



Official Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board Clerk Shana Dukes took roll call.

Board Member Attendance	Present	Absent
Member Niemioja		X
Member Pierson		X
Member Dukes	X	
Member Klingner	X	
Member Lounsberry	X	
Member Warrick	X	
Member Larsen	X	

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda Items

Motion by Member Klingner and a Second by Member Dukes to approve the agenda items.

Motion carried 5-0.

5. District Highlight

Superintendent Dave Bernhardson introduced Samantha Garber, the district's new Director of Community Education, as the district highlight.

6. Consent Agenda

A motion carried to approve the consent agenda items. The consent agenda included approval of the July 13 regular meeting and closed meeting minutes; July cash disbursements and check register; and personnel transactions.

Motion by Member Larsen and a Second by Member Warrick to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried 5-0.

7. Information Items

A. School Board Self-Appraisal Summary

Board Vice Chair and Treasurer Jacob Klingner provided a summary of the school board self-appraisal.

B. November 3, 2026 Election Update

Superintendent Dave Bernhardson shared an update on the November 3, 2026 Election.

C. Committee Reports

I. Facilities Committee The facilities committee has not met this month.
II. Finance Committee The finance committee met to discuss cash disbursements on August 10.
III. Personnel Committee The personnel committee met to discuss contract negotiations and staffing updates on August 10.
IV. Policy Committee The policy committee has not met this month.

D. Membership Reports

I. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) AMSD met on August 7. The agenda included routine business and updates on the Permanent School Fund Campaign, the Blue Ribbon Commission on Special Education, and the Compensatory Revenue Task Force.
II. Inver Grove Heights B.E.S.T. Foundation The BEST Foundation met on Sunday July 19. The agenda included acting on board term and officer nominations, a financial report, Executive Director report, Action Team Updates and the process for conducting the Executive Director performance review.
III. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) At our August 10 Work Session the board discussed potential legislative advocacy resolutions for submission to the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA). Resolutions approved by the MSBA Delegate Assembly help guide legislative priorities. The submission deadline is Wednesday, September 23, 2026.

The official launch of Minnesota Kids Rise starts at the State Fair on Sept. 2. Minnesota Kids Rise is a statewide initiative to build trust and pride in public schools, and provide a balanced, nonpartisan view that shows what's working, where improvement is happening, and what it means for students. Board Member Niemioja will be working the booth that evening.

IV. Intermediate School District 917

Intermediate School District 917 met on August 4. The board approved routine business and also discussed operational agreements, staffing matters, compensation updates, and annual policy reviews.

8. Action Items

A. Second Reading for Review of Policies

Superintendent Dave Bernhardson introduced the recommendation to approve policies for a Second Reading for Review.

Motion by Member Klingner and a Second by Member Dukes to approve Policies 604 Instructional Curriculum and 605 Alternative Programs for a second reading for review.

Motion carried 5-0.

B. Contract Memorandum of Understanding for Spartan Kids Care Leads

Director of Human Resources Emily Herman introduced the recommendation to approve a Contract Memorandum of Understanding for Spartan Kids Care Leads

Motion by Member Warrick and a Second by Member Larsen to approve the Contract Memorandum of Understanding for Spartan Kids Care Leads.

Motion carried 5-0.

C. 2027 Legislative Priorities Phase I

Superintendent Dave Bernhardson introduced the recommendation to approve proposed advocacy resolutions for submission to the Minnesota School Boards Association as part of Phase I of the 2027 Legislative Priorities process.

Motion by Member Dukes and a Second by Member Larsen to approve the 2027 Legislative Priorities Phase I.

Motion carried 5-0.

D. Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc School Board Handbook Committee

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry introduced the recommendation to approve a Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc School Board Handbook Committee.

Motion by Member Dukes and a Second by Member Klingner to approve a Resolution

Establishing an Ad Hoc School Board Handbook Committee.

Motion carried 5-0.

E. Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry introduced the recommendation to approve a Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee.

Motion by Member Klingner and a Second by Member Lounsberry to approve a Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee.

Motion carried 5-0.

9. Superintendent and School Board Comments

A. Superintendent Dave Bernhardson

Several board members and I had a great time attending Night to Unite! We split into two groups, one partnering with the IGH Police Department and the other with the IGH Fire Department to visit local neighborhoods and connect with community members.

New staff returned today to begin preparing for the 2026-2027 school year. All staff return next week. This year the start of the school year begins before labor day, with Family Connections starting on September 1.

B. School Board Comments

Board Member Klingner - Welcome to our new staff and to a wonderful district! I hope you have a great year with us. As a reminder to all staff and students, teachers have put a tremendous amount of work into preparing for this year

Board Member Larsen - Welcome to new staff and new Director of Community Education Samantha Garber. A lot is happening, but hopefully it is a smooth start to the school year

Board Member Dukes - Welcome friends! Thank you to Commander Otis. I had a great time participating in Night to Unite. I recently took a trip and was complaining about how slow everything was, but by the time I came back, I realized the culture and experience are meant to be slower to soak it all in. I hope we all slow down a bit to enjoy the little joyous moments you miss if you're moving too fast

Board Member Warrick - Welcome to all of our employees! I hope new employees find our district inspiring and innovative. I wish all of our staff the strength to build relationships with our students, courage to learn new things, wisdom to pass on, and time for self-care when needed this year

Board Member Lounsberry - Our mission—Inspire. Innovate. Excel. A Community Commitment.—is truly felt at every level. As a district, we emphasize being lifelong learners who never stop growing and learning. Wishing everyone an amazing school year!

10. Upcoming Meeting Dates

The next Work Session is scheduled for Monday, September 14th and the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 28th at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Member Larsen and a Second by Member Warrick to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Independent School District No. 199 (Inver Grove Heights Community Schools), State of Minnesota, hereby certify that the attached and foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of the minutes of a regular meeting of the school board of the ISD 199 School District duly called and held on the date therein indicated, a true and correct copy of the original thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such clerk this 17th day of August, 2026.

School District Clerk