

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
May 6, 2026**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 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: Gina Acevedo, Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), 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 and Work Session agenda.

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Board member Weems to remove Item A (Personnel Staff Changes) from the Consent Agenda and she will recuse herself from the vote.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve Consent Agenda Items B through I.

Approve the Monthly Financial Report for March 2026.

Approve the Monthly Treasurer’s Report for March 2026.

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 533 – Wellness (*Third Reading*).

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 510 – School Activities (*Third Reading*).

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 599 – In-District Transfer Policy (*Third Reading*).

Approve Board Policy 203.6 – Consent Agendas (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Remuneration for Board Members (*Tabled from January 5, 2026 Reorganization Meeting Agenda*).

1. The yearly budget for education and training expenses for School Board Members shall be \$5,950.00. Individual Board Members who wish to go beyond the \$850.00 per Board Member allowance should present their request to the Board Development, Policy and Governance Committee for review.
2. Board Members may elect at the Board Reorganization Meeting to defer a portion of their compensation to an Individual Education Account for use towards educational expenses not covered by the \$850.00 allowance. This is a one-time deferral, with the remaining year's compensation paid in regular monthly amounts. Once deferred, the amount cannot be rescinded and paid out in regular compensation. This is an option only, and the plan is established to encourage Board Members to attend national conferences, which provide outstanding educational experiences, but which are beyond the financial resources of the district.
3. Board Members shall be reimbursed for use of their automobile for all out-of-district School District-related travel at the rate established for School District employees. Board Members will not receive reimbursement for mileage within the School District.
4. At least quarterly, reimbursements other than monthly compensation will be placed on the consent agenda for approval by the Board.

Approve Tech Single User Restroom Remodel Change Order with Design Electric in the amount of +\$6,311.13.

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

Moved by Andreasen, seconded Copeland to approve Consent Agenda Item A (Approval of Personnel Staff Changes).

Board member Weems recused herself from this agenda item.

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

Meaghan Steege, Tier 3 Long Call Substitute Physical Education/Social Studies Teacher, South Junior High School, effective March 26, 2026 through June 1, 2026, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (48.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$13,140.62.

Joshua Smith, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Vocal/Music Teacher, Tech High School and South Junior High School, effective May 1, 2026 through May 29, 2026, Lane BA, Pay Level 5 (22 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$6,637.34.

John Plettner, Tier 3 Long Call Substitute SPED Teacher, South Junior High School, effective April 20, 2026 through May 29, 2026, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (31 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$10,959.09.

Leah Jacobs, Tier 3 Social Worker, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$63,989.

Thomas Frericks, Tier 4 Elementary SPED Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$72,471.

Brooke Flaata, Tier 3 Secondary SPED Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Hailee Morford, Tier 4 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$81,690.

Bonnie Jackson, Tier 2 School Psychologist, Kennedy Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 4 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$72,741.

Maisyn Meigs, Tier 3 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$75,441.

Corbitt Harrell, Tier 1 Secondary SPED Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Samantha Zimmerman, Tier 3 Elementary Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Genesis Green, Tier 2 Secondary SPED Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Zoe Knutson-Kolodzne, Tier 3 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$72,316.

Shelby Vogel, Tier 3 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$75,441.

Haley Hanson, Tier 4 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$75,441.

Abdifatah Muse, Tier 3 Long Call Substitute Physical Education Teacher, South Junior High School, effective April 20, 2026 through May 29, 2026, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (31 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$8,399.16.

Joyce Claypool, Tier 4 Kindergarten Teacher, Discovery Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 9 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$56,652.

Brooke Hoffarth, Tier 3 Kindergarten Teacher, Madison Elementary School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Cort Claypool, Tier 4 Secondary SPED Teacher, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 9 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$73,556.

Yojan Gallego, Tier 4 Spanish Immersion Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$63,989.

David Holler, Assistant Principal, Tech High School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$118,975, for 230 days.

Safiyo Hassan, Assistant Principal, Talahi Community School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$107,475, for 220 days.

Reed Moe, Assistant Principal, Lincoln Elementary School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$106,825, for 220 days.

Rehire

William O'Donnell, Tier 1 Long Call Substitute Science Teacher, South Junior High School, effective March 26, 2026 through June 1, 2026, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (48.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$13,140.62.

Joshua Gable, Tier 2 Secondary SPED Teacher, Tech High School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$50,876.

Sharalyn Snavelly, Tier 4 ESCE (B-3) Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA+40, Pay Level 9 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$71,169.

Alexia Engels, Tier 3 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 3 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$75,441.

Elizabeth Bjorklund, Tier 2 Speech/Language Pathologist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$81,690.

Tanya Grabinski, Tier 3 Physical Therapist, Site to be Determined, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$93,552.

Noel Kirchner, Tier 4 Kindergarten Teacher, Discovery Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane BA, Pay Level 4 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$55,025.

John Plettner, Tier 3 Long Call Substitute SPED Teacher, South Junior High School, effective August 24, 2026 through November 24, 2026, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (65 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$22,978.73.

Leave of Absence

Katelyn Ralph, Grade 1 Teacher, Talahi Community School, effective August 24, 2026 through November 13, 2026.

Victoria Hedtke, Choir Teacher, Tech High School and South Junior High School, effective May 8, 2026 through November 13, 2026.

Sydney Vossler, Social Studies Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective May 4, 2026 through August 23, 2026.

Penny Deters, Grade 3 Teacher, Madison Elementary School, effective May 5, 2026 through May 20, 2026.

Gulhan Miller, EL Teacher, Apollo High School, effective May 20, 2026 through May 29, 2026.

Anna Lewer, Nurse, South Junior High School, effective September 16, 2026 through January 3, 2027.

Tracy Eiyneck, Early Childhood Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective March 9, 2026 through May 4, 2026.

Lara Challberg, SPED Early Childhood Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective April 21, 2026 through August 23, 2026.

Tori Stacken, SPED Speech/Language Pathologist, Talahi Community School, effective April 6, 2026 through April 19, 2026.

Joshua Schmitz, EL Teacher, South Junior High School, effective April 20, 2026 through May 6, 2026.

Resignation

Robert Balfany, Science Teacher, South Junior High School, effective April 21, 2026. Mr. Balfany was previously on a leave of absence.

Alexia Menth, Science Teacher, North Junior High School, effective June 1, 2026.

Tina Arendt, Grade 4 Teacher, Madison Elementary School, effective June 1, 2026.

Kathleen Flynn, Early Childhood Director, Quarryview Education Center, effective June 30, 2026.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Nevaeh Cooper, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective April 23, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.75.

Ifrah Liaquat, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Quarryview Education Center, effective April 13, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$17.54.

Casey Johnson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective April 16, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.75.

Hafsa Elyas, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective April 16, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.75.

Debbie Walker, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, North Junior High School, effective April 16, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.75.

Nevaeh Hommerding, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective April 16, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.75.

Kyle Longstrom, Boys' Lacrosse Head Coach, Apollo High School, effective March 30, 2026, with an annual stipend of \$5,330.

Rehire

Colby Hovdenes, Level IV Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective April 15, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$20.75.

Leave of Absence

Sandra Eikmeier, Kitchen Helper, Kennedy Community School, effective March 9, 2026 through August 31, 2026.

Shukri Subane, Custodian, North Junior High School, effective May 14, 2026 through August 13, 2026.

Shelly Berry, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Apollo High School, effective March 18, 2026 through April 28, 2026.

Abdihakim Mohamed, Custodian, Oak Hill Community School, effective April 20, 2026 through June 22, 2026.

Hubi Talhe, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective April 22, 2026 through September 20, 2026.

Shannon Holroyd, Kitchen Helper, Madison Elementary School, effective January 5, 2026, extended to May 29, 2026.

Shannon Abel, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Clara's House, effective March 31, 2026 through May 3, 2026.

Position Eliminated

Sang Maxwell, Director of Full Service Community Schools, effective June 30, 2026.

Amran Yusuf, Supervisor of Full Service Community Schools, effective June 30, 2026.

Jaime Conway, Research, Evaluation and Assessment Coordinator, effective June 30, 2026.

Resignation

Sahara Qoriyow, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective April 14, 2026.

Casey Johnson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective April 24, 2026.

Pierre Walker, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective April 22, 2026.

Jupree Rogers, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, InStep, effective May 1, 2026.

Mohamed Mohamed, Custodian, Apollo High School, effective May 28, 2026.

Melina Hunter, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective April 7, 2026.

Sara Hanisch, LPN, South Junior High School, effective April 17, 2026.

Abdikarim Noor, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective April 17, 2026.

Oluwaseun Babalola, Custodian, Clearview Elementary School, effective April 1, 2026. Mr. Babalola was previously on a leave of absence.

Jonathan Bruns, SPED Behavior Resource Specialist, Clearview Elementary School, effective May 8, 2026.

Antionette Lee, Family Advocate Specialist, Madison Elementary School, effective April 9, 2026. Ms. Lee was previously on a leave of absence.

Jennifer Lee, LPN, Quarryview Education Center, effective February 20, 2026.

Washo Abubaker, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective April 8, 2026

Crisanta Kathrein, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective May 8, 2026.

Cole Poepping, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective April 21, 2026.

Retirement

Lori Eckert, Literacy Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective June 30, 2026, after 13 years of service in District 742.

Diane Thole, Human Resources Specialist, District Administration Office, effective July 10, 2026, after 46 years of service in District 742.

Carrie Meyer, Kitchen Facilitator, Apollo High School, effective May 29, 2026, after 10 years of service in District 742.

Termination

Hibo Hussein, Student Support Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective April 22, 2026.

Lisa Nelson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective April 21, 2026.

Ebony Roach, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Roosevelt Education Center, effective April 20, 2026.

Tiffany Tate, Behavior Resource Specialist, Apollo High School, effective April 20, 2026.

Abdi Gulled, Custodian, Talahi Community School, effective February 17, 2026.

Samira Jama, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective April 13, 2026.

Rescind Resignation

Jupree Rogers, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, InStep. Rescind Board action of April 15, 2026, where Mr. Rogers was listed as a resignation from this position.

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

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Community Partnerships Update

Shannon Avenson, Executive Director of Community Education and Community Partnerships provided an update on Community Partnerships in the district. These partnerships provide benefits to students and families through (1) expanded student opportunities, (2) enhanced resource accessibility, (3) strengthened social-emotional support, (4) increased family engagement, and (5) improved long-term outcomes.

The risk mitigation workflow for community partnerships ensures district protection and student well-being with enhanced safety, reduced liability, sustainable partnerships, and accountability.

Full Service Community Schools provides a number of partnerships at North Junior High School and Discovery Community School. Check out the district's partnership webpage for more information.

B. Summer Projects Update

Superintendent Laurie Putnam provided an update on summer facilities projects around the district.

- Discovery – Classroom flooring in rooms not previously done.
- Lincoln – Replacement of rooftop HVAC units.
- Madison – Classroom flooring, plumbing repair project, City Pan Town project will impact 10th Street in front of Madison this summer.
- Oak Hill – Classroom flooring in identified rooms.
- Talahi – Roof replacement, parking lot resurfacing and expansion, and minor HVAC work.
- Westwood – Replace gym doors.
- Kennedy – Geothermal system assessment and minor repairs and exterior lighting controllers and lines repair.
- North – Glycol replacement in boiler loop.
- South - Glycol replacement in boiler loop, possible kitchen electrical renovation, track resurfaced, and football field goal posts removed.
- Apollo – Site work and prep for Apex and storm shelter/auxiliary gym, and dead tree removal.
- Tech – Single user restrooms.
- McKinley-ALC – Hallway wall painting and sound mitigation paneling in gym.
- Katherine Johnson Education Center – Stairwell safety improvements.

IV. REPORTS

A. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

1. Zach Dorholt, Chair of the Development, Policy and Governance Committee, noted the committee met on April 22, 2026, to review updates on three district policies. The committee determined that Policy 203.6 required no changes and will move forward as an item on the consent agenda. For Policies 204 and 205, updates were made to improve organization and phrasing to better match MSBA language. Both were recommended for a first reading on May 6, 2026.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Chair Haws noted May 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting topics will include:

- District Retiree Recognition
- Graduation and End of Year Celebrations
- Transitional Services Update
- 2026 Summer Programming Review
- Approval of Tentative Agreements (if any)
- Approval of List of Graduates for Apollo and Tech High School
- Policy Readings

VI. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Moved by Weems, seconded by Copeland to adjourn the Board meeting. All Board members stated “aye”. The Board meeting concluded at 7:04 p.m.

The Board then moved to the Work Session, which included discussion of the following items.

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION

A. Proposed Revised Board Policy 204 – School Board Meeting Minutes (First Reading)

Shannon Avenson, Executive Director of Community Education and Community Partnerships, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 204 – School Board Meeting Minutes. There were no suggested changes. This proposed revised policy will be on the May 20, 2026 Board of Education Meeting agenda for a second reading.

B. Proposed Revised Board Policy 205 – Open, Closed, Special and Emergency Meetings (First Reading)

Katie Herrboldt, Executive Director of Innovation and Technology Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 205 – Open, Closed, Special and Emergency Meetings. There were no suggested changes. This proposed revised policy will be on the May 20, 2026 Board of Education Meeting agenda for a second reading.

C. Schools Update

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning; Dani Mehr, Executive Director of Special Education; and Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, provided highlights of the district’s four pillars of Safety, Belonging, Collaboration, and Excellence during the last update for the 2025-2026 school year.

Nikki Hansen highlighted the Safety Pillar as we wrap up another great year of partnership with the YMCA as second graders learn about water safety. During Severe Weather Awareness week in April, all our schools participated in lessons and received information on how to keep safe should severe weather come to Minnesota.

Dani Mehr shared the Pillar of Belonging included a retirement celebration of two long-time Speech Pathologists and the InStep program for 18- to 22-year-olds hosted a community dance. Katherine Johnson Education Center held a fun activity with staff colleagues drawing pictures of each other and our Native American Graduation ceremony took place at SCTCC last week

Nikki Hansen highlighted the Pillar of Collaboration with the Autism Team wrapping up their year of learning around a deep dive into ASD programming and Discovery prepared third graders for their first ever MCA test. Members of the Early Childhood Programming Team received the Collaborative Innovative Programming Award. The district held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Apex Athletics Facility while Tech and Apollo students worked together in the SCSU physics college in the school's lab for a great partnership opportunity.

Jason Harris featured the Pillar of Excellence with two St. Cloud teachers making it as finalists for the Minnesota Teacher of the Year Award and Fox 9 featured music teacher Karen Kruse. Tech and Apollo students planned for their futures at National Letters of Intent days and Apollo Principal Justin Skaalerud and North Principal Sascha Hansen were recipients of the Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals, Central Division Principal of the Year Award. Our McKinley students received Bilingual Seal certificates, and Westwood and Oak Hill elementary students competed in the recent Math Competition.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE WORK SESSION

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Work Session at 7:15 p.m. All Board members stated "aye".

Heather Weems, Clerk

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