



**School Board Work Session  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025; 5:00 PM  
ECC Room 350**

**I. Determination of Quorum and Call to Order**

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Discussion**

**A. Programming Update for PreK-5 STEAM**

**Description:** The Edina Public Schools STEAM Programming Model is evolving through a phased approach grounded in Inquiry, Authenticity, Integration, and Partnership, and aligned with Strategic Initiative A. The model's first two layers—focused on foundational literacy and numeracy and grade-level Cornerstone Projects in science—are underway, while the third layer was removed after stakeholder feedback raised concerns about capacity, equity, and consistency. Looking ahead, the district will continue to expand K–5 Cornerstone Projects with full implementation by 2027–28, supported by sustained professional development and alignment with broader instructional goals.

**Presenter(s):** Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning; and Mark Carlson, Curriculum Coordinator

**B. Facilities Projects - Spring 2025**

**Description:** The District administration will update the Board and community regarding the following facility projects: Edina High School mechanical system replacement, Edina Community Center tennis court rehabilitation, Valley View Middle School LED lighting, Cornelia Elementary restroom renovation, Cornelia Elementary exterior brick rehabilitation, Edina High School roof replacement (areas B and C), Creek Valley Elementary gym floor replacement, Highlands Elementary parking lot reconfiguration and rehabilitation, Edina Community Center locker room renovation, South View Middle School mechanical system replacement, Valley View Middle School elevator replacement, Edina Performing Arts Center lighting and sound panel replacement, Cornelia Elementary parking lot reconfiguration and rehabilitation, Normandale playground surface replacement.

**Presenter(s):** Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations; and Rod Peterson, Director of Buildings and Grounds

**C. Workers' Compensation Insurance Renewal – Fiscal Year 2026**

**Description:** During the 2021 fiscal year the District elected to switch workers' compensation insurance carriers from State Fund Mutual (SFM) to Dakota Truck Underwriters by and through Risk Administration Services (RAS). The District worked with its agent of record to obtain rates for the 2026 fiscal year and the renewal proposed by RAS for fiscal year 2026 is for a gross increase of 18.29%, with premiums and fees going from \$480,560 to \$568,462. The District's previous carrier, SFM, has quoted a total cost of \$520,750. The District administration's fall 2024 forecast of workers' compensation premiums for fiscal year 2026 was \$522,886.

**Presenter(s):** Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

D. Property, Casualty, and Liability Insurance Renewal – Fiscal Year 2026

**Description:** In December 2015, the School Board awarded the District's property, casualty, and liability insurance contract to the Minnesota Insurance Scholastic Trust (MIST). MIST provides the benefit of self-insurance cooperative purchasing, with 28 school districts currently participating in the MIST program. Any remaining funds at the end of a claim year are distributed among member districts. The overall insurance market hardened significantly post-COVID, particularly due to elevated inflation, increased property values, and greater losses after the return to normal. Although the market has softened slightly in the last year, the aforementioned factors, coupled with the District's loss experience, have resulted in significant increases to the District's premiums over the last 3 years. The District's renewal for the July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 period is a 19.0 percent increase over the prior year, or \$203,466. During the District's initial budget development that took place in the fall of 2024, the administration assumed a 25.0 percent increase.

**Presenter(s):** Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

E. Preliminary Budget – Fiscal Year 2026

**Description:** The preliminary fiscal year 2026 budget was developed using audited FY 2024 data, FY 2025 activity and projections, certified property tax information, administrative forecasts, and 2023 education finance laws. Due to earlier cost containment measures and stronger-than-expected revenues, the District is in a better financial position, eliminating the need for major new cuts. The administration projects an 8.9% unassigned fund balance by the end of FY 2026, consistent with Board Policy 702 and prior Board presentations.

**Presenter(s):** Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

F. Local Wellness Policy

**Description:** The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010 established that local education agencies participation in the National School Lunch Program must develop and maintain a local wellness policy. At a minimum, the wellness policy must include: specific goals for nutrition education and physical activity; standards and nutrition guidelines for all food and beverage sold to students during the school day; policies for food and beverage marketing; and description of public involvement in maintaining the policy. The District administration is committed to strengthening adherence to policy standards through future policy committee and wellness committee meetings.

**Presenter(s):** Mert Woodard, Director of Finance and Operations

IV. Leadership and Committee Updates

V. Superintendent Updates

VI. Adjournment