

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273  
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF OCTOBER 21, 2025

WORK SESSION  
5:00 PM

Edina Community Center  
ECC 350  
and Virtual

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ms. Cheryl Barry  
Mr. Michael Birdman  
Ms. Karen Gabler (virtual)  
Ms. Jennifer Huwe  
Mr. Elliot Mann

Ms. Erica Allenburg  
Mr. Dan Arom

PRESIDING OFFICER: Board Member Michael Birdman

5:00 PM - 6:01 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Daniel Bittman, Superintendent  
Nate Swenson, Assistant Superintendent  
Daphne Edwards, Director of Marketing and Communications  
Sonya Sailer, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations (virtual)

Jen Christ, Student Enrollment Coordinator

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

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Ms. Cheryl Barry, Clerk

(Official Publication)  
MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 273 EDINA, MINNESOTA  
OCTOBER 21, 2025

5:00 PM Board Member Birdman called to order the work session of the School Board. Members present: Barry, Birdman, Gabler (virtual), Huwe, Mann. Staff present: Bittman, Swenson, Edwards, Sailer, Woodard (virtual); Christ.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DISCUSSION

- A. 2025-2026 Enrollment and Class Size Report
- B. Potential Bond Refunding - Series 2017A

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

CLOSED SESSION

- A. Employee Negotiations. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.03, the Board is authorized to vote to move into closed session to consider strategy for labor negotiations, including negotiation strategies, developments or discussion and review of labor negotiation proposals, conducted pursuant to sections 179A.01 to 179A.25. The Board will vote to move into closed session to discuss labor negotiations and strategy for the District's negotiations with the following bargaining units: health service associates.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM. The minutes and resolutions are open to public inspection on the district website, and on file at the district office, 5701 Normandale Road.

Ms. Karen Gabler, Chair

Ms. Cheryl Barry, Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD'S  
OCTOBER 21, 2025 WORK SESSION

5:00 PM Board Member Birdman called to order the work session of the School Board. Members present: Barry, Birdman, Gabler (virtual), Huwe, Mann. Staff present: Bittman, Swenson, Edwards, Sailer, Woodard (virtual); Christ.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Mann moved and Member Huwe seconded to approve the agenda. All members voted Aye by roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

2025-2026 Enrollment and Class Size Report: Staff presented information on enrollment and class size, including October 1, 2025, student counts.

Potential Bond Refunding - Series 2017A: Director Woodard shared information from the district's municipal advisers about refinancing bonds which could generate net debt service savings, as well as reduce future tax obligations for district residents.

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Chair Gabler shared information about community engagement plans for the superintendent search.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Bittman shared information about an upcoming Spanish Dual Language survey and cross-functional safety and security team meetings.

At 5:46 PM, Member Mann moved and Member Huwe seconded to close the meeting. All members voted Aye by roll call. The motion passed unanimously. Board members moved to the Superintendent's conference room for the closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

Employee Negotiations. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.03, the Board is authorized to vote to move into closed session to consider strategy for labor negotiations, including negotiation strategies, developments or discussion and review of labor negotiation proposals, conducted pursuant to sections 179A.01 to 179A.25. The Board will vote to move into closed session to discuss labor negotiations and strategy for the District's negotiations with the following bargaining units: health service associates.

At 6:00 PM, Member Mann moved and Member Huwe seconded to open the meeting. All members voted Aye by roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 6:01 PM, Member Mann moved, and Member Huwe seconded to adjourn the meeting. All members voted Aye by roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

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