INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #656

Regular School Board Meeting
October 19, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Faribault Public Schools
710 17th Street SW
Faribault, MN 55021

MINUTES

Members present: John Bellingham, Lynda Boudreau, Candace Knudson, Linda Moore, Casie Steeves, Jerry Robicheau, and Superintendent Jamie Bente. Members absent: Chad Wolff. Other attendees included Student Board Representatives Amira Williams and Leo Bunch, administrators, staff, and members of the public.

I. Call to Order
- A. Determination of a Quorum Present
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Boudreau, to approve the agenda. Moved by Moore, seconded by Boudreau, to add "Approve MSHSL Amendment Resolution - ACTION" to the agenda [as Agenda Item X.F]. The motion to amend the agenda passed after discussion, 4-2 (Boudreau, Knudson, Moore, and Steeves voted in favor; Bellingham and Robicheau voted against). The main motion passed unanimously after discussion, 6-0.

III. Recognition, Awards, and Presentations - None

IV. Items of Information
- A. Reports from School Board Members Jerry Robicheau, Linda Moore, Lynda Boudreau, and John Bellingham
- B. Student Board Representative report from Amira Williams and Leo Bunch
- C. Report from Superintendent Jamie Bente

V. Public Comment - None

VI. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Knudson, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed, 5-1 (Bellingham, Boudreau, Knudson, Robicheau, and Steeves voted in favor; Moore voted against.)
- A. Minutes - September 28, 2026, and October 5, 2026
- B. Employment
- C. Additional Assignments/Other
- D. Authorization of Payments, Transfers, and Investment Accounts

VII. District Advisory Committee report by Lynda Boudreau and Casie Steeves

VIII. Policy Committee
- A. Policy Committee Minutes report from Casie Steeves and Linda Moore

B.Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Steeves, to consider approval of the review of Policy 424: License Status. The motion passed after discussion, 5-1

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(Bellingham, Boudreau, Knudson, Robicheau and Steeves voted in favor; Moore voted against.)

Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Steeves, to consider approval of the review of Policy 508: Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Policy 536: Special Education Records and Records Retention. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Boudreau, to consider approval of the review of Policy 611: Home Schooling. The motion passed after discussion, 5-1 (Bellingham, Boudreau, Knudson, Robicheau and Steeves voted in favor; Moore voted against.)

IX. Other Committees

A. Finance Committee report by Lynda Boudreau

B. Community Education Advisory Council report by Casie Steeves

X. Other Matters

A. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Knudson, to approve the Gifts/Donations - Resolution 27-03. The motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote, 6-0.

B. Academic Honors Recognition for Graduating Seniors presentation by Jamie Bente, Superintendent, and Nate Molitor, FHS Principal

C. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Boudreau, to consider approval of the Ice Arena Agreement. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

D. Data presentation by Julie Hull, Director of Teaching and Learning, Katie Rotvold, Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Biz Daniels, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator, and Kim Goblirsch, Multilingual Program Coordinator.

E. MSHSL Amendment Update by Jamie Bente, Superintendent

F. Moved by Moore, seconded by Boudreau, to approve the MSHSL Amendment Resolution. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Robicheau, to call the question. The main motion failed by roll-call vote after discussion, 3-3 (Boudreau, Moore and Steeves voted in favor; Bellingham, Robicheau and Knudson voted against.)

XI. Dates to Remember

- October 30, 11:30 a.m. - Joint Boards Meeting
- November 9, 5:30 p.m. - Board Work Session & Canvassing Election Results
- November 12, 7:45 a.m. - Facilities Committee
- November 16, 7:30 a.m. - Finance Committee
- November 19, 12:30 p.m. - District Wellness Committee
- November 23, 5:30 p.m. - Regular Business Meeting

XII. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Knudson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

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Casie Steeves, Clerk
Approved: November 23, 2026

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