School Board Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2026 6:30 PM Central

Palisade Community Center
106 Nature Avenue
Palisade, MN 56469

Jen Burgos:	Present
Roland Hill:	Present
Cindi Hills:	Present
Rev. Dawn Houser:	Present
Brian Leitinger:	Present
Holly Mindrum:	Absent
Kassie Peterson:	Present

Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call meeting to order by the chairperson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

4. *Comments from visitors

4.A.

- Comments from visitors must be in relation to Aitkin Public Schools and/or to agenda items.
- We recommend that you sign up at the comment table if you wish to speak. You will be called up in order as listed on the sign-up sheet. When you come forward to comment, please be seated at the comment table facing the Board Members. State your name prior to your comment. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.
- The Board will not engage in any discussion or debate during this comment session. The Board will take the information and find answers as appropriate.
- As part of Board protocol, it is unacceptable for any speaker to slander or engage in character assassination at a public board meeting.

5. Approval of agenda - revise or remove as needed
Motion to approve the agenda with moving 8.B.7 to the first agenda item under 8.B. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Brian Leitinger, Passed.

6. Scheduled presentations: (Max. 10 Minutes)
Baseball Booster Club President, Mike Paulbeck, and Baseball Head Coach, Jeremy Janzen presented on the baseball spring training trip to the Jackie Robinson Training Complex in Vero Beach, Florida. They discussed fundraising efforts, travel plans, and the importance of keeping a strong focus on academics for all players. This trip will be added to the November board meeting for approval by the school board.

6.A. Student Council Reports
SP Goal 10

7. Old Business:

7.A. Approve the following policies 2nd reading:
Motion to approve the 2nd reading of policies as presented. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

7.A.1. Policy 110 Therapy Animals

7.A.2. Policy 412 Expense Reimbursement

8. New business:

8.A. Approve consent agenda items as follows:
Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Jen Burgos and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.
Holly Mindrum: Absent, Cindi Hills: Abstain (With Conflict), Jen Burgos: Yea, Roland Hill: Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Brian Leitinger: Yea, Kassie Peterson: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

8.A.1. Approve the following School Board Meeting Minutes: Sept 21, 2026

8.A.2. Approve financials for the month of September, 2026:

- Office receipts in the amount of $1,500,733.47.
- Report of expenditures, including $656,830.23 for bills and $963,977.40 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Donations in the amount of $19,552.91.
- Wire transfers in the amount of $1,500,000.00.
- Employee reimbursements.

8.A.3. Approve Resignations

8.A.3.a. Sara Warren- International Club Advisor

8.A.3.b. Steve Lehman-Custodian High School

8.A.3.c. Travis Chaput - Vocal music/musical assistant

8.A.3.d. Jacob Becker- Musical Set design

8.A.3.e. Blaise Sanford - Boys Basketball C Squad coach

8.A.4. Approve Hirings:

8.A.4.a. Todd Gretschmann - Facilities Director

8.A.4.b. Nicole Lenarz- Rippleside Food service worker I

8.A.5. Consider and approve extracurricular volunteer positions

8.A.5.a. Andrew Hudrlik- Wrestling Volunteer

8.A.5.b. BJ Wasserzieher- Wrestling Volunteer

8.A.5.c. Carter Masloski- Boys Basketball Volunteer

8.A.5.d. Jillian MacDonald - Girls Basketball Volunteer

8.A.5.e. Noel Jones - Girls Basketball Volunteer

8.A.5.f. Lydia Fellerman - Girls Basketball Volunteer

8.A.5.g. Natalie Crowther- Dance Volunteer

8.A.5.h. Anna Hankel - Dance Volunteer

8.A.6. Consider and approve extracurricular activities

8.A.6.a. Colleen Christensen- Dance Head coach

8.A.6.b. Greg T Hills - Wrestling Head coach

8.A.6.c. Jason Oestreich - Wrestling Assistant coach

8.A.6.d. Ben Schwarz - Boys Basketball Assistant coach

8.A.6.e. Garrett Lee - Boys Basketball Jr. High coach

8.A.6.f. Rob Williams - Girls Basketball Head coach

8.A.6.g. Mike Reem - Girls Basketball Assistant coach

8.A.6.h. Ryan Fowlds - Girls Basketball C-Squad coach

8.A.6.i. Darryl Smith - Girls Basketball Jr High coach (8th grade)

8.A.6.j. Lindsey Cline - Girls Basketball Jr. High coach (7th grade)

8.A.7. MOU - Wendy Denton

8.A.8. Approve the following tenures:

8.A.8.a. Kathleen Lord Olson

8.B. Discussion Items:

8.B.1. Building Smart Goals

8.B.2. Alternative Learning Center Building — future plan
Superintendent Morem will bring forward quotes to the November board meeting for removal of the building.

8.B.3. Consider and approve: Finish potable water to tennis court area
Motion to approve the use of remaining tennis court project funds to finish potable water for tennis court area. This motion, made by Brian Leitinger and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

8.B.4. ICS- Damien Williams - Construction Project Update
Motion to approve the schematic design submittal as submitted and presented and authorize ICS to commence with the Design Development Phase of design. This motion, made by Jen

Burgos and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.

8.B.5. APTEGY quote for website
Motion to approve APTEGY quote for the District website. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

8.B.6. Referendum & Project Timeline
Motion to reaffirm the ICS contract, project timeline, and authorize Superintendent Morem to sign documents. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.

8.B.7. Consider and approve Cardiac Emergency Response Plan
Cardiac Emergency Reponse Plan will be brought back to the November board meeting for final approval.

8.B.8. RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION FACILITIES MAINTENANCE, CAPITAL FACILITIES AND TAX ABATEMENT BONDS, SERIES?2026A, IN THE ORIGINAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF $[10,780,000]; FIXING THEIR FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS; DIRECTING THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY; AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT
Motion to approve RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION FACILITIES MAINTENANCE, CAPITAL FACILITIES AND TAX ABATEMENT BONDS, SERIES?2026A, IN THE ORIGINAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF $[10,780,000]; FIXING THEIR FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS; DIRECTING THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY; AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Kassie Peterson, Passed.
Holly Mindrum: Absent, Jen Burgos: Yea, Roland Hill: Yea, Cindi Hills: Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Brian Leitinger: Yea, Kassie Peterson: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Roll Call Vote:
Roland Hill - Yea
Jen Burgos - Yea
Cindi Hills - Yea
Rev. Dawn Houser - Yea
Brian Leitinger - Yea
Holly Mindrum - Absent
Kassie Peterson - Yea

9. Administrative reports:

9.A. Board Members Reports:

9.B. Committee Reports:

9.C. Principal's Report:
Ms Leah Olk - Rippleside Elementary School

Ms. DeMars, Aitkin High School
SP Goal 10

9.D. Community Education - Nedra Henline
SP Goal 10

9.E. Superintendent's report:

9.E.1. Enrollment Update

9.E.2. Other:

9.F. Upcoming meetings:
October 21, 2026 Policy Meeting, 5:00 PM - District Office
November 6, 2026: Special School Board Meeting, 7:30 AM Approve Canvassing Results
November 16, 2026: School Board Meeting, 6:30 PM - AHS Media Center
December 21, 2026: Truth in Taxation Meeting, 6:00 PM - AHS Media Center followed by School Board Meeting

10. Other:

11. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn at 9:03 PM. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

Recorded by Amber Kulig

Kassie Peterson

Dated: 11/16/26