



Script

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board Member Sherry Warrick was absent. Board Clerk Dukes took roll call.

Board Member Attendance	Present	Absent
Member Larsen	X	
Member Niemioja	X	
Member Lounsberry	X	
Member Dukes	X	
Member Pierson	X	
Member Klingner	X	

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Carrie Lounsberry led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda Items

Motion by Member Larsen and a Second by Member Niemioja to approve the agenda items.

Motion carried 6-0.

5. District Highlight

ISD 199 Director of Learning Megan Blazek shared the 2025 graduation rates as a district highlight. Simley's Class of 2025 had a four-year graduation rate of 89.67%, outpacing its Class of 2024 graduation rate and the state average by nearly 5 percentage points.

6. Consent Agenda

A motion carried to approve the consent agenda items. The consent agenda included approval of the March 9 regular meeting minutes; April 13 special meeting minutes; March cash disbursements and check register; personnel transactions; resolution accepting donations, gifts and grants; and the designation of the Identified Official with Authority.

Motion by Member Klingner and a Second by Member Pierson to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion carried 6-0.

7. Information Items

A. Pine Bend Elementary School Update

Principal Paul Richardson shared an update on Pine Bend Elementary School. Principal Richardson talked about social-emotional and academic successes, and a couple of teachers gave an overview of new curriculum.

B. Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation Summary

ISD 199 School Board Vice Chair and Treasurer Jacob Klingner presented the Superintendent Mid-year Evaluation Summary.

C. 2026-2027 Budget Update

ISD 199 Director of Business Services Heather Aune presented a 2026-2027 Budget Update.

D. First Reading for Review of Policies

Superintendent Dave Bernhardson introduced the following policies for a First Reading for Review: 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults, 421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members, 422 Employee Recognition, 423 Employee-Student Relationships, and 427 Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers.

E. Committee Reports

I. Facilities Committee The facilities committee has not met this month.
II. Finance Committee The finance committee met on April 13 to review the monthly check register and expenditures-to-date.
III. Personnel Committee The personnel committee met on April 13. The agenda included updates on contract nonrenewals.
IV. Policy Committee The policy committee met prior to tonight's meeting to review several policies in the current policy cycle.

F. Membership Reports

I. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) AMSD met on April 10. The agenda included routine business, as well as an Executive Committee report regarding the election of officers to fill vacancies, and the nominations of Executive Committee members.

<p>II. Inver Grove Heights B.E.S.T. Foundation The BEST Foundation met on April 20. The Executive Team met to approve items for the May 27, 2026 awards night. The scholarship process has been audited by community members and approved to be awarded in May.</p>
<p>III. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) MSBA has a new learning hub called OnBoard U. They offer courses designed specifically for school board leadership. More information can be found on their website.</p>
<p>IV. Intermediate School District 917 Intermediate School District 917 met on April 7. The agenda included typical business and approval of several policies, a Read Act MOU, a resolution to nonrenew and terminate probationary teachers, and approval of the 2026-27 district calendar.</p>

8. Action Items

A. 2026-2027 School Board and Committee Meetings Schedule

Superintendent Bernhardson introduced the recommendation to approve the 2026-2027 School Board and Committee Meetings Schedule.

Motion by Member Niemioja and a Second by Member Dukes to approve the 2026-2027 School Board and Committee Meetings Schedule.

Motion carried 6-0.

B. Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contracts

Director of Human Resources Emily Herman introduced the recommendation to approve a Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contracts.

Motion by Member Lounsberry and a Second by Member Pierson to approve a Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contracts. A roll call style vote was taken:

Roll Call Style Voting	Aye	Nay
1-Member Klingner	X	
2-Member Lounsberry	X	
3-Member Niemioja	X	
4-Member Warrick	X	
5-Member Dukes	X	
6-Member Larsen	X	

Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Resolution Proposing Placement of a Continuing Contract Teacher on Unrequested Leave of Absence**
Director of Human Resources Emily Herman introduced the recommendation to approve a Resolution Proposing Placement of a Continuing Contract Teacher on an Unrequested Leave of Absence.

Motion by Member Niemioja and a Second by Member Klingner to approve a Resolution Proposing Placement of a Continuing Contract Teacher on Unrequested Leave of Absence. A roll call style vote was taken:

Roll Call Style Voting	Aye	Nay
1-Member Lounsberry	X	
2-Member Niemioja	X	
3-Member Warrick	X	
4-Member Dukes	X	
5-Member Larsen	X	
6-Member Klingner	X	

Motion carried 6-0.

9. Superintendent and School Board Comments

A. Superintendent Dave Bernhardson

Thank you to Principal Paul Richardson for hosting this evening. Congratulations to the cast and crew of the Mean Girls production over the past weekend! Also, congratulations to the Middle School on once again earning revalidation as an AVID National Demonstration School this spring, continuing a distinction it has held since first receiving the designation in 2018.

We held our final Student Advisory Council meeting of the school year, where Food Services led a taste-testing session with our 4th, 7th, and 11th grade students. Students had the opportunity to provide valuable feedback on potential new menu items.

I want to celebrate our graduation rates. Our goal is to have all of our students graduate at the end of the year. Our focus is on belonging, relationships, and engagement is a reflection of all of our intentional efforts.

B. School Board Comments

Member Klingner - Thank you to Principal Richardson for hosting us at Pine Bend tonight. I noticed a lot of good things in the presentation that were inspiring to see. There was a slide about *every minute matters*. There is evidence of student leadership that is inspiring to see.

Member Pierson - Thank you to Pine Bend and Principal Richardson for hosting. I want to call out the earlier district highlight on the graduation rates. It has been a continual point of focus. This is a huge success and milestone for our district.

Member Larsen - Thank you to Pine Bend. Hearing the curriculum update from the teachers firsthand was exciting. I want to thank everyone who has been following this journey with us. I see you, I hear you, and I appreciate you.

Member Niemioja - The achievement and integration goals and the graduation rates are incredible. There are so many good things happening in all our buildings. Thank you to every single staff person. This is the work from every single position in this district. Thank you!

Member Dukes - Thank you for sharing all the great things happening at Pine Bend. When we have opportunities to visit and hear about the exciting learning taking place in our schools, it brings a sense of pride and joy. I feel a similar sense of joy as other board members on the graduation rates.

Member Lounsberry - Earlier in my career, I worked with students in credit recovery programs. These graduation rates reflect how our staff built strong relationships and supported students in reaching their goals. I am proud of our teachers for embracing the challenge of learning new curriculum and continuing to grow as educators. Fostering curiosity and a growth mindset is so important for both staff and students.

10. Upcoming Meeting Dates

There will be a Special Meeting this Wednesday, April 29 for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent Contract at 5:30pm. This meeting will take place in the Middle School library.

The next Work Session will be held on Monday, May 11. The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 18 at the District Office.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Member Dukes and a Second by Member Larsen to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Independent School District No. 199 (Inver Grove Heights Community Schools), State of Minnesota, hereby certify that the attached and foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of the minutes of a regular meeting of the school board of the ISD 199 School District duly called and held on the date therein indicated, a true and correct copy of the original thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such clerk this 27th day of April, 2026.

School District Clerk