

School Board Minutes  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 191  
March 27, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chair Werb at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held at Diamondhead Education Center, 200 West Burnsville Parkway, Burnsville, MN, 5533.

Call to Order

Directors Alt, Anderson, Chester, Hume, Mikkelsen, Sachse and Chair Werb were present. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bellmont, Student Representative Maryam Bradai, administrators, staff and members of the public were also present.

Attendance

Chair Werb welcomed the audience and asked Director Alt to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Werb administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed board member, Tyler Sachse.

Oath of Office

Moved by Hume, seconded by Chester, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously (7,0)

Agenda

Received a report about the Student Performance and Achievement Committee on Addressing Disparities: Academic, Multilingual, and Discipline/Exclusion from Isis Buchanan, director of educational equity, Imina Oftedahl, director of curriculum, instruction and assessment, and Amy Piotrowski, director of student support services.

Reports

Received a Bond Resolution Presentation report from Stacey Sovine, executive director of administrative services and Matthew Hammer, Ehlers senior municipal advisor.

Received Report about Written Response to Vote of Nonconcurrency from Isis Buchanan, director of educational equity.

Received a report about FY26 Preliminary Budget from Dr. Chris Bellmont, assistant superintendent and Stacey Sovine, executive director of administrative services.

Received a report about an Update Regarding Guidelines for Sharing School Board Meetings from Vice Chair Abigail Alt.

Received a Board Retreat Report from Chair Werb.

Received report from Director Chester on the Legislative Committee and District 917 and from Director Alt on the Policy Review Committee.

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Chester, to approve the consent

Consent Agenda

agenda:

-minutes from the regular board meeting on March 13, 2025 and special meeting of the board on March 19, 2025.

-Approve personnel recommendations for Bill Soderholm, Rodney McGinnis, Siri Mehring, Anne Polquin, Katie Reeson, Amanda Wagner, Melissa Parsons, Cynthia Sampers

Melissa Anderson, Theresa Battle, Madeline Stuart, Emily Najjar-Field, Brandon Kubitz, Elijah Lindsey, Raquel Silva, Mark Gorzycki. Soponnie Phan, Soada Abdirahman

-January payroll checks in the net amount of \$4,612,945.61. January claims to date, wire transfers and adjustments totaling \$20,990,320.75. Also, that the Board accepts January receipts of \$18,609,221.66 and investments for the General Fund and OPEB of \$89,447,914.15 as of January 31, 2025.

-Accepts the Budget Analysis for the month ending January 31, 2025.

-Receive a report about the Listening Session on March 13, 2025.

- Approve, on a First and Final Reading, Non-substantive Changes to Policy 522: Title IX - Sex Non Discrimination.

- Approve, on a First and Final Reading, Non-substantive Changes to Policies: 516: *Student Medication and Telehealth*, 621: *Literacy and the Read Act*, 906: *Community Notification and Predatory Offenders*, 601: *School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals* and 616: *School District Systems Accountability*.

- Approve Scheduling a Special Board of Education Meeting on March 28, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. to Discuss and Decide the Superintendent Search Timeline, Hiring Criteria, Stakeholder Involvement and Procedures

-Approve Updated 2025 School Board Committee Assignments, other Board Assignments and Board School Assignments.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Moved by Alt, seconded by Hume, to Adopt Amended and Restated Bond Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Mikkelsen, to Approve the Written Response to the Vote of Nonconcurrency.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Moved by Hume, seconded by Chester, to Approve, on a First Reading Basis, Changes to Policy 519: *Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies*. The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Moved by Hume, seconded by Alt, to Approve, on a First Reading Basis, Changes to Policies 701: *Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget*, 721: *Uniform Grant Guidance Regarding Federal Revenue Sources* and 704: *Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets and a Fixed Asset Accounting System*.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Minutes

Personnel

Recommendations  
checks, receipt,  
claims and  
investments

Budget Analysis

Listening Session

Policies

Schedule special  
meeting

Committee

Assignments

Bond Resolution

Vote of  
Nonconcurrency

Policies

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Mikkelsen, to Approve, on a First Reading Basis, Changes to Policies 899: *Name School Buildings or Facilities* and 512: *School-Sponsored Student Publications and Activities*. The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Selection of  
Superintendent  
Search Firm

Moved by Sachse, seconded by Chester, to Approve Selection of Minnesota School Board Association for Conducting the 2025 Superintendent Search.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Updates for  
sharing School  
Board Meetings  
Recess

Moved by Hume, seconded by Chester, to Approve Updates to Guidelines for Sharing School Board Meetings.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Work Session

Moved by Werb, seconded by Anderson, to move to a recess until 8:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

The work session to discuss the Insurance Plan Review and Facilities Needs Assessment began at 8:00 p.m. and ended at 8:56 p.m.

Moved by Hume, seconded by Alt to move to a closed session, as permitted by Minn. Stat. Section 13D. 03, to Discuss Labor Negotiations Strategy.

The motion carried unanimously (7,0).

Closed Session

The closed session to Discuss Labor Negotiations Strategy began at 9:01 p.m. In attendance were Chair Werb, Directors Anderson, Sachse, Chester, Mikkelsen, Hume, and Alt, Communications Director Aaron Tinklenberg, Executive Director of Administrative Services Stacey Sovine and Assistant Superintendent Chris Bellmont. The closed session ended at 9:31 p.m.

Adjourn

Having no further agenda items, Chair Werb adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

/s/  
Scott Hume, Clerk

April 10, 2025  
Date Approved