

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
May 21, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, May 21, 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 (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Shannon Haws, Heather Weems. Absent: Diana Fenton.

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, 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.

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

Approve the minutes from the April 16, 2025 Board Meeting.

Approve Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$5,450,278.56.

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

Emma Douglas, Tier 3 RISE Language Arts Teacher, McKinley-ALC, effective for the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA+40, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$59,497.

Najah Ahmed, Tier 1 Long Call Substitute Somali Language Teacher, Tech and Apollo High School, effective May 12, 2025 through June 2, 2025, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (14.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$3,851.59.

Rachel Fredenburg, Tier 3 SPED ABS Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective April 30, 2025 through the 2024-2025 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (24.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$4,555.50.

Jessica Savolainen, Tier 4 Counselor, Oak Hill Community School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 10 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$79,667.

Rehire

Sumaiya Raka-Bartos, Tier 1 Long Call Substitute SPED EBD Teacher, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective March 24, 2025 through April 17, 2025, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (18 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$4,781.29.

Additional Pay

Five-day vacation payout on May 31, 2025, for Superintendent Laurie Putnam as compensation for unused vacation days due to referendum campaign and presentation schedule.

Leave of Absence

Kristen Bauer, Music Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective May 8, 2025 through May 30, 2025.

Cheyenne Novak, Mental Health Advocate Coordinator, Apollo and Tech High School, effective August 25, 2025 through October 27, 2025.

Nathan Pillsbury, Grade 4 Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective December 1, 2025 through January 2, 2026.

Denise Weekley, SPED Physical Health Disability Teacher, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective May 12, 2025 through May 30, 2025.

Resignation

Ann Jurewicz, Principal, Clearview Elementary School, effective June 30, 2025.

Shannon Miller, SPED EBD Teacher, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective June 2, 2025.

Joshua Alessio, Mathematics Teacher, Tech High School, effective June 2, 2025.

Velva Jacobs, Social Worker, South Junior High School, effective June 2, 2025.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Katrinna Deters, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective May 9, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Rehire

Katie Hendrickson, Kitchen Helper, Tech High School, effective September 1, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Resignation

Christina Krueger, SPED Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective May 30, 2025. Ms. Krueger will remain an Arise Facilitator and Assistant Girls' Swim Coach.

Tenley Quesnell, SPED Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective May 30, 2025.

Janet Summerall, Literacy Accountability Specialist, Quarryview Education Center, effective July 31, 2025.

Milan Rhodes, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective May 9, 2025.

Michael Tollefson, Sub Custodian, District Wide, effective April 22, 2025.

Mikayla Donahue, Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective May 21, 2025.

Retirement

Renee St. John, Clerical Class I (10-Month), District Administration Office, effective October 31, 2025, after 4 years of service in District 742.

Deceased

Cheri Hoheisel, Clerical Class I (12-Month), District Administration Office, effective May 5, 2025.

Sheryl Ballmann, Clerical Class III (12-Month), Apollo High School, effective May 7, 2025. Ms. Ballmann was previously on a leave of absence.

Termination

Marqueta Sanders, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective May 14, 2025.

Melissa Miller, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective May 2, 2025.

Approve South Long Term Facilities Maintenance Improvements Change Orders
Totaling +\$70,537.00.

Approve North Long Term Facilities Maintenance Improvements Change Orders
Totaling +\$55,974.29.

Approve Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of the District's General Obligation Capital Appreciation School Building Bonds (Minnesota School District Credit Enhancement Program); Authorizing the Negotiation for the Sale of Such Bonds; Covenanting and Obligating the District to Be Bound by and to Use the Provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to Guarantee the Payment of the Principal and Interest on Such Bonds; and Declaring the Official Intent of the District to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from the Proceeds of Bonds to Be Issued by the District.

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

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

Board member Copeland recused herself from this agenda item.

1. Donations to Apollo High School:

- \$500 from Rotaract Club of St. Cloud on behalf of the 2025 Rotaract Scholarship
- \$1,000 from Community Giving on behalf of the Charlie Boike Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 from Robert Larson on behalf of the Sharon Larson Memorial "ESL" Scholarship
- \$800 from Class of 1987 on behalf of the Class of 1987 Scholarship

2. Donations to Katherine Johnson Education Center:

- \$910 from Granite City Lumberjacks, Inc. for student needs

- \$805 from Granite City Lumberjacks, Inc. for student needs
3. Donations to Kennedy Community School:
 - \$1,500 from District 742 LEAF for VEX Robotics
 - \$2,917 from District 742 LEAF for Baseball Startup Funds
 4. Donations to North Junior High School:
 - Baked Potato Bar from Texas Roadhouse for Conference Night Dinner for Staff
 - 100 Free Ultimate Carwash Certificates from Crew Carwash for Teacher Appreciation
 - 40 Sharks from Heree Wakey for Science Class Dissection
 - \$1,000 IC Legacy Grant from MN Future Problem Solving Program to Eagle CmPS for Transportation
 - 9 cases of Bubblr from Bernick's for Teacher Appreciation Week
 5. Donations to South Junior High School:
 - \$1,000 from Clear Lake Lions to purchase instruments for the Music Program
 - \$1,370 from District 742 LEAF for Activities
 6. Donations to Talahi Community School:
 - \$500 from D & J Duggan to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$100 from Eric and Elizabeth Reisinger to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$500 from St. Cloud Lions Inc. to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$100 from Jeff and Steph Petersen to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$400 from Sam and Whitney Court to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$100 from Bryan and Katie Virnig to purchase yearbooks for all students
 - \$439 from Central MN Arts Board for the Haitian Dance on March 11, 2025
 - Notepads and paper from Creative Memories for Teacher Appreciation Week
 - \$75 gift card from Fleet Farm for Fishing Day
 - \$1,038.37 from United Way of Central MN to purchase instructional materials for students
 7. Donations to Tech High School:
 - \$1,700 from Tech Alumni Association to cover Student Council State Convention fees
 - \$1,500 from Kopp Family Foundation on behalf of the Kopp Family Foundation Scholarships
 - \$500 from Rotaract Club of St. Cloud on behalf of the 2025 Rotaract Scholarship
 - \$1,000 from Community Giving on behalf of the Charlie Boike Memorial Scholarship
 - \$3,000 from Clearwater Lions Club for the Tech Scholarship Fund
 - \$1,000 from Diane and Stanley Coombes on behalf of the Kerben Family Scholarship
 8. Donations to Westwood Elementary School:

- 2 cases of bottled water, 8 (6-pack) of Bubblr and 6 (12-pack) of Bubly Burst from Bernick's for Teacher/Staff Appreciation
 - 8 dozen donuts from The Bauer Group/Horace Mann for Teacher/Staff Appreciation
 - 2 cases of bottled water and various cookie treats from Sam's Club for Teacher/Staff Appreciation
9. Donations to District 742:
- \$40 from Anne Marie Bydlon for the Project Challenge Program
 - \$2,000 from City of Waite Park for Community Education Programs
 - \$1,000 from St. Cloud Optimist Club for the ARISE Program
 - \$1,000 from St. Cloud Optimist Club for ACCESS SLPs therapy materials and trainings
 - 4 cases (24 pack) of bottled water, 2 cases (12 pack) of Cool Blue Gatorade, 2 cases (12 pack) of Lemon Lime Gatorade, 2 cases (12 pack) of Propel Fitness Water, 2 cases (12 pack) of Propel Strawberry Lemonade from Bernick's for the ARISE Program Pickleball-A-Thon
 - 3 (\$50) gift cards from Kwik Trip for District Leadership Team Professional Development

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Andreasen, Dahlgren, Dorholt, Haws, Weems. Abstained: Copeland. Motion passed 6-0.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. District Retiree Event

Chair Shannon Haws recognized this year's retirees in the district. The Board also watched a video celebrating the retiree's collective achievements.

B. Transitional Services Update

Adam Holm, Executive Director of Community Education, along with Colia Bynum, Transitional Services Coordinator, and Kim Braxton, Family Advocate Specialist, provided an update on transitional services support in the district.

- Collaborating with school staff, agencies, and community leaders to proactively address factors that limit student participation and academic growth.
- Guiding students in identifying obstacles to learning and helping them access individualized academic, emotional, and social support throughout their school years.

- Engaging families who are experiencing instability through ongoing communication and advocacy to ensure continuing in education and awareness of available protections and entitlements.
- Bridging gaps by connecting youth and their families to essential wraparound services that support physical health, mental wellness, and educational stability.

The intake discussion and process include: (1) school placement decision, (2) transportation arrangements, (3) food services, (4) physical needs, (5) academic needs, and (6) MARSS – Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System.

As of today, a total of 1,073 students are experiencing housing instability this school year. Our students benefit greatly from clothing and other essential items which ensure a confident and comfortable start to the school day provided by key partners including District 742 LEAF, Scheels, Eich Motors, Great Rivers, Walmart, Target, Dicks, HRA, Central Driving, America's Best, Asian, Ruby's Pantry, Stearns Bank, Stearns County, Laundry Depot, and Aldi's.

C. Graduation and End of Year Celebrations

Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, and Molly Kensy, Tech High School Principal, provided an overview of Graduation and End of Year Celebrations in the district. Our goal is to partner with students, families and staff to create celebrations that meet their hopes and dreams.

Junior High Celebrations include South on May 23, Kennedy on May 30, and North on May 30. Alternative Programs include C02 Graduation on May 21 and Adult Basic Education on May 30.

We held an Indigenous Graduate Honoring on May 7 and McKinley will hold their graduation celebration on May 23. Apollo's senior picnic and Tech's activity day along with seniors' last day will all occur on May 23. Graduation commencement for Apollo and Tech will be on May 31.

D. 2025 Summer School Review

Krysta Potter, Director of Title Programs and Multilingual Student Services, provided an overview of summer learning opportunities which include:

- Extended School Year (ESY) for Pre-K, Elementary, Secondary, Journey
- K-5 Targeted Services
- 6-7 Targeted Services
- Secondary Credit Bearing Opportunities
- Credit Recovery

Goals include: (1) Increase participation and opportunity by adjusting the model, (2) Gather feedback from staff, parents and students, (3) Prioritize attendance and engagement with intentional connection points to families, and (4) Provide robust instruction in the areas of Social Emotional Learning, Reading, and Math.

Partners include United Way, Yes! Network, Grow Your Own Student, and Reading Corp.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of List of Graduates for Apollo and Tech High School

Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, presented a list of Graduates from both Apollo and Tech High School.

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Dorholt to approve the list of Graduates for both Apollo and Tech High School.

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

B. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 701– Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget (*Second Reading*)

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 701 - Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the consent agenda for the June 4, 2025 Board of Education Meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

C. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 721– Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources (*First Reading*)

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 721– Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources. There were no suggested changes. This policy will come to the June 4, 2025 Board meeting for a second reading.

D. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 704 – Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets and a Fixed Asset Accounting System (*First Reading*)

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 704 – Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets and a Fixed Asset Accounting System. There were no suggested changes. This policy will come to the June 4, 2025 Board meeting for a second reading.

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Laurie Putnam provided an update on current activities around the district by utilizing our four pillars of Safety, Belonging, Collaboration, and Excellence.

We are proud to announce Matt Sherry, who currently serves as the School Resource Officer (SRO) at Apollo High School, has been named as the new District Safety Coordinator for St. Cloud Area Schools. This new role is funded through our Department of Justice (DOJ) School Safety Grant and is part of our broader strategy to enhance district wide safety practices. Matt brings extensive law enforcement experience, a strong background in criminal justice, and a deep familiarity with our schools to this position. We are thrilled to have his expertise guiding and strengthening our safety systems across all buildings. His leadership will expand our capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from safety-related situations while continuing to build positive relationships with students, families, and staff.

We are happy to welcome Laker, a two-year-old golden lab, who is a SCPD Therapy Dog, along with SRO Janelle Haas at Katherine Johnson Education Center.

We were grateful for the opportunity to attend the Granite Partners Trade Show with participants including Dr. Jason Harris, Principals Molly Kensy and Justin Skaalerud and students. Thank you to Brian Myres and Rick and Shelly Bauerly for including us.

We appreciate all retirees and would also like to recognize our Cabinet colleagues, Gary Ganje and Adam Holm, who are attending their last Board meeting tonight.

B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

1. Heather Weems, Chair of the Board Finance Committee, noted the committee met on May 12, 2025, and reviewed Board Policy 802 and a City Special Assessments Update.
2. Natalie Copeland provided an update on behalf of Diana Fenton, Chair of the Achievement, Integration and Equity Committee, and noted the committee met on May 14, 2025, and reviewed (1) 2024 Graduation Data, (2) XQ Institute, and (3) Committee meetings for the rest of the year.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Haws noted the June 4, 2025 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Approval of Executive Contracts
- Preliminary 2025-2026 Budget Presentation
- Policy Readings

VII. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to adjourn the Board meeting. All Board members stated “aye”. The Board meeting concluded at 7:57 p.m.

Heather Weems, Clerk

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