



**TO:** Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education  
**FROM:** Val Rae Boe  
**DATE:** January 21, 2025  
**RE:** January 15 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Knisely-12, Palmer-13, Jones-14, Forsberg-16, Oksnevad-282, Bock-621, Nitardy-622, Clark-623, Rebelein, Jr.- 831, Stout-832, Dols-833, and Thelander-834. Members absent: Daniels-624.

**Board Members:** The School Board welcomed new members, Curt Rebelein, Jr. from Forest Lake, Stacy Stout from Mahtomedi, and Andrew Thelander from Stillwater, to the 916 School Board.

**Election of officers and board compensation:** The School Board elected Marilyn Forsberg as chair, Laura Palmer as vice chair, Curt Rebelein, Jr. as clerk, and Kathleen Daniels as treasurer. The School Board also voted to increase the compensation by \$100 for board members, ranging from \$5,200 and \$5,900 per year depending on the individual's role on the Board.

**Presentation: 2023-24 Annual Report:** This report serves as a testament to the power of regional partnerships in addressing the challenges of modern education. The ongoing partnerships allow 916 to provide effective solutions for all students. The key points presented included the unique services and specialized support, staffing, and economy of scale and financial efficiency at 916.

**Audit report:** The School Board received a financial report for the 2023-24 school year, prepared by the auditor (MMKR) for Northeast Metro 916. There were no instances of noncompliance with laws and regulations and there were also no material weaknesses or instances of noncompliance reported in the current year.

**School Board Policies:** The School Board approved several policies that were presented in December and several policies with minor modifications that may be approved at one meeting.

- Approved: Policies 506, 515, 515 Form, 516, and 524.
- Approved Modifications: Policies 510, 523, and 618.

**2025 Legislative Platform:** The School Board approved the platform which was created by the four Intermediates, alongside lobbyist Valerie Dosland, and will be used in discussions with key legislators, and other individuals and groups as needed to influence legislative activity. The 2025 priorities include Funding for ITRAC, Direct Aid Distribution to Student Support Personnel, Increase Extended Time Revenue, Enhance School Safety, and Improve Access to Career and Technical Education.

**Approval of Contracts:** The School Board approved two contracts.

- **Solar Study, Design, and Project Administration Services:** 916 is exploring the possibility of adding solar panels to the roof of Pankalo Education Center. Hallberg Engineering has submitted a proposal to support this initiative. The project will be conducted in two phases: Phase 1 is a feasibility study to assess the potential benefits of this project. Phase 2 will proceed with construction, bidding and overall project administration if the feasibility study yields positive results. The total amount of the contract would be \$50,000.
- **Quora Secondary School Door Replacement Project:** Quora Secondary School was originally equipped with solid core wooden doors. Over time, many of these doors have sustained significant damage. Durable aluminum and fiberglass reinforced doors have been selected as replacements as they are more resistant to damage and maintain the security of our building. The total amount of the contract is \$546,444.64 and will come from remaining building construction funds.