MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack Aakhus, Anna Manecke, Dave Wall, Jenny Frenzel, Ann Long Voelkner, Todd Haugen and Superintendent Jeremy Olson
Finn Jorgensen – Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jacobi Burmeister Pater – Student Representative

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Dave Wall, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no participates in public participation.

REQUEST TO REMOVE TOPIC(S) FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Anna Manecke, seconded by Jack Aakhus, and carried by all in attendance to approve the following items:

A. Minutes from the August 17, 2026, August 25, 2026 and August 31, 2026 School Board Meetings
B. Current Bills Totaling: $3,841,996.07
C. Certified Staff Appointments
D. Non-Certified Staff Resignations
E. Request for Educational Leaves: Allie Dalrymple and Brenda Millar
F. Resignation of Administrative Staff Members: Kristen McRae and John Naastad
G. Approval of Continuing Education Committee
H. Request to Accept Grant: Northern Elementary
I. Request to Accept Grant: Bemidji Middle School
J. Request to Accept Grant: Gene Dillon Elementary
K. Request to Accept Grant: Northern Elementary

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Finn Jorgensen spoke about homecoming week, showing pictures of the parade that happened on Sunday. She also spoke about the new cell phone procedure and the bathroom pass procedure.

LISTENING SESSION REVIEW

There were no participants in listening session.

ACTION ITEMS

2026 Payable 2027 Levy Limit Certification

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Jenny Frenzel and carried by all in attendance to approve the 2026 Pay 2027 Levy Limit at the MAXIMUM.

Staffing of Positions

Dave Wall introduced the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO REHIRE
JOHN KOVACH

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a Business Education Teacher at Bemidji High School., the School Board of Independent School District No. 31 is rescinding the termination of probationary teacher John Kovach.

BE IT RESOLVED that a teaching contract be issued to John Kovach for the 2026-2027 school year.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Anna Manecke, and upon roll call vote being taken, the following voted in favor: Ann Long Voelkner, Jack Aakhus, Anna Manecke, Dave Wall, Jenny Frenzel and Todd Haugen, and the following voted against: None.

WHEREUPON, said resolution was declared passed and adopted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Regular School Board Meeting, October 19, 2026, 6:30 PM, District Office Board Room

Truth in Taxation Meeting, December 21, 2026, 6:00 PM, District Office Board Room

OTHER

School Board Recognition Month

Certificates of recognition were presented.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Olson shared information about the district.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Jenny Frenzel, seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn the meeting. Time: 6:56 p.m.

_____ _____
Jenny Frenzel, Clerk Date Approved

_____ _____
Todd Haugen, Chair Date Approved