

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 272 ~ EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27, 2025
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A Regular Meeting of the Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools, was held on January 27, 2025, in the Eden Prairie District Administrative Offices, 8100 School Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

1. Convene: 6:00 PM: Roll Call - Call to Order

Present: Steve Bartz, Ann Bradsher, Aaron Casper, Abby Libsack, Kim Ross, Jody Ward-Rannow, Charles "CJ" Strehl seated at 6:04 p.m.

Not Present: Debjyoti "DD" Dwivedy

Present: Superintendent Josh Swanson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Review and Approval – Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by K. Ross to approve the agenda for the Monday, January 27, 2025 meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools – Passed 6-0.

4. Resolution - Interim Director Appointment – Motion by A. Libsack, **Seconded** by A. Casper:

WHEREAS a temporary vacancy exists in the office of a school board; and WHEREAS, the temporary vacancy has occurred because school board member, Debjyoti Dwivedy, has informed the School Board that his Military Service will require he is absent for more than 90 days, and has requested a leave. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 272, State of Minnesota, as follows:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.09, Subdivision 4, Charles J. Strehl is hereby appointed to fill the vacancy and to serve until the absent school board member can resume their duties as a member of the board or the end of the term expires, whichever date is earlier – Passed 6-0; Appointed Director Charles "CJ" Strehl seated at 6:04 PM

5. Oath of Office

6. Approval of Previous Minutes – Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by K. Ross to approval of the UNOFFICIAL Minutes of the School Board Regular Business Meetings on December 9, 2024, the Annual Organizational Meeting and the School Board Workshop Notes on January 6, 2025 – Passed 7-0

7. Spotlight on Success – Central Middle School: "Eighth Graders Inspiring Little Eagles: Reading for a Brighter Future"

8. Public Comment – 10 (Graduation Dates)

9. Announcements

- On January 13, Dr. Bill Daggett led our community in an engaging [Flight Plan 2035 Speaker Series](#) event, sharing insights on preparing students for the opportunities that lie ahead in their future. From encouraging us to build for today's children rather than our own past to explaining why micro-credentials may be so important to future generations of students, Dr. Daggett shared a host of incredible insights with us. Keep an eye out for another Flight Plan 2035 Speaker Series event in February — and remember that you can share feedback at any time using the [Eagle Voice](#) platform.
- Last week, we celebrated Paraprofessional Recognition Week! Paraprofessionals in Eden Prairie Schools play an essential role in student success by supporting classrooms, small groups, and beyond. Their dedication and commitment create a positive, inclusive learning environment where students thrive. We are grateful for their incredible work every day!
- Earlier this month, drama students from Eden Prairie High School attended the Minnesota State Thespian Conference, joining performers and theatre technicians from across the state. This annual event provides students with opportunities to attend workshops, audition for scholarships and compete for "Thespy" awards. For the first time, EPHS students competed for those "Thespy" awards, with Zak Bhatti, Adam Szendre, and Noah Lins earning Superior Performance honors for their group acting scene from *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Additionally, EPHS 10th grader Ray Colford was selected as a State Thespian Officer for next year. **Congratulations, Eagles!**
- Last month, EPHS students from the [Computer Science Honor Society, or CSHS, partnered with Prairie View fifth graders](#) for a day of hands-on exploration and discovery. This collaboration between fifth graders and high schoolers has taken place for more than 10 years, giving the younger students a chance to hone their problem-solving and logical reasoning skills while high schoolers strengthen their leadership and ability to explain complex topics. Thanks in part to a \$50,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Education, we

are expanding K-12 computer science opportunities like these. I'm really grateful to our computer science teachers for leading the way in that work!

- And speaking of technology at all levels, the Incredibots, a FIRST LEGO League team of Central Middle School sixth graders, qualified for the state championship for the second consecutive year! This season, they earned the Core Values and Innovation awards for creating SeaScanner, an app to assist stranded sea creatures. **Congratulations** and best of luck to the Incredibots at the state championship on February 16!
- A talented group of Eden Prairie teenagers, including several Eden Prairie Schools students, is completing *Kaleidoscope*, an album aimed at raising awareness about teen mental health challenges. This unique project, organized through the local nonprofit [Kaleidoscope Teens](#), highlights the power of youth collaboration and creativity. We're proud of these students for using their voices to make a difference!
- Central Middle School students Baylen Ceman, Nora Lotzow, and Avery Mehta earned three of the top five places in [The Stock Market Game](#) in Minnesota! This simulation teaches students about the stock market, economy, and investing. **Congratulations** to these outstanding Eagles!
- Lastly, I'm always excited to share the [Triple 'A' Award](#) winners, but I have to admit, this year is pretty special for me because our award winners are Maxwell Kukla and yes, my own daughter, Abigail Swanson! This award recognizes seniors excelling in academics, arts, and athletics. Abigail and Maxwell are now in the running to be named the Region 6AA finalists. In March, four of the 32 regional finalists will be selected as 2025 Triple 'A' Award state scholarship recipients.

10. Board Work

A. Required Board Action

- 1) *Resolution*: 2025A Long Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) Bonds Issuance - Intent to Issue

Motion by A. Libsack, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to approve and adopt the *RESOLUTION* stating the intention of the school board to issue general obligation facilities maintenance bonds, series 2025a, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$9,610,000 and taking other actions with respect thereto as presented – Passed 7-0 (Yes: SB, AB, AC, AL, KR, CS, JW-R) – No: 0

- a. Executive Summary
- b. Presale Report
- c. *Resolution*

B. Decision Preparation

- 1) FY 2025-26 School District Calendar
- 2) FY 2026-27 Preliminary School Calendar - (*DRAFT*)
- 3) FY 2025-26 Budget Timelines
- 4) FY 2024-25 Budget Assumptions - *First Reading*

C. Required Board Action

- 1) FY 2024-25 Mid-Year Budget Approval – **Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by A. Libsack to approve as presented – Passed 7-0
 - a. Executive Summary
 - b. Mid-Year Budget Update Presentation
 - c. Fund Balance Summary
- 2) Record of Board Self-Evaluation
 - a. 2023-24 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Executive Limitations (EL's) – **Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by K. Ross to accept record as presented – Passed 7-0

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to recess at 8:40 a.m – Passed 7-0.; Resumed meeting at 8:48 p.m.

11. Superintendent's Incidental Information Report

A. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Presentation

12. **Superintendent Consent Agenda** – **Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to approve the Consent Agenda as presented –

Passed 7-0

A. Monthly Reports

- 1) Resolution of Acceptance of Donations

- 2) Human Resources Report
- 3) Business Services Reports
 - a. Board Business
 - b. Financial Report - Monthly Revenue/Expenditure Report
- B. FY 2025-26 Advance Capital Purchase
- C. Pay Equity Reporting
- D. MOU EPEA - E-Learning Days
- E. MOU EPEA - Temp Staffing through Third Party Entities
- 13. **Board Education & Required Reporting – N/A**
- 14. **Superintendent's Incidental Information Report**
 - A. Flight Plan 2035 Update
- 15. **Board Action on Committee Reports & Minutes**
 - A. 2025 School Board Committees & Outside Organization Assignments
 - B. Board Development Committee
 - C. Community Linkage Committee
 - D. Negotiations Committee
 - E. Policy Committee
- 16. **Other Board Updates (AMSD, BRIGHTWORKS, ISD 287, MSHSL)**
 - A. AMSD (Association of Metropolitan School) – Abby Libsack (Updated Board)
 - B. BRIGHTWORKS – Ann Bradsher – no update
 - C. ISD District 287 - Intermediate School District 287 – Kim Ross (Updated Board)
 - D. MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League) – Ann Bradsher – no update
- 17. **Board Work Plan**
 - A. Work Plan Changes Document – **Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by K. Ross to approve as presented with additions – Passed 7-0

Eden Prairie School Board
2023–24 WORK PLAN CHANGES
“Proposed” Changes – January 27, 2025

Date of Meeting/Workshop	Changes Requested
Monday, February 10, 2025 – Special Board Meeting	- REMOVE (Action took place at the January 27, 2025 Board Meeting)
Monday, February 10, 2025 – Workshop	- ADD: Community Linkage Committee – Review Inspiring News Article - DRAFT
Monday, February 24, 2025	
Monday, March 10, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, March 24, 2025	
Monday, April 14, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, April 28, 2025	
Monday, May 12, 2025 – Workshop	
Tuesday, May 27, 2025	
Monday, June 9, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, June 23, 2025	
Placeholder – General Board Work	
Placeholder – Policy Review	

B. School Board Annual Work Plan FY 2024-25 (Jan-Jun)

18. **Adjournment – Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by A. Bradsher to adjourn at 9:51 PM

Abby Libsack – Board Clerk

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