

**NORTH BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 138
NORTH BRANCH AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL, FTLA ROOM #816
38431 LINCOLN TRL, NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, February 19, 2026
5:30 PM**

The School Board of Independent School District 138 met in special school board session on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the North Branch Area Middle School, FTLA Room #816, 38431 Lincoln Trl, North Branch, MN 55056.

Chair MacMillan called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Sarah Grovender, Shelly Johnson, Jesse LaValla, Heather Naegele, Tim MacMillan and Superintendent Paul

Absent: Adam Trampe

Note: Adam Trampe arrived at 5:43 PM.

Others in attendance: Kelly Detzler, Matthew Lattimore, Pakou Lee, Todd Tetzlaff, Pat Tepoorten and David Treichel

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Grovender, seconded by LaValla and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Paul provided an update highlighting staff wellness, community feedback, and workforce alignment. Community input identified schools as a central community strength, with strong support for career-connected learning, safe access to schools, and transparent engagement with families.

An economic development update noted the strategic alignment between education and workforce growth, including major industrial investment underway in the community. These efforts support North Branch Area Public Schools' commitment to ensuring students graduate with a clear postsecondary plan.

New Business

A. **Spotlight: Middle School**

The North Branch Area Middle School presentation highlighted progress toward behavioral and academic goals. Data showed many students meeting expected behavior and academic benchmarks, with targeted interventions in place to support students as needed. Staff emphasized continued use of data review, student support, and team collaboration to improve outcomes.

B. Approval of the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Special Election

Moved by Trampe, seconded by LaValla and carried unanimously to approve the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Special Election

C. Post Election Discussion

The Board reviewed unofficial results of the February 10, 2026 special election, noting the Capital Projects Levy renewal did not pass. It was reported that levy authority remains in place through next year, allowing time for planning.

Discussion focused on reviewing voter turnout data, comparing results to prior elections, and considering next steps for community engagement. Superintendent Paul emphasized that the discussion was intended to build understanding and inform future decision-making.

Adjournment

Moved by Grovender, seconded by LaValla and carried unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:14 PM.

Heather Naegele, Clerk