

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota
September 17, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Scott Andreasen, Al Dahlgren, Natalie Copeland, 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 agenda.

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting agenda.

Approve the minutes from August 6, 2025 and August 20, 2025 Board Meetings.

Approve Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$4,237,530.53.

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

Melissa Schwinghammer, Tier 1 SPED ABS Teacher, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane BA+30, Pay Level 2 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$56,909.

Corie Sovereign, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Elementary Teacher (Grade 1 and 4), Madison Elementary School, effective August 25, 2025 through February 27, 2026, Lane BA+30, Pay Level 2 (124.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$38,298.22.

Jenevieve Rannow, Tier 4 EL Teacher, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 8 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$69,896.

Justine Houge, Tier 3 SPED Lead Teacher, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane BA+30, Pay Level 11 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$67,571.

Rescind Position

Jesse Formanek, SPED ABS Teacher, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year. Rescind Board action of July 23, 2025. Mr. Formanek declined the position.

Extended Contract

Veronica Dal Canto Bushman, Nurse, Discovery Community School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 5 (5 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Dal Canto Bushman's salary for this assignment will be \$1,795.32.

Kyle Stein, Physical Education Teacher, North Junior High School, effective August 25, 2025 through November 25, 2025, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 7 (.2 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Stein's salary for this assignment will be \$5,757.38.

Brooks Marquardt, Health Teacher, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Marquardt's salary for this assignment will be \$9,036.20.

Trevor Marohl, Physical Education Teacher, Westwood Elementary School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (.1 FTE of a full-time contract). Mr. Marohl's salary for this assignment will be \$9,036.20.

Maran Wagner, Art Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 3 (.13 FTE of a full-time contract). Ms. Wagner's salary for this assignment will be \$8,034.91.

Rebecca Blissenbach, Mathematics Teacher, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Blissenbach's salary for this assignment will be \$1,465.33.

Gretchen Van Hauen, Counselor, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Van Hauen's salary for this assignment will be \$4,884.43.

Jessica Glieden, Counselor, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 9 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Glieden's salary for this assignment will be \$4,215.51.

Stephanie Ottmar, Counselor, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 11 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Ottmar's salary for this assignment will be \$4,002.81.

Richard Larson, Counselor, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 11 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Mr. Larson's salary for this assignment will be \$4,397.03.

Harley Simondet, Counselor, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 2 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Simondet's salary for this assignment will be \$3,216.05.

David Shelstad, Counselor, North High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (10 days of a full-time contract). Mr. Shelstad's salary for this assignment will be \$4,884.43.

Mary Shaddrick, Media Specialist, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane BA+40, Pay Level 9 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Shaddrick's salary for this assignment will be \$3,715.78.

Diane Olson, Counselor, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 11 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Olson's salary for this assignment will be \$4,397.03.

Ricky Rud, Counselor, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 10 (10 days of a full-time contract). Mr. Rud's salary for this assignment will be \$4,738.27.

Kelly Romo, Literacy Specialist, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (3 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Romo's salary for this assignment will be \$1,039.77.

Elise Morell, Mathematics Teacher, Apollo High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane BA+10, Pay Level 11 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Morell's salary for this assignment will be \$925.46.

Maggie Lukens, Math Interventionist, North Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Lukens' salary for this assignment will be \$1,465.33.

Katie Hagen, Mathematics Teacher, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Hagen's salary for this assignment will be \$1,465.33.

Amy Streit, Literacy Specialist, District Wide, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+30, Pay Level 11 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Streit's salary for this assignment will be 1,378.43.

Chelsea Bowker, Literacy Specialist, District Wide, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+30, Pay Level 9 (3 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Bowker's salary for this assignment will be 1,321.14.

Shawn Anderson Jr., Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 5 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Mr. Anderson's salary for this assignment will be \$3,590.65.

Kathryn Jespersen, Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA, Pay Level 5 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Jespersen's salary for this assignment will be \$3,590.65.

Megan Galligan, Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+30, Pay Level 8 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Galligan's salary for this assignment will be \$4,326.97.

Eric Dylla, Counselor, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 9 (10 days of a full-time contract). Mr. Dylla's salary for this assignment will be \$4,592.00.

Sydney Bitz, Media Specialist, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 5 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Bitz's salary for this assignment will be \$3,927.89.

Erin Bloch, Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Bloch's salary for this assignment will be \$4,884.43.

Michael Morford, Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 6 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Mr. Morford's salary for this assignment will be \$4,346.92.

Jennifer Schad, Counselor, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Ms. Schad's salary for this assignment will be \$4,884.43

Jonathan Froelich, Media Specialist, Tech High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+10, Pay Level 8 (10 additional days of a full-time contract). Mr. Froelich's salary for this assignment will be \$3,961.30.

Megan Kothrade, Counselor, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. Kothrade's salary for this assignment will be \$4,884.43.

Nicole James, Counselor, South Junior High School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, Lane MA+10, Pay Level 8 (10 days of a full-time contract). Ms. James' salary for this assignment will be \$3,961.30.

Leave of Absence

Jaimey Windish, SPED LD Teacher, North Junior High School, effective September 11, 2025 through October 13, 2025.

Ashley Simon. Deaf Hard of Hearing Teacher, District Wide, effective October 1, 2025 through January 5, 2026.

Nasrah Mohamed, Adult Basic Ed Teacher, Community Ed, on a .45 FTE LOA, working .55 FTE effective August 25, 2025, through June 1, 2026. This is an update to what was reported at the Board Meeting on May 7, 2025.

Resignation

Ashley Lassen, Long Call Substitute Elementary Teacher (Grade 1 and 4), Madison Elementary School, effective August 14, 2025.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

New Hire

Kaylee Hanson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective September 9, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Anna Bard, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective September 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Najma Nuur, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective September 5, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Tabitha Pithan, Dean of Students, Apollo High School, effective September 2, 2025, with an annual salary of \$56,307.69.

Joshua Steck, Activities Coordinator, South Junior High School, effective September 2, 2025, at a yearly salary of \$56,615.38.

Devin Olson, Custodian, Apollo High School, effective August 28, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Rhonda Danhouser, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective August 25, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.72.

Vaneisi Henriquez, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective September 2, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Ijhanian Hubbard, Clerical Class II (10-Month), North Junior High School, effective August 25, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$18.39.

Karla Tanner, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective September 3, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Reassignment

Blair Lyerly-Samuels, Community Ed Program Supervisor, Community Ed, effective July 8, 2025, at an annual salary of \$73,437.50.

Danelle Montury, Adult Basic Education Supervisor, Community Ed, effective August 28, 2025, at an annual salary of \$64,374.99.

Rehire

Samsam Yussuf, Student Support Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective September 11, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Jade Sheriff, LPN, Roosevelt Education Center and Journey, effective September 15, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$24.60.

Jeffrey Oldakowski, Substitute Custodian, District Wide, effective September 4, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.85.

Habiba Mohamud, Student Support Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective September 4, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Saeedo Mireh, Kitchen Helper, North Junior High School, effective September 4, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.49.

Leave of Absence

Naima Haji, Bilingual Communications Support Specialist, District Services Building, effective September 25, 2025 through April 1, 2026.

Resignation

Lynn Stoterau, Head Golf Coach, Apollo High School, effective June 11, 2025.

Ikran Isse, Custodian, Talahi Community School, effective September 2, 2025. Ms. Isse was previously on a leave of absence.

Steven Buley, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Discovery Community School, effective May 29, 2025.

Rebecca Howe, SPED Early Childhood Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective May 30, 2025.

Merry Yell, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective September 5, 2025.

Allison Volante, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective August 28, 2025.

Heather Broda, American Indian Cultural Liaison, District Administration Office, effective June 12, 2025.

Kaylee Hanson, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective September 9, 2025.

Jessica Linhoff, SPED Behavior Resource Specialist, InStep, effective May 30, 2025.

Tessa Sitko, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Roosevelt Education Center, effective May 30, 2025.

Umulkeyr Hassan, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective April 8, 2025.

Keona Barnhill, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective September 8, 2025.

Dol Abdulahi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective May 29, 2025.

Travis Holt, Head Track Coach, Tech High School, effective May 30, 2025. Mr. Holt is currently a full-time contract Physical Education Teacher at Tech High School.

Yahya Abdullahi, Student Support Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective May 30, 2025.

Ebla Abdi, Student Support Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective May 30, 2025.

Christel Ross, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Tech High School, effective May 28, 2025.

Faisa Abdirahman, Student Support Paraeducator, Lincoln Elementary School, effective May 30, 2025.

Erika Cowley, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, InStep, effective June 27, 2025.

Jesse Formanek, Behavior Resource Specialist, Madison Elementary School, effective May 30, 2025.

Mohamed Muhumed, Bus Driver, District Services Building, effective August 26, 2025.

Jackie Panek, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Katherine Johnson Education Center, effective August 21, 2025.

Isaiah Garretson, Custodian, McKinley-ALC, effective August 28, 2025.

Austin Goodwater, Custodian, District Administration Office, effective August 28, 2025.

Liban Ali, Bus Driver, District Services Building, effective August 25, 2025.

Correction

Amal Geele, Substitute Kitchen Helper, District Wide, effective September 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.49. This is a correction to the August 6, 2025 consent agenda where this item was listed with an effective start date of September 2, 2025.

1. Donations to Apollo High School:

- \$1,000 from Eckblad Williams Community Fund of Central MN Community Foundation for the Orchestra Classroom
- \$500 from VFW Granite Post 428 Inc on behalf of the VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship
- \$2,000 from James and Kathleen Parsons on behalf of the Emmett and Agnes Thomas Scholarship

2. Donations to Discovery Community School:

- School supplies from Motorworks Auto Repair for student and staff use

- School supplies and \$20 gift card from Delta Kappa Gamma for student and staff use
3. Donation to Katherine Johnson Education Center:
 - School supplies, notebooks, Clorox wipes, sensory room supplies from MinnWest Bank to support our school
 4. Donation to Kennedy Community School:
 - \$1,000 from Eckblad Williams Community Fund of Central MN Community Foundation for the Orchestra Classroom
 5. Donation to Madison Elementary School:
 - \$1,445.50 from Atonement Lutheran Church to purchase school supplies for students in need
 6. Donation to McKinley-ALC:
 - Student backpacks and \$500 gift card to purchase student reward snacks and healthy treats from Costco
 7. Donations to North Junior High School:
 - \$1,000 from Eckblad Williams Community Fund of Central MN Community Foundation for the Orchestra Classroom
 - Half off any drink certificates from Scooters Coffee for student Smiley Scholar rewards and staff appreciation
 - School supplies from Knights of Columbus 5548 Auxiliary for students in need
 - \$10 gift cards and greeting cards for each staff member from Westwood Church for staff appreciation
 - \$1,445.50 from Atonement Lutheran Church for school or student needs
 - \$100 gift card from Neighbors Helping Neighbors Kwik Trip for Staff Breakfast
 8. Donation to South Junior High School:
 - \$1,000 from Eckblad Williams Community Fund of Central MN Community Foundation for the Orchestra Classroom
 9. Donations to Tech High School:
 - \$1,000 from Eckblad Williams Community Fund of Central MN Community Foundation for the Orchestra Classroom
 - \$500 from Wells Fargo for the Tennis Program
 10. Donations to District 742:
 - School supplies from Impacks, Inc. for the Ready, Set School Program for PK3 and 4 and Talahi
 - \$5,418.64 from Rotaract Club of St. Cloud for the Ready, Set School Program
 - \$500 from Rotaract Club of St. Cloud for the St. Cloud Crush Interact

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

III. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (ACTION ITEM) - Approval of Tentative Agreements (if any)

Tracy Bowe, Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, noted there are no tentative agreements to approve this evening.

B. (ACTION ITEM) - Approval of Preliminary Levy Certification

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, presented information regarding the 2025 Payable 2026 Preliminary Levy Certification.

Moved by Dahlgren, seconded by Andreasen to approve the 2025 Payable 2026 Preliminary Levy Certification.

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

C. (DISCUSSION ITEM) - Final Levy Certification Announcement

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, announced the Final Levy Certification will take place at the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting on December 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Cloud Area School District Administration Office, located at 1201 2nd Street South, Waite Park, Minnesota. There will be time for public testimony.

D. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Enrollment Report

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, and Shannon Avenson, Executive Director of Community Education and Community Partnerships, presented information regarding District 742 enrollment.

E. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Review of 2023-2025 Strategic Plan Outcomes

Donna Roper, Director of Research, Assessment and AI Integration, provided a review of the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan Outcomes (from Data to Action – Strategic Growth Through Effort and Use of Evidence).

F. (DISCUSSION ITEM) - Proposed Revised Board Policy 421 – Gifts to Personnel (Second Reading)

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 421 - Gifts to Personnel. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the agenda for the October 1, 2025 Board of Education meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

IV. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Laurie Putnam acknowledged September is School Board Appreciation Month. The entire district (leaders, teachers, and all support staff) is grateful for your dedication through many hours of service. It shows you care about students, and we appreciate you.

Dr. Putnam also recognized September 17 as Constitution Day when all schools that receive federal funds are required to do education around the constitution. She provided an overview of the lesson plans for elementary, middle, and high school students to demonstrate how we teach our kids.

B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

Diana Fenton, Chair of the Achievement, Integration and Equity Committee, noted the committee met today and heard Donna Roper's report she presented tonight reviewing the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan Outcomes. The committee also made changes to the remaining meeting schedule for 2025 and added a meeting in December to get through the rest of the reports for this year.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Haws noted the October 1, 2025 Board Meeting/Work Session topics will include:

- Apollo Building Project
- 2025-2028 Strategic Plan Draft
- Policy Readings
- Schools Update

VI. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Chair Haws adjourned the Board Meeting at 8:40 p.m. All Board members stated "aye".

Heather Weems, Clerk

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