

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
St. Cloud Area School District 742  
St. Cloud, Minnesota  
December 17, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Scott Andreasen, Al Dahlgren, Natalie Copeland, Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws, Heather Weems.

**I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Board member Copeland to remove Item D - Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations from the Consent Agenda and she will recuse herself from the vote.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C and E-J.

Approve Board Meeting minutes from November 5, 2025, November 10, 2025, November 19, 2025, and November 24, 2025.

Approve Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$7,043,963.33.

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

**LICENSED STAFF**

**New Hire**

Sofia Villalobos, Tier 2 Speech/Language Pathologist, Quarryview Education Center, effective December 1, 2025 through the 2025-2026 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (118 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$31,343.99.

Bradley Hagen, Tier 1 World Language, Ojibwe Teacher, Central Minnesota Virtual Academy, effective August 29 through December 5, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$40.00.

### **Rehire**

Steven Kline, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Media Specialist, Kennedy Community School, effective January 5, 2026 through April 10, 2026, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 8 (64 days of a .5 FTE contract) with a salary of \$14,433.21. Mr. Kline is returning for this assignment after retirement.

Daniel Schaefer, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Elementary Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective September 3, 2025 through October 3, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 8 (23 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$10,373.87. Mr. Schaefer is returning for this assignment after retirement.

### **Extended Contract**

Cathleen Bengtson, SPED Speech/Language Pathologist, District Wide, effective November 13, 2025 through December 23, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Bengtson's salary for this assignment will be \$2,881.81.

Carri Seelen, Art Teacher, North Junior High School, effective December 1, 2025 through February 27, 2026, Lane BA+10, Pay Level 9 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Seelen's salary for this assignment will be \$3,455.04.

Nicole Zapzalka, Art Teacher, Central Minnesota Virtual Academy, effective December 1, 2025 through February 27, 2026, Lane BA, Pay Level 4 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Zapzalka's salary for this assignment will be \$3,217.67.

Andrew Lehn, Social Studies Teacher, Central Minnesota Virtual Academy, effective December 1, 2025 through June 1, 2026, Lane MA+10, Pay Level 6 (.20 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Lehn's salary for this assignment will be \$8,992.50.

Heather Johnson, Science Teacher, Apollo High School, effective December 1, 2025 through June 1, 2026, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.20 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Johnson's salary for this assignment will be \$11,478.42.

### **Leave of Absence**

Samantha Froelich, SPED EBD Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective December 19, 2025 through March 8, 2026.

## **NON-LICENSED STAFF**

### **New Hire**

Kevin Moko, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective December 17, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Naeomie Roberts, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective January 5, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Daniell Vierzba, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective December 17, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Farhiyo Noor, Advanced Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective December 15, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Crisanta Kathrein, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective December 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Nakia Smith, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Kaylee Wood, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Kennedy Community School, effective December 11, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Nimo Mata, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective December 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Audrey Okonek, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective December 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Celenne Pinzon, Kitchen Helper, Tech High School, effective December 9, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Nancy Dyson, Transitional Services/Homelessness Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective December 15, 2025, for 133 days, with an annual salary of \$44,332.

Stephanie Doll, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective December 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Asmaa Ahmed, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective November 20, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Misra Jama, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective November 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

### **Rehire**

Danielle Maybury, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective December 18, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

### **Leave of Absence**

Alice Goebel, First Cook, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 29, 2026 through March 13, 2026.

Fahima Mohamud, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective November 26, 2025 through March 31, 2026.

Travis Abe, LPN, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective January 7, 2026 through March 8, 2026.

### **Resignation**

Theresa Kolbinger, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective December 18, 2025.

Fadumolaki Adan, Student Support Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 5, 2026. Ms. Adan was previously on a leave of absence.

McKenzie Cook, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective November 14, 2025.

Lavayah Oden, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective November 25, 2025.

### **Termination**

Nature Hollins, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective November 21, 2025.

Kari Macho, Student Support Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective December 1, 2025.

Cailyn Fleck, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective November 21, 2025.

Miles Carlton, Kitchen Helper, South Junior High School, effective December 4, 2025.

Approve Monthly Financial Report for October 2025.

Approve Monthly Treasurer's Report for October 2025.

Award the bids for the Tech Single User Restroom Remodel project as follows, based on low bids received meeting specifications.

Contract 22A – Mechanical – Precise Heating, AC, Plumbing & Refrigeration - \$422,550

Contract 26A – Electrical – Design Electric - \$133,173

Award the bid for the Apollo Renovations and Additions Bid Package 1 to Moline Sioux Falls in the amount of \$2,354,372, based on low bid received meeting specifications.

Authorize a Call for Bids for the Multipurpose Athletic Facility Bid Package 2 to be opened on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time.

Authorize a Call for Bids for the Talahi Parking Lot Improvements to be opened on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded Dahlgren to approve Consent Agenda Item D (Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations).

Board member Copeland recused herself from this agenda item.

1. Donation to Apollo High School:
  - \$100 from Kiwanis Club of St. Cloud, Inc. for the Orchestra Program
2. Donations to Discovery Community School:
  - Sweatpants from St. Cloud Elks Club #2843 for student use
  - Coats from St. Cloud Rotary for preschoolers use
3. Donation to Katherine Johnson Education Center/In Step:
  - \$2,500 from Clearwater Lions Club for field trips and job sales supplies
4. Donation to Talahi Community School:
  - \$650 from District 742 LEAF for Media Center document cameras
5. Donations to Tech High School:
  - \$1,000 from St. Cloud Optimist Club for the DECA Club
  - \$100 from Marilou Sommers on behalf of the Sister Tonie Rausch Scholarship
  - \$250 from Anthony Kroll on behalf of the Sister Tonie Rausch Scholarship
  - 2002 Dodge Grand Caravan Minivan from Cody Pratt for the CTE Program to provide hands-on experience for the automotive students

6. Donations to District 742:

- \$350 from CentraCare for the Girls' Crush Basketball Program
- Socks and underwear from The Lyle Group: All State Insurance for homeless students
- Mittens, scarves and hats from Trish Melin for Adult Education for student use
- (2) \$100 and (6) \$50 Cash Wise gift cards from Small Town Santa to Full Service Community Schools to feed families
- \$35,250 from District 742 LEAF for Adopt-A-Classroom supplies
- Coborn's groceries from Jessica Newman for Kennedy Feeding 742 Kids
- 100 (\$100) Walmart gift cards for a total of \$10,000 from Riverside Church for all 13 St. Cloud Schools for families in need

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**III. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. Immunization Policy Compliance Update

Kate Butkowski, Director of Student Services, provided an update on the district's Immunization Policy Compliance since the September 3, 2025 Board Meeting.

B. Presentation of Final 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy Certification

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, presented information on the final 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy. The School Board approved the preliminary 2025 Payable 2026 Levy in September and then the district certified that preliminary levy to the State and County. School districts are then required to present a Truth in Taxation presentation by December 28, 2025, and this presentation may be part of a regularly scheduled board meeting.

**IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON THE FINAL 2025 PAYABLE 2026 PROPERTY TAX LEVY CERTIFICATION**

There was no one in attendance for public input this evening.

**V. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

A. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of Final 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy Certification

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, noted the final 2025 Payable 2026 Levy is \$36,956,515.79, which is an increase of \$1,658,929.14 or

4.70% from the previous year's levy. This is the same amount that was presented for the preliminary levy which was approved in September.

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Andreasen to approve the Final 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy Certification.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

B. (ACTION ITEM) - Approval of Naming the ISD 742 Multipurpose Athletic Facility

Justin Skaalerud, Apollo High School Principal, provided an overview of his presentation on November 5, 2025 when three names were presented and the Board narrowed it down to two names with a request to see the names with sample logos as it could appear on the front of the facility. Principal Skaalerud noted that actual logo options will be brought forward at a later date when they are available.

- Option 1 - APEX Athletics Center
- Option 2 – APEX 742 Athletics Center

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Weems to approve Option 1 – APEX Athletics Center.

Board member Andreasen noted he likes Option 2 as he would like to see 742 included in the name.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. The following voted "nay": Andreasen. Motion passed 6-1.

C. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of the 2026-2027 High School Course Catalog

Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, presented the 2026-2027 class registration process and reviewed the 2026-2027 High School Course Catalog.

Strategic Plan Focus Areas include: (1) Positive Climate and Culture, (2) Instruction that Produces Positive Results, (3) Innovation, (4) Career and Post-Secondary Education Options, and (5) Family and Community Engagement.

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Andreasen to approve 2026-2027 High School Course Catalog.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**D. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of 2026-2027 Elementary School Boundary Redesign**

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, brought forward a recommendation to approve the 2026-2027 Elementary School Boundary Redesign. This was presented and reviewed at the December 3, 2025 Board Meeting.

Moved by Weems, seconded by Fenton to approve 2026-2027 Elementary School Boundary Redesign.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Andreasen, Copeland, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**VI. REPORTS**

**A. Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Laurie Putnam recognized winners of the recent Education Support Staff (ESS) Awards sponsored by Resource Training and Solutions. Each of our sites and schools were able to nominate a deserving support staff member whose hard work and dedication leaves a lasting impact on our students, families and their colleagues.

Dr. Putnam also acknowledged the J.A. Wedum Foundation along with Tom and Janet Grones for their generous donation of funds for our immunization compliance program.

Finally, a big thank you to Board member Al Dahlgren who is serving his final meeting with the School Board in 2025. His service, time, and wisdom to this community, the Board, and his guidance to Dr. Putnam personally, are deeply appreciated and will be missed by many.

**B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports**

1. Diana Fenton, Chair of the Achievement, Integration and Equity Committee, noted the committee met today and reviewed (1) The professional development day on December 5, 2025 was discussed with the work facilitated by World Savvy - 742 Future Ready by Design - Changemaker Hub and (2) Donna Roper discussed the fall data from the Climate and Culture Survey and the efforts to align surveys and data with the new strategic plan.
2. Heather Weems, Chair of the Board Finance Committee, noted the committee met on December 8, 2025 and discussed project updates and change orders for referendum projects.
3. Board member Dahlgren provided an overview of the three resolutions St. Cloud School District brought forward to the MSBA Delegate Assembly which were all



passed. The meeting was held on December 6, 2025. Mr. Dahlgren also wanted to mention the MSBA provided a lengthy presentation regarding a constitutional amendment regarding Minnesota's permanent school fund. He encouraged the Board members to watch for more information in the future.

## **VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Haws noted the January 7, 2026 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Cybersecurity Update
- Central Minnesota Virtual Academy Update
- Gen AI Update
- Approval of Tentative Agreements (if any)
- Policy Readings

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

Chair Haws adjourned the Board Meeting at 7:47 p.m. All Board members stated "aye".

Heather Weems, Clerk

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.