

Judith Blommel. ADSIS Teacher, Talahi Community School, effective August 24, 2026 through October 18, 2026.

McKayla Walz, Grade 5 Teacher, Discovery Community School, effective September 2, 2026 through November 29, 2026.

Makayla Makarrall, Grade 2 Teacher, Madison Elementary School, effective October 1, 2026 through February 21, 2027.

Leanne Klett-Meinke, Spanish K-12 Teacher, Tech High School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year (20% leave of a full-time contract). Ms. Klett-Meinke will work 80% of a full-time contract.

Derek Branton, Principal, Westwood Elementary School, effective August 11, 2026 through November 15, 2026.

Leave of Absence Correction

Kirsten Doering, SPED Speech/Language Pathologist, Quarryview Education Center, effective for the 2026-2027 school year (10% leave of a full-time contract). Ms. Doering will work 90% of a full-time contract. This is a correction to the May 20, 2026 Board action on the consent agenda where this item was listed with a .2 leave of a full-time contract.

Resignation

Jeanne Smith, Science Teacher, Apollo High School, effective June 1, 2026.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Yury Marquez Sanchez, Kitchen Helper, Clearview Elementary School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$17.20.

Layla Shide, SPED Bus Paraeducator, District Services Building, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00

Emily Shelton, Early Childhood Paraeducator, Clearview Education Center, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Emma Hammill, Behavior Resource Specialist, Madison Elementary School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$26.00.

Amanda Crennan, Mental Health Advocate, McKinley-ALC, effective August 10, 2026, at an annual salary of \$65,000.

Sado Ahmed, Student Support Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$17.00.

Nasera Adan, Student Support Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$17.00.

Bobi Williams, SPED Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Jonathan Brew, Behavior Resource Specialist, Roosevelt Education Center, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$27.50.

Alyssa Toratti, Clerical Class III (12-Month), District Administration Office, effective August 28, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$22.34.

Rolf Rasmussen, Groundskeeper, District Wide, effective August 13, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.85.

Sirat Farah, Early Childhood Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Thailynn Philavanh, Nutritional Cashier, Madison Elementary School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.29.

Kristen Sawyer, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Anna Naylor, Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Khadija Mohamed, ECFE Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Robert Van Laere, Nutritional Services Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective August 3, 2026, an hourly rate of \$26.00.

Rehire

Shelly Finbraaten, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clara's House, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Stephen Casanova, Educational Equity Outreach Coordinator, District Wide, effective August 10, 2026, at an annual salary of \$52,000.

Ebony Roach, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Hodo Mursal, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective September 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$19.00.

Leave of Absence

Gloria Bronola, Kitchen Helper, Tech High School, effective September 1, 2026 through September 16, 2026.

Aisha Mohamed, EL Programs Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective December 1, 2026 through January 3, 2027.

Diana Swanson, Clerical Class II (12-Month), District Administration Office, effective September 23, 2026 through October 25, 2026.

Resignation

Carol Brumbaugh, Substitute Custodian, Lincoln Elementary School, effective May 29, 2026. Ms. Brumbaugh is still an active Kitchen Helper at Talahi Community School.

Selina Kremer, Clerical Class III (12-Month), District Administrative Office, effective September 7, 2026.

Jilani Morris, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, North Junior High School, effective May 29, 2026.

Alex Stoll, Behavior Resource Specialist, Madison Elementary School, effective May 29, 2026.

Kaylee Wood, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Kennedy Community School, effective May 29, 2026.

Ashley Schoenfeldt, Level IV Program Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective June 26, 2026.

Debbi Walker, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, North Junior High School, effective May 29, 2026.

Brady Husmann, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective May 29, 2026.

Xero Broda Campo, Behavior Resource Specialist, Talahi Community School, effective June 26, 2026.

Salat Hassan, Assistant Mechanic, District Services Building, effective August 14, 2026.

Misty Peterson, American Indian Education Cultural Liaison, District Administration Office, effective June 12, 2026.

Nathan Williams, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective May 5, 2026.

Bryan Gibbs, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective October 24, 2025.

Karla Tanner, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective March 13, 2026.

Termination

Paul Ciarrochi, Warehouse Assistant, District Services Building, effective August 10, 2026.

Nevaeh Cooper, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective May 19, 2026.

Approve acceptance of the following grant awards and donations:

1. Donations to Apollo High School:
 - \$500 from NextGrad LLC for the 2026 NextGrad Scholarship Fund
 - \$500 from American Red Cross for the 2026 American Red Cross “Young Minds Change Lives” Scholarship Fund
2. Donation to Katherine Johnson Education Center:
 - School supplies from MinnWest Bank
3. Donation to Quarryview Education Center:
 - \$500 Target Gift Card from D.J. Bitzan Jewelers for the ECFE Baby and Toddler Expo Grand Prize
4. Donations to District 742:
 - Two adjustable stools and 1 black backdrop from Kimberly Larson for the Communication Department’s studio and photography work
 - Breakfast food from Judi Dyson for the District Office Food Pantry for families in need

- Zippered pouches from Bluebird Marketing for the Read w/Me and Math w/Me Program

Approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report for June 2026.

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 533 – Wellness (*Third Reading*).

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 534 – Unpaid Meal Charges (*Third Reading*).

Approve the Adult Meal Price Increase of \$2.55 for breakfast and \$5.30 for lunch.

Approve Tech Single User Restroom Remodel Change Order with Precise Plumbing and Heating in the amount of +\$6,704.00.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. End of Summer Construction Project Update

Matthew Boucher, Executive Director of Operations, provided an update on facilities projects over the summer which included Discovery, Lincoln, Madison, Oak Hill, Talahi, Westwood, Kennedy, North, South, Apollo, Tech, McKinley, and Katherine Johnson Education Center.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (ACTION ITEM) - Approval of 2025-2026 Student and Family Handbooks

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, reviewed Administration’s request for approval of the 2026-2027 Student and Family Handbooks. This was presented at the August 5th Board meeting.

Moved by Dorholt, seconded by Copeland to approve the 2026-2027 Student and Family Handbooks.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

B. (ACTION ITEM) - Approval of 2026-2027 Weather Related E-Learning Days Plan

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, presented the 2026-2027 Weather Related E-Learning Days Plan. Administration recommends approval of the 2026-2027 Weather Related E-Learnings Days Plan.

Moved by Dorholt, seconded by Copeland to approve the 2026-2027 Weather Related E-Learning Days Plan.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

C. (ACTION ITEM) - Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 531 – Pledge of Allegiance (Third Reading)

Katie Herrboldt, Executive Director of Innovation and Technology Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 531 – Pledge of Allegiance. There were no suggested changes.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 531 – Pledge of Allegiance (*Third Reading*).

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

D. (DISCUSSION ITEM) - Proposed Revised Board Policy 413 – Discrimination, Harassment and Violence (First Reading).

Tracy Flynn Bowe, Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 413 – Discrimination, Harassment and Violence. There were no suggested changes. This proposed revised policy will be on the September 2, 2026 Board of Education Meeting agenda for a second reading.

E. (DISCUSSION ITEM) - Proposed Revised Board Policy 416 – Drug and Alcohol Testing (First Reading).

Tracy Flynn Bowe, Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 416 – Drug and Alcohol Testing. There were no suggested changes. This proposed revised policy will be on the September 2, 2026 Board of Education Meeting agenda for a second reading.

F. (DISCUSSION ITEM) - Proposed Revised Board Policy 417 – Chemical Use and Abuse (First Reading).

Tracy Flynn Bowe, Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, reviewed Proposed Revised 417 – Chemical Use and Abuse. There were no suggested changes. This proposed revised policy will be on the September 2, 2026 Board of Education Meeting agenda for a second reading.

G. (ACTION ITEM) – Review and Approval of Tentative Contract Agreement

Tracy Flynn Bowe, Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, reviewed the details of the following tentative agreement.

St. Cloud Educational Support Professionals of School District 742 for 2025-2027. The total two-year cost is 7.84%, which is within the budgeting parameters established by the School Board for settlement with this employee group.

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Acevedo to approve the agreement between the St. Cloud Educational Support Professionals and St. Cloud Area School District 742 for 2025-2027.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Haws. Motion carried.

V. **REPORTS**

A. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Laurie Putnam shared several updates from around the district.

World Savvy applied and received the Morgan Family Foundation Grant

With this, they chose to work with our district in the coming year to bring some leadership learning around change through design sprints and capturing voice. We are currently finalizing the details of these supports.

NSF Computer Science & AI Grant

Led by Princeton University in collaboration with the University of Minnesota, Georgia Tech, and the University of Georgia (the project we agreed to do with Pani). It will bring summer programming in computer science and AI to St. Cloud Area students and staff starting next summer.

University of Washington AI Collaboration

We are collaborating with leading researchers to support educators in the strategic use of AI. The invitation came largely from our state-level leadership in artificial intelligence and focuses on educator learning support, and our REA director is working with this group to be able to weave these resources into our upcoming school year as well.

District 742 Immersion Programs

All Spanish kindergarten immersion sections are full at 27, and Chinese immersion overflowed into the K-1 combo! Your efforts, focus and goals around immersion have had a visible impact!!

B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

Gina Acevedo, Chair of the Board Legislative Committee, noted the committee met on August 12, 2026 and reviewed (1) MSBA Resolutions and (2) 2027 Legislative Platform. The committee is not bringing forward any new resolutions this year as the resolutions already submitted remain on the approved list. The committee reviewed

each goal from the 2026 Legislative Platform and agreed to carry all five goals forward with a few updates. The committee will then present a draft 2027 Legislative Platform to the full Board at the November 4th Work Session, with formal approval requested at the November 18th Board Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2026.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Haws noted the September 2, 2026 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Apex and Apollo Facilities Updates
- Approval of Apex Logo
- Policy Readings

VII. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Dorholt to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:12 p.m.

All Board members stated “aye”.

Scott Andreasen, Clerk Pro Tem

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.