

Regular School Board Meeting, November 24, 2025

The Board of Independent School District 308 met on Monday, November 24, 2025, in the Media Center and via Zoom. Chair Andy Lindow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Andy Lindow, Karrin Lindow, Dave McGee, and student representative Adeline Bjorklund; Jen McNamee joined the meeting via Zoom. Absent were Ben Hass and Aimee Plumley.

Ms. Sara Niemala, of Brady Martz Certified Public Accountants, presented via Zoom the preliminary summary of the audited financial statements of the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. This preliminary report indicated total revenues reported for the District of \$9,761,832.00 and total expenditures at \$9,663,111.00. The 2024-2025 net position of the district increased \$98,721.00. The current total net position of the district ending June 30, 2025, is \$2,479,091.00.

Motion by Dave McGee, second by Jen McNamee to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Karrin Lindow, second by Andy Lindow to approve the financial reports as presented by Superintendent Seykora and Tom Haldeman, Accounts Payable Clerk with a cash balance at the end of October of \$2,090,278.72. The Payment Register and payment of claims were approved in the amount of \$174,477.30. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Karrin Lindow, second by Andy Lindow to approve the following consent agenda items: donations as follows -

Itasca Mantrap

7 th & 8 th Grade Library (Mrs. Carrier)	\$ 200.00
Community Education (Mr. Buckholtz)	200.00
Special Olympics (Mrs. Sagen)	300.00
Hope Squad (Mrs. Buckholtz)	500.00
Life Skills (Mrs. Sagen)	150.00
PBIS (Ms. Mowder)	150.00
Indian Education (Mr. Buckholtz)	250.00
Book Club (Mrs. Carrier)	400.00
Lego Robotics (Mrs. Netteberg)	350.00
Speech Activities (Mrs. Henry)	300.00
Ag Club (Ms. Offerdahl)	500.00
Sensory (Ms. Platz)	1,090.00
Flexible Seating (Mrs. Meyer)	200.00
5 th Grade Activities (Mrs. Haldeman)	350.00
STEM Activities (Mrs. Haldeman)	350.00
Skate Time (Mrs. Bessler)	500.00
School Readiness (Ms. Offerdahl)	750.00

3M

Robotics	\$ 3,000.00
North Country Structures	
Cross Country State Meet	\$ 300.00

for a total of \$9,840.00; minutes of the school board work sessions held October 20 and November 17, 2025; minutes of the regular school board meeting held October 27, 2025; 2025-2026 Teachers' Seniority List; student teachers Kolby Brandt - 2nd grade with Karly Cobb and Bianca DeRosa - art with Chris Boedigheimer from January 12 through April 24, 2026; changes to the 2025-2026 Student/Parent Handbook regarding dress code, person and property searches, and discipline policies; change date of January Work Session to Tuesday, January 20, 2026; resolution to replace the Citizens National Bank Visa card with BMO Harris Visa P-Card; 2024-2025 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Report as presented by Principal Michaelson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Karrin Lindow, second by Dave McGee to approve the fiscal year 2025 audit as presented by Sara Neimala of Brady Martz. On a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Superintendent Seykora presented discussion information regarding ICS and moving forward with another referendum attempt in the fall of 2026. New to the ICS team is Laura Christenson and Mark Cobb. Ms. Christenson met for three days recently with staff and students gathering input and ideas. They also met with the elementary and high school Student Council members. A survey was sent to staff by Superintendent Seykora and Ms. Christenson. They also sent a community survey and have received to date 274 responses. That survey closes December 1. The goal is to put together a proposal that is affordable to district residents and meets the district's needs.

The District's strategic plan was written in 2022 and is good through 2027. A more user friendly version of the plan is being developed targeting the four goal areas: 1) student achievement, 2) school culture and climate, 3) high quality work force and 4) efficient operations.

Student representative, Adeline Bjorklund reported Student Council members peeled potatoes for the annual Thanksgiving lunch so students and staff could enjoy authentic mashed potatoes with their meal. Six hundred pieces of pumpkin pie were cut to be served as well. Winter sports teams of boys and girls basketball, boys hockey, gymnastics and wrestling have all begun their seasons. Solo contest was held in Bagley November 5 with the following students participating and their results:

Freddy Arellano	Superior, baritone
Adeline Bjorklund	Superior, flute
	Superior, vocal 'Best in Site'
Caitlin Cobbs	Superior, trumpet
Finn Henry	Excellent, alto saxophone
Kristen Sandmeyer	Superior, clarinet
	Excellent, vocal

And, the winter music concerts will be held December 8 for students in grades Kindergarten through 3, December 15 for

students in grades 7-12 and December 16 for students in grades 4-6.

Dave McGee, WHAN assistant wrestling coach, reported 37 athletes are out for wrestling which includes four girls. And, Karrin Lindow reported attending a Wellness Committee meeting, traveled with Mr. Olaf Netteberg and his Know Your Home students for a tour of North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, North Dakota November 19, went to the State volleyball tournament November 6-7, and participated in a community book club led by Mrs. Katrina Carrier.

Principal Michaelson's report included the end of quarter 1 was October 31, the start of Quarter 2 was November 3, mid-quarter 2 is December 3. Members of robotics team 3102 were in the Twin Cities November 19 for the Inspire Conference. Student Council is hosting a blood drive December 5. November 12 was a two-hour late start for students with staff attending CPR training and curriculum and read training. The District Advisory Committee met November 11 to review the Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) report. A Veterans Day ceremony was held November 11 and was well attended and appreciated by our local veterans.

Certified staff representative Olaf Netteberg gave classroom activity updates from various teaching staff: Mrs. Hoffman and Mrs. Buckholtz have 57 9-12 grade students signed up to participate in Knowledge Bowl. Math League advisor, Mrs. Hoffman also shared Math League has 15 students participating and have had two meets. The boiler exam was taken by 10 students from Mr. Wroolie's trades class. The North Country Vocational Cooperative Center recently secured \$15,000 in CNC equipment for Mr. Netteberg's industrial technology program. Robotics mentor, Mr. Netteberg reported there are three Lego teams made up of students in grades 6-8. Robotics Team 3102 will travel to North Dakota State University December 6 to participate in JUMPSTART. Ms. Kaylie Schell reported the kindergartens had recorded their annual versions of how to cook a turkey, and the 2nd grade students will have a Thanksgiving Day parade through the halls at 2:50 p.m. November 26. And, as a side note, Mr. Netteberg shared that the District had seven sendoffs in 2025 to State competitions which included teams of boys basketball, Knowledge Bowl, robotics, and volleyball, and individuals for track, golf, and cross country.

Community Education Coordinator and American Indian Education Liaison, Mr. Mel Buckholtz shared successes of the Community Education program with numbers which included: 553 student participants in grades K-12, 133 adult participants, 40 volunteer coaches, 50 student assistants and 11 school age care workers. The Diamond Club has provided funds to rebuild the junior high baseball/softball field dugouts. Nick Richter and his father volunteered to construct the dugouts, Wolff & Simon

Real Estate has purchased new uniforms, and J&J Autobody has purchased hats for the Community Education minors and majors teams. There have been many American Indian education activities since the start of the school year including: Students went to the school forest to harvest sage; the 7th grade English classes have been learning about American Indian culture and boarding schools; Mr. Buckholtz took students to the Native American health fair held at the Park Rapids Armory; Thomas X entertained students and staff with his music and storytelling on Indigenous Peoples Day; and American Indian students and students in cultural class attended a powwow in Detroit Lakes. There are currently four American Indian students enrolled in college credit classes and one enrolled in the CNA class. The annual banquet will be held in the spring recognizing all the American Indian students in the school. And, there is a team of volunteers creating banners depicting the seven gifts.

Superintendent Seykora reported the food audit conducted by the Minnesota Department of Education went very well for Head Cook Patricia Havnes and her team. She was recently interviewed by first grade students as a learning project. The District is seeking to increase breakfast and lunch counts by offering grab and go items for high school students. And, the members of the District Wellness Committee have gone over and above expectations developing their annual plan.

Motion by Dave McGee, second by Karrin Lindow to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

The Truth-in-Taxation and next regular school board meeting is scheduled for December 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Plumley, Clerk