OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
SCHOOL BOARD OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 22
BECKER AND OTTERTAIL COUNTIES, DETROIT LAKES, MINNESOTA 56501

Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, September 28, 2026, 5:30 PM
City Hall ~ 1025 Roosevelt Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN, 56501

Present: John Steffl, Mary Rotter, Michelle Okeson, Sanford Nelson, Michael Walther, Julie Smith-Yliniemi

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at **5:30 PM** by Board Chair Steffl.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Walther**, to **amend** the agenda in the following ways:

A. Remove agenda item X. A.
B. Add an action item to rescind the July 27, 2026 motion directing DLPS Superintendent Jenson to supervise staff in the immediate removal of all non-school materials not funded, sponsored, or authorized by the school district. This includes, but is not limited to any "rainbow" stickers, posters, flags, buttons, etc… displayed in Detroit Lakes Public School's facilities.
C. Change the language of agenda item X. E. from "Consider and vote on a resolution to authorize an official board letter to the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) regarding the participation or transgender students in school activities" to "Motion to approve a letter intended for the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) proposing an amendment to the MSHSL Bylaws for consideration and voting by all 509 MSHSL Member Schools in the state's 16 Region under MSHSL's Constitution 215 Amendments to General Bylaws and All Activity Bylaws."

The motion carried **4 votes in favor and 2 abstentions** (**MR** and **JSY** abstained from voting). [*Note: I need clarification that this vote is accurate.]*

Recognition was given to:

A. **Sedrah Krogsgaard** for her thoughtfulness and hard work organizing the 9/11 Heroes Memorial Walk-Through.
B. **Fair Hills Resort** for offering their space to our Choir students during the Choir Retreat held on September 19, 2026.

Comments were heard from **thirteen members of the public**.

No **PROGRAM PRESENTATION** this month.

A motion was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Okeson**, to approve the following consent agenda items. Motion carried **unanimously**.

A. Approve the Minutes of the **August 24, 2026** Regular School Board Meeting.
B. Approve K-12 Computer Checks #713167-713335-713666 and Voided Checks #710591, #711499, #712210, #712917, and #713077 for a total of $1,327,102.28. Approve ACH/Wire Payments #18409-18428, #18509-18534, #18539-18546, and #18552-18566, in the amount of $921,691.76. Approve Net Payroll Transfers on 8/13/26 and 8/27/26 in the amount of $342,362.54 for a total of $2,591,156.98.
C. Approve Personnel Agenda Items.
D. Approval Policies:
    1. 620 - CREDIT FOR LEARNING

E. Donations given by the following entities:
    1. $100.00 from Anonymous Donor to the Laker Cupboard.
    2. $200.00 from the Perham Area Lions Club for the Boys Swim Team.
    3. $250.00 from The Barry Foundation for Philanthropy and Youth Activity Club (PaY).
    4. $387.95 from Trinity Lutheran Church.
    5. $500.00 from United Savings Credit Union to the Laker Cupboard.
    6. $1,000.00 from the Sunde Family for the Girls Swim Team.
    7. Food and snacks from Mike Labine with the YES Network to the Laker Cupboard.
    8. Food and snacks from Greta Gunderson to the Laker Cupboard.
    9. Food and snacks from Midwest Bank (Detroit Lakes branch) to the Laker Cupboard.
    10. Food and snacks from Team Industries (Audubon) to the Laker Cupboard.
    11. Water bottles from Amy Erickson to the Laker Cupboard.
F. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Olander bus Service, Inc. amending the rates for Route #6 and Route #9 for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 School Years.
G. Approve the Professional Service Agreement with ICS Consulting, Inc. for Owner Representation and Project Management Services associated with the District's 2027 summer roofing projects in the amount of $240,000.00.

Discussion was had on the following items:

A. First Reading of Policies
    1. 505 - DISTRIBUTION OF NONSCHOOL-SPONSORED MATERIALS ON SCHOOL PREMISES BY STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES
    2. 615 - TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS FOR IEPS, SECTION 504 PLANS AND LEP STUDENTS
    3. 616 - SCHOOL DISTRICT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY
    4. 618 - ASSESSMENT OF STANDARD ACHIEVEMENT
    5. 619 - STAFF DEVELOPMENT FOR GRADUATION STANDARDS
    6. 625 - RESPONSIBLE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A motion was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Walther**, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried **4 votes in favor and 2 abstentions (MR and JSY abstained from voting).**

A motion was made by **Walther**, seconded by **Okeson**, to approve the Certification of the 2026 Payable 2027 Proposed Property Tax Levy. **Motion carried unanimously**.

A motion was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Smith-Yliniemi**, to approve Monday, December 21, 2026, at 6:00 PM, at the Detroit Lakes City Council Chambers (1025 Roosevelt Avenue) as the official date, time, and location for the District's annual public meeting and hearing on the 2026 Payable 2027 Proposed Property Tax Levy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by **Walther**, seconded by **Okeson**, to approve the Out-of-State Travel Request for up to twelve Detroit Lakes FFA Chapter members (grades 9-12) and Mrs. Thorsvig to attend the National FFA convention, Indianapolis, Indiana. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Walther**, to approve a letter intended for the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) proposing an amendment to the MSHSL Bylaws for consideration and voting by all 509 MSHSL Member Schools in the state's 16 Region under MSHSL's Constitution 215 Amendments to General Bylaws and All Activity Bylaws. **Motion carried 4 votes in favor and 2 votes against (MR and JSY voted no).**

Superintendent Jenson reported on happenings in the School District.

Board Treasurer Okeson gave an update on the Finance Committee.

Board Clerk Smith-Yliniemi gave an update on the Activities Committee.

Board Chair Steffl announced upcoming meetings and events.

A motion was made by **Smith-Yliniemi**, seconded by **Rotter**, to adjourn the meeting at **7:35 PM**. Motion carried **unanimously**.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith-Yliniemi, Clerk