I want to share with the Board that information was brought to my attention on Monday, May 1st by Board Member Ralph Lewis that claimed one of the ISD #363 Board Members left a note on the meeting table after the March 8th Board meeting held in Indus. Mr. Lewis stated to me he was certain this Note came from one of the new Board Members (Emily Lindley or Malisa Schue).

The information shared with me was that a Board Member from Northome (one of the new Board Members) left a note behind that said "bye bye Indus, I hate you". I was in contact with Emily Lindley and Malisa Schue. They both deny ever leaving such a note. Mr. Lewis informed me this note was written by a "left handed person". I requested a copy of the note and was provided a copy on Tuesday, May 2nd. Mr. Lewis also responded to a couple of questions that pertained to this accusation and helped with my investigation. The responses to my questions are listed in **Bold** below.

1) How was this Note reported to you?

After the March 8 meeting, a few people, myself included, who were left in the library at Indus discovered the agenda with the note on it at the end of the table where the female board members had been seated. This note was turned over to the SOS Indus group.

- 2). How do you know this was written by a "left handed" person?

 My thinking was that the slant of the writing indicated a left-handed person.
- 3) How do you know this was written by an ISD #363 Board Member? Specifically either Emily Lindley or Malisa Schue?

Right after the meeting the note was discovered by people clearing the board table and the note was at the end of the table where the women were seated.

- 4). Why was there a delay in reporting this serious allegation?

 Frankly, everyone who was there when the note was discovered were stunned by it and afraid that it would be causing more problems to bring it up, even at the hearing. Also, I have been told by Bob Stueven that it is not my job as a board member to report anything.
- 5). Who has been holding onto this paper for roughly the last seven weeks? The leadership of SOS Indus.

As part of my investigation, I was able to obtain a copy of the signed Board Member vouchers from March 8th, so I could compare handwriting samples from their vouchers with the handwriting on the note. I will preface my findings by stating I am "not a certified handwriting expert" and if the Board would like me to find a handwriting expert, I will certainly go ahead and do so.

Attached you will find March 8th handwritten vouchers from Emily Lindley and Malissa Schue. You will also see the attached note written on the March 8th agenda (bye bye indus i h8 u). If I look at the letter "Y" written on the note and compare it to Emily Lindley's "Y", it is not comparable. I would also say Emily Lindley's "e" is not comparable to the "e" in the

note. Emily Lindley also has an open "8" at the top of the number "8". The note on March 8th has a closed "8" at the top. In my opinion, the two samples are not comparable and I would not suspect Emily Lindley wrote (bye bye indus i h8 u).

When I compare Malisa Schue's March 8th handwritten voucher with the March 8th note, I find the "i", "n", "d" and "e" are not comparable between Malisa's voucher and the Note. The number "8" is also open at the top on Malisa's voucher and it is closed on the March 8th note. Furthermore, the phrase "i h8 u" is text talk and is typically something a teenager would most likely write.

Another piece of evidence that stands out is that our ISD #363 Board Members receive their Board Agenda and Board Information Packets in a folder prior to each meeting. This information is never stapled. The "bye bye Indus" Note written on the March 8th Agenda is stapled in the upper left hand corner and clearly came from the Agendas that were made available to the public prior to the meeting.

I am fully confident by looking at the handwriting samples and with the context provided, this Agenda was not part of a Board Member's packet and neither Malisa or Emily wrote this note and/or left this on the Board Meeting table after the March 8th meeting. The handwriting samples are not even close to being comparable.

Furthermore, I find by holding onto this Note and spreading false information regarding ISD #363 Board Members is both unprofessional, irresponsible and undermines the collaborative work that is needed to successfully govern a school district. My recommendation would be to turn over this evidence and my findings to Board Chair Bob Stueven, along with MSBA (Minnesota School Boards Association), for further guidance on how to effectively move forward regarding this matter.

South Koochiching Rainy River ISD 363 School Board March 8, 2023

ITV at Northome and Indus 11731 Hwy 1 Northome, Minnesota 56661 7:00 PM

Agenda

_
7
28
29
34
35
36
39
40
y

bye bye ing

South Koochiching-Rainy River ISD #363 PO Box 465, Northome, MN 56661

218-897-5275

To: Address:	ess: Malisa Schule 11511 Woodland Ave Mispah Min Stelele			Date: <u>March</u> 8, 20 <u>23</u>		
Date	Item		Amount	Code (leave blank)		
3/8/23	Zasal Meeting		22			
	J					
claim or demand is just and correct and that no part of it has been paid.		CODE		AMOUNT #50 (CC)		
	Claimant					
Ву	Principal or Supervisor					
	Approved by					

South Koochiching-Rainy River ISD #363

PO Box 465, Northome, MN 56661 218-897-5275

To: Address:	Emily Lindley 11839 County Rd E Mizpach MN 57661	0	Date: $3/0$	8,2023
Date	Item		Amount	Code (leave blank)
3/8/23	Board Meeting			
,	X			
I declare under claim or demain of it has been p	the penalties of law that this amount, and is just and correct and that no part paid. Claimant	CODE		AMOUNT SO, OU
By		(
	Principal or Supervisor Approved by			