

OFFICIAL MINUTES: AUSTIN SCHOOL BOARD**STUDY SESSION**

Independent School District No. 492

Monday, January 26, 2026 4:00 pm

District Office Conference Room

401 Third Avenue NW, Austin, MN

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carolyn Dube
Robert Hartman
Cece Kroc
Don Leathers (4:14 pm)

Carol McAlister
Peggy Young
Dan Zielke (4:03 pm)
Superintendent Dr. Joey Page

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

MEETING CALLED**TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Dube called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room at Austin High School.

AGENDA APPROVED:

A motion was made by Hartman, seconded by Young, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as printed.

**FACILITIES PLAN
AND UTILIZATION
DISCUSSION:**

Todd Rapp of Rapp Strategies presented an assessment of the recent unsuccessful referendum. Representatives from ISG, Kevin Bills, and Sue Peterson, joined Finance and Operations Executive Director Todd Lechtenberg to review priority building repairs, funding options, and projected timelines. PTMA consultant Michael Hart provided an overview of bond considerations. The board will continue discussions on facility improvements, funding pathways, and how future decisions connect to long-term access, utilization, and stewardship of district facilities.

**ZIELKE LEFT MEETING
AT 6:15 PM****POLICIES REVIEWED:**

Policies 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 426, 427, 428, and 433 were reviewed with only minor updates.

**BOARD ENTERED
CLOSED SESSION:**

A motion was made by McAlister, seconded by Hartman and carried unanimously to enter closed session at 6:38 pm for the purpose of a superintendent's goals update. Six board members and Superintendent Page were present for the closed session.

**BOARD ENTERED
OPEN SESSION:**

Hartman made a motion, seconded by Kroc and carried unanimously to enter open session at 7:03 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Young, seconded by Hartman, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:03 pm.

Daniel Zielke, Clerk