

July 27, 2026

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2689, PIPESTONE COUNTY, PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA. A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Pipestone Area Schools was held on Monday, July 27, 2026 beginning at 6:30 PM in Conference Room 1148. MS/HS.

The following members were present: Tyler Fruechte, Brad Carson, Katie Wiese, Daphne Likness, Mark Hiniker, Tami Taubert, and Chrissy DeBates. Also present: Dr. Klint Willert, Jacque Kennedy, and Deb Peschon.

Chairman Fruechte opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Wiese, second by Hiniker, approved the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Likness abstaining.

Public Forum: Jamie VanDyke and Angie Tofteland.

Presentation: Steve Pumper presented various options for the Board's consideration regarding a potential operating referendum.

Consent Agenda:

- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Likness abstaining.

Financials:

- The budget year-to-date shows expenditures as of July 20, 2026 at \$18,051,907.56 or 100%. This was non-action.
- The treasurer's report for month ended June 30, 2026 shows a cash balance of \$9,215,749.66. Motion by DeBates, second by Likness, approved the treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- The MN Trust 2023A Bonds treasurer's report for month ended June 30, 2026 has a cash balance of \$740,908.18. Motion by Carson, second by Likness, approved the 2023A bonds treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- The 2026A Facilities Maintenance Bond treasurer's report for month ended June 30, 2026 has a cash balance of \$19,927.21. Motion by Likness, second by Taubert, approved the 2026A Facilities Maintenance Bond treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- Regular bills paid through July 15, 2026 totaled \$1,709,655.58. Motion by Likness, second by DeBates, approved payment of the regular bills. Motion carried unanimously.
- High school activity bills paid through July 15, 2026 totaled \$4,954.81. Motion by Carson, second by Taubert, approved payment of the high school activity bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Report: Committee meetings were held for Budget/Finance, Negotiations, and Policy.

Superintendent Report: Willert reported on the roofing project, registering students, attendance goals, Portrait of a Graduate, county fair, negotiations, operating referendum, new website, school board elections, Pipestone County emergency plan, grant application for outdoor classroom, book studies, and single use bathroom grant.

New Business: First reading of the 2026-2027 MSHS student handbook and policy 524.5 - Personal Electronic Communication Devices.

Board Action:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: "The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.", and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: "Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full." and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Pipestone Area Schools, ISD 2689, gratefully accepts the following donations to **high school activities** as identified below:

Allison Douty	\$7,904.91	Volleyball
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Live Like Joe		• 24 Jerseys (\$2,160) • Jaypro VB top net tape/custom graphics (\$363.95) • 24 Volleyballs (\$1,632) • Trainer plus VB target (\$1,990) • Multi color training top net tape (\$285) • Coaches box (\$1,180) • Porter VB blocking hands (\$117.98) • Volleyball blocking pads (175.98)
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The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution made by Member Carson, and duly seconded by Member Wiese, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Carson, Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Taubert, Fruechte, and Hiniker.

and the following voted against the same: None.

The foregoing resolution passed 7-0.

SB/RES/2026-021

July 27, 2026

Minutes approved and dated by the board August 17, 2026

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

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WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Pipestone Area Schools, ISD 2689, gratefully accepts the following donations the **school** as identified below:

Christ the King Lutheran	\$200.00	Donation to Wellness Room
Building the Blessing	\$2,500	For cement pad for Non-Verbal sign on Elementary Playground

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution made by Member Carson, and duly seconded by Member Wiese, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Carson, Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Taubert, Fruechte, and Hiniker.

and the following voted against the same: None.

The foregoing resolution passed 7-0.

SB/RES/2026-021

July 27, 2026

Minutes approved and dated by the board August 17, 2026

Board Action

- Motion by Carson, second by Likness, to approve to move the August 24, 2026 regular school board meeting to August 17, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Taubert, second by Likness, to approve all Dell Switches as surplus. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, to approve 2026-2027 Little Arrows pre-school handbook. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Wiese, second by Carson, to approve the 2026-2027 elementary handbook. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Hiniker, second by DeBates, to approve the 2026-2027 activities handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by Wiese, second by Hiniker, to approve the mobile device handbook. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker to approve the Heartland Colony Lease for 2026-2027. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Wiese, second by Likness, to approve policies 102, 208, 401, 402, 423, 506, 507.5, 509, 521, 524, 534, 613, 621, 709, 721, 722, and 806. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker, to approve the 2026-2028 PAESP contract for secretaries, custodians, Tech assistant and accounts payable. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Wiese, second by DeBates, to approve the 2026-2028 contract for paraprofessionals. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Likness, second by Wiese, to approve Jennifer Moravetz as the Federal Title Representative and Homeless Liaison. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION FOR GENERAL ELECTION
RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
AND CALLING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the general election in each Minnesota school district must be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of either the odd-numbered or the even-numbered year.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the school district to hold its general election for the purpose of electing three (3) school board members for terms of four (4) years each.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), State of Minnesota as follows:

The clerk shall include on the ballot the names of the individuals who file or have filed affidavits of candidacy during the period established for filing such affidavits, as though they had been included by name in this resolution. The clerk shall not include on the ballot the names of individuals who file timely affidavits of withdrawal in the manner specified by law.

The general election is hereby called and elected to be held in conjunction with the state general election on Tuesday, the 3rd day of November 2026.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this general election are those polling places and precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district and which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The voting hours at those polling places shall be the same as for the state general election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said general election to be provided to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located, in whole or in part, at least eighty-four (84) days before the date of said election. The notice shall include the date of said general election and the office or offices to be voted on at said general election. Any notice given prior to the date of the adoption of this resolution is ratified and confirmed in all respects.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district for public inspection at least ten (10) days before the date of said general election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district for public inspection at least four (4) days before the date of said general election. The clerk shall also cause two (2) sample ballots to be posted in each polling place on Election Day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot. The sample ballot for a polling place must reflect the offices, candidates, and rotation sequence on the ballots used in that polling place. The sample may be either in full or reduced size.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be published in the official newspaper of the school district for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of said election.

The notice of election so posted and published shall state the offices to be filled set forth in the form of ballot below and shall include information concerning each established precinct and polling place.

The clerk is authorized and directed to cause the rules and instructions for use of the optical scan voting system to be posted in each polling place on Election Day.

The clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this election, and generally to cooperate with election authorities conducting other elections on that date. The clerk and members of the school district administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with those other elections, including entering into agreements or understandings with appropriate election officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots, election administration and cost sharing.

The clerk is further authorized and directed to cause or to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the form below, with such changes in form, color and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate an optical scan voting system.

The motion for adoption of the Resolution was made by Member DeBates, duly seconded by Member Taubert, The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

Aye: Carson, Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Taubert, Fruechte, and Hiniker.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted by Independent School District No. 2689, Pipestone Area Schools, State of Minnesota, this 27th day of July, 2026

By: /s/ Tyler Fruechte

School Board Chair

By: /s/ Daphne Likness

School Board Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO SPECIAL ELECTION

Issuer: Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

Kind, date, time and place of meeting: A regular meeting held on July 27, 2026, at 6:30 pm in Conference Room 1148 in the Middle School/High School building.

Members present: Tyler Fruechte, Daphne Likness, Katie Wiese, Mark Hiniker, Tami Taubert, Chrissy DeBates, Brad Carson

Members absent: None

Documents attached:

Minutes of said meeting (including):

RESOLUTION RELATING TO DETERMINING THE NECESSITY OF REVOKING AN EXISTING REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION THEREON

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto, as described above, have been carefully compared with the original records of said corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the governing body of said corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body at the time and place and was attended throughout by the members indicated above, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer on July 27, 2026.

/s/ Daphne Likness

School District Clerk

Member Brad Carson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member Chrissy DeBates:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO DETERMINING THE NECESSITY OF REVOKING AN EXISTING REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION THEREON

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota (the School District), as follows:

1. The Board has investigated the facts and does hereby find, determine and declare that it is necessary and expedient to revoke the School District's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$474.26 per pupil and replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,500 per pupil, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be first levied in 2026 for taxes payable in 2027 and applicable for ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

2. The question on the revocation of the existing referendum revenue authorization and the approval of a new referendum revenue authorization of the School District shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the School District at a special election, which is hereby called and directed to be held in conjunction with the state general election on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this special election are those precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the School District which have been established by the governing bodies located in whole or in part within the School District.

4. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of the special election to be: (a) provided to each County Auditor at least eighty-four (84) days before the date of the special election; (b) provided to the Commissioner of Education at least seventy-four (74) days before the date of the special election; (c) mailed to every taxpayer in the School District, at least fifteen (15) days but no more than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the special election; (d) posted at the administrative offices of the School District, for public inspection, at least ten (10) days before the date of the special election; and (e) published in the official newspaper of the School District once each week for at least two consecutive weeks, with the last publication being at least one week before the date of the special election. The Notice of Special Election shall be prepared in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2689
(PIPESTONE AREA SCHOOLS), MINNESOTA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota, on November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to vote on the following question:

**School District Question
Revoking Existing Referendum Revenue Authorization;
Approving New Authorization**

The board of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota has proposed to revoke the School District's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$474.26 per pupil and to replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,500 per pupil, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be first levied in 2026 for taxes payable in 2027 and applicable for ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

Shall the revocation of the existing referendum authorization and the approval of the new authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota be approved?

PASSAGE OF THIS REFERENDUM WILL RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The property tax portion of the revenue authorized will require an estimated referendum tax rate of 0.244594% for taxes payable in 2027 of the referendum market value of all classes of taxable property in the School District, as defined by Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.01, Subdivision 3, which excludes certain agricultural property, seasonal property and post-secondary student housing.

The projected annual dollar increases for typical residential homesteads, apartments, commercial-industrial properties, and most other classes of property within the School District are as shown in the table below, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. Agricultural property will pay taxes for the proposed referendum based only on the value of the house, garage and one acre of land. Seasonal recreational residential property (*i.e.*, cabins) will pay no taxes for the proposed referendum.

The figures in the table below are based on School District taxes for the proposed referendum levy authorization only and do not include tax levies for other purposes:

ISD 2689 Pipestone Area Schools Referendum Estimated Tax Impact Analysis

Estimated Tax Impact for Taxes Payable in 2027					
	Referendum Market Value	Revoked Authority	Proposed Authority	Annual Net Tax Increase	Monthly Net Tax Increase
Referendum Market Value	50,000	-\$35	\$122	\$87	\$7
	75,000	-\$52	\$183	\$131	\$11
	100,000	-\$70	\$245	\$175	\$15
	125,000	-\$87	\$306	\$218	\$18
	150,000	-\$105	\$367	\$262	\$22
	175,000	-\$122	\$428	\$306	\$25
	200,000	-\$140	\$489	\$349	\$29
	300,000	-\$210	\$734	\$524	\$44
	400,000	-\$280	\$978	\$699	\$58
	500,000	-\$350	\$1,223	\$873	\$73

The precincts and polling places for the special election will be the precincts and polling places used for the state general election.

All qualified electors residing in said School District may cast their ballots at the polling places for the precincts in which they reside during the polling hours specified above.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in the special election. Unregistered individuals may register to vote at the polling places on election day.

Dated: July 27, 2026.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Daphne Likness, Clerk

5. The Clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election. If an optical scan voting system is being used, the Clerk shall comply with the laws and rules governing the procedures and requirements for optical scan voting systems. The Clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials and to take such other actions as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election and generally to cooperate with election authorities conducting any other elections on that date. The Clerk and members of the administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with other elections, including entering into agreements with appropriate municipal and county officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots or ballot cards, election administration, and cost sharing.

6. The Clerk is authorized and directed to cause a printed ballot for the question to be prepared in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.08, Subdivision 5 and the rules of the secretary of state for use at the special election. If an optical scan voting system is being used, the Clerk shall cause official ballots to be printed according to the format of ballots for optical scan voting systems provided by the laws and rules governing optical scan voting systems. The Clerk is further authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted in the administrative offices of the School District, for public inspection, at least four (4) days before the date of the special election and to cause two sample ballots to be posted at each polling place on the date of the special election and to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots or ballot cards to be prepared for use at said election. The ballot shall be in substantially the following form, with such changes in form and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate the use of an optical scan voting system:

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**Special Election Ballot
School District Ballot
Independent School District No. 2689
(Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota**

November 3, 2026

Instructions to Voters

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like s:

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" for that question.

To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" for that question.

**School District Question
Revoking Existing Referendum Revenue Authorization;
Approving New Authorization**

The board of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota has proposed to revoke the School District's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$474.26 per pupil and to replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,500 per pupil, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be first levied in 2026 for taxes payable in 2027 and applicable for ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.



YES

NO

Shall the revocation of the existing referendum authorization and the approval of the new authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 2689 (Pipestone Area Schools), Minnesota be approved?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

(Reverse side of ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

November 3, 2026

Judge

Judge

(The ballot is to be initialed by two judges)

7. If the School District will be contracting to print the ballots for this special election, the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract in excess of \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall, upon request, furnish in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04 a sufficient bond, letter of credit or certified check acceptable to the Clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The Clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

8. The individuals designated as judges for the state general election shall act as election judges for this special election and shall conduct the special election at the various polling places in the manner prescribed by law.

9. The special election shall be held and the returns made and canvassed in the manner prescribed by law and the Board shall meet on a date between the third day, November 6, 2026, and the fourteenth day, November 17, 2026, after the special election for the purpose of canvassing the results thereof.

10. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 126C.17, Subdivision 9(e) and 205A.07, Subdivision 3a, the Clerk is hereby instructed to notify the Commissioner of Education of the results of the special election and to provide the certified vote totals for the ballot question in written form within fifteen (15) days after the results have been certified by the Board.

11. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 211A.02, Subdivision 6, the Clerk is hereby instructed to make any campaign finance reports filed with the Clerk by campaign committees within seven (7) days after the special election available on the School District's web site as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of any such report. The Clerk is further instructed to provide the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board with a link to the section of web site where such reports are made available. Such reports must remain available on the web site for four (4) years from the date first posted.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Daphne Likness, Katie Wiese, Tami Taubert, Tyler Fruechte, Chrissy DeBates, Brad Carson

and the following voted against the same: Mark Hiniker

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted 6-1.

**SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2689
ADOPTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FISCAL YEAR (FY) 28
LONG-TERM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TEN-YEAR PLAN**

WHEREAS, to qualify for Long-Term Facilities Maintenance revenue, Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 123B.595, subd. 4 states a school district or intermediate district must annually adopt and approve a ten-year LTFM facilities plan by July 31 for commissioner approval.

WHEREAS, the school district has developed a ten-year Long-Term Facilities Maintenance plan consistent with this law.

School Board Member Brad Carson moved for the resolution adoption and the motion was duly seconded by School Board Member Katie Wiese and, upon vote being thereon, the following voted in favor of the motion: Carson, Wiese, Likness, DeBates, Taubert, Fruechte, and Hiniker.

And the following voted against: None.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the School Board of Independent School District No. 2689 approves and adopts the attached ten-year Long-Term Facilities Maintenance plan for FY 28 on this 27th day of July, 2027.

/s/ Daphne Likness

Daphne Likness, School Board Clerk

- Motion by Wiese, second by Hiniker, approved the Pipestone Area Schools Strategic Design Plan per Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11, Subd 2. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn:

- Motion by DeBates, second by Taubert, to adjourn the meeting (8:52 PM). Motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Tyler Fruechte

Tyler Fruechte, Chairman

/s/ Daphne Likness

Daphne Likness, Clerk

Approved and dated by the board August 17, 2026

Submitted, Deb Peschon