

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF JANUARY 12, 2026

WORK SESSION
5:00 PM

Edina Community Center
ECC 350

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ms. Erica Allenburg
Mr. Dan Arom
Ms. Cheryl Barry
Mr. Michael Birdman
Ms. Karen Gabler
Ms. Jennifer Huwe
Mr. Elliot Mann

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Karen Gabler

5:00 PM - 6:12 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Daniel Bittman, Superintendent
Nate Swenson, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Frannie Becquer, Director of Achievement Equity and Multilingual Learner Programming
Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning
Dr. Anne Marie Leland, Director of Community Education and Strategic Partnerships
Sonya Sailer, Executive Director of Human Resources
Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

Lisa Barnholdt, Principal, Countryside Elementary
Kim Isley, Assistant Director, Early Learning & Family Center
Laura Phongsavath, Manager, Early Learning & Family Center
Deb Richards, Talent Development Coordinator

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

Ms. Erica Allenburg, Clerk

(Official Publication)
MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 273 EDINA, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 12, 2026

5:00 PM Chair Gabler called to order the work session of the School Board. Members present: Allenburg, Arom, Barry, Birdman, Gabler, Huwe, Mann. Staff present: Bittman, Swenson, Becquer, De St. Hubert, Leland, Sailer, Woodard; Barnholdt, Isley, Phongsavath, Richards.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DISCUSSION

- A. Mid-Year Update on Early Learning & Family Center Action Plan
- B. Mid-Year Update on Elementary Acceleration
- C. Mid-Year Update on Spanish Dual Language Program Assessment

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 PM. The minutes and resolutions are open to public inspection on the district website, and on file at the district office, 5701 Normandale Road.

Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

Ms. Erica Allenburg, Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD'S
JANUARY 12, 2026 WORK SESSION

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Mann moved and Member Huwe seconded to approve the agenda. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Mid-Year Update on Early Learning & Family Center Action Plan: An update on the Early Learning & Family Center action plan was shared and discussed.

Mid-Year Update on Elementary Acceleration: An update on the elementary acceleration plan was shared and discussed.

Mid-Year Update on Spanish Dual Language Program Assessment: An update on the Spanish Dual Language program was shared and discussed.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Bittman shared the following:

- an update on work related to the district strategic plan will be presented at the second work session in February;
- additional information related to the Spanish Dual Language program and heritage speaker recruitment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:12 PM, Member Arom moved, and Member Allenburg seconded to adjourn the meeting. All members voted Aye. The motion passed unanimously.