

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 361  
Tuesday, January 20th, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.  
FHS Library**

This School Board Meeting is available to watch via Live Stream by selecting the following link or by going to the "Falls High Journalism" youtube page.

**Call to Order**

1. Roll Call:

Jessica Crosby, Vice Board Chair  
 Dale Johnson, Director  
 Toni Korpi, Clerk 5:23pm arrival  
 Tina Sather, Treasurer  
 Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch, Director  
 JoAnn Smith, Board Chair

Non-Voting Members:

Beth Shermoen, Superintendent  
 Emmitt Olson, Student Representative

2. Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Agenda**

1. Approve agenda as presented.

Motion by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch, second by Jessica Crosby. Motion carried / failed. Carried 5-0 (Korpi not in attendance at this time)

**Open Forum**

1. Presentation by International Falls Rotary regarding the 2025 Community Impact Grant.  
Brad Krasaway

2. Elk's Student's of the Month: Paxton Sivonen & Kylie Hall

3. Public Open Forum - None

**Committee and Administrative Reports**

1. Emmitt Olson, Student Representative: Not in Attendance

2. Melissa Tate, Secondary Principal: Professional Development - Explicit Instruction & Student Engagement, Student Surveys in Future Course Offerings, Read Act-Capti Assessments & Para Training, Winter Sports Week Pepfest & Activities, Trimester Meeting Plan & Registration planning

3. Lisa West, Elementary Principal: (given by Principal Tate) 507 Students (+3) Professional Development - Explicit Instruction & Student Engagement, Read Act-Capti Assessments, Bronco Pride Assembly, Gratitude, Month Focus-Empathy & Positive Attendance Habits, Kindergarten Registration - Wed, March 4th,

4. Molly Larson, Community Education/Early Education Director: (given by Superintendent Shermoen) Early Childhood Preschool- 64 (-2), Preschool Registration - Thurs, February 5th, Infinite Campus Family Portal Access, Creating Preschool Handbook, Community Ed Offerings

5. Timm Ringhofer, Activities Director: not in attendance

6. Beth Shermoen, Superintendent: Nexus Construction update, Professional Development, Grants for CTE (Career and Technical Education) wing, Negotiations in action, Staffing/Schedule Prep, Historical Dashboard, Work Session - MSBA Conference update

7. Policy Committee: Meeting 01/28 Booster Club and policy updates

8. Athletic Committee: No Rink Rat Volunteers, Sports Fees-Infinite Campus alignment, Summer Fees will remain the same, Dashboard for renewals and all-athletic information, Booster Club, Concession Contract

9. Legislative Committee: 36 resolutions - 23 passed,

### **Consent Agenda**

Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion by Tina Sather, second by Jessica Crosby. Motion carried / failed.

Board Member Korpi asked to move #13 to #4 in Action Items.

Carried - 6-0

1. Approve payroll in the amount of \$488,437.15 for pay periods 12/26/2025 and 01/09/2026.

2. Approve current accounts payable due in the amount of \$2,479,546.25.

3. Approve past meeting minutes for the regular school board meeting on 12/15/2025.

4. Adopt the regular School Board meeting schedule for calendar year 2026.

5. Approval of the termination of employment of a probationary paraprofessional employee, effective January 15, 2026, pursuant to district policy and Minnesota law.

6. Accept the resignation of Ashley Hall as the Student Council Advisor, effective immediately.

7. Accept the resignation of Linnea Imhof as Assistant to the Superintendent, effective February 1, 2026.

8. Approve the hire of Melissa Tate as the Student Council Advisor, effective immediately.

9. Approve the hire of Linnea Imhof as an at-will employee for the position of ISD 361 Grant Writer/KAPE Coordinator.

10. Approve the hiring of Erin Hall as Head Volleyball Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

11. Approve the hiring of Jerad Kostiuk as the Head Football Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

12. Approve the hiring of Emily Gedde as the Football Cheerleader Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

13. Approve the hiring of Teah Goulet as Assistant Volleyball Coach, for the 2026-2027 season. MOVED TO ACTION ITEM #4

14. Approve the hiring of Jenica Whitbeck as Assistant Volleyball Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

15. Approve the hiring of Tenneyson Amdahl as a Booster paid volunteer assistant coach, for Volleyball, for the 2026-2027 season.

16. Approve the hiring of Sheryl Hendrickson as Head Cross Country Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

17. Approve the hiring of Lexi Erickson as Assistant Cross Country Coach, for the 2026-2027 season.

18. Approve the hiring of Quianna Ford as Assistant Girls Track & Field Coach, for the 2025-2026 season.

19. Approve the hiring of Paul Joslyn as a Booster paid volunteer assistant coach, for Baseball for the 2025-2026 season.

20. Approve the hiring of Darren Kittelson as a Booster paid volunteer assistant coach, for Baseball for the 2025-2026 season.

21. Approve the hiring of Dieter Humbert as an unpaid volunteer assistant coach, for Baseball for the 2025-2026 season.

22. Approve Prom Fundraiser.

### **Action Items**

1. Improving systems and structures to create a culture where all are welcome and supported.

1.a. Resolution Acceptance of Gifts and Donations.

Motion by Dale Johnson, second by Tina Sather. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

1.b. International Falls Local #331 Master Agreement.

Consider and approve the negotiated collective bargaining agreement between the Independent School District 361, International Falls, Minnesota and Education Minnesota - International Falls Local #331, covering terms and conditions of employment for the July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, school years.

Motion by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch, second by Dale Johnson. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

1.c. Approve the Superintendent's request to begin negotiations for a new employment contract and authorize the Board Chair (or designee) to conduct negotiations on behalf of the Board. Motion by Jessica Crosby, second by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch. Carried 6-0

1.d. Notice of Intent to Negotiate, for the Principals Association of ISD 361.

Motion by Tina Sather, second by JoAnn Smith. Motion carried / failed. Carried - 6-0

2. Implementing data-driven teaching practices and staff collaboration to increase student academic success.

2.a. Approve acceptance of the Minnesota Power Foundation grant in the amount of \$7,500 to support high-quality tools for Career and Technical Education (CTE).

Motion by Tina Sather, second by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch. Motion carried / failed.

Carried 6-0

2.b. Approve acceptance of the North Star Electric Community Trust Operation Round Up grant in the amount of \$1,000 to support tools for Career and Technical Education (CTE).

Motion by Tina Sather, second by Jessica Crosby. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

2.c. Approve acceptance of the Koochiching County Opioid Settlement Grant in the amount of \$17,875 to support ALC programming.

Motion by Jessica Crosby, second by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

3. Maintain our facilities to be welcoming, safe and efficient for use by students and the community.

3.a. Approve acceptance of the International Falls Rotary Community Impact Grant in the amount of \$60,000 to support the Early Education Outdoor Center.

Motion by Tina Sather, second by Toni Korpi. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

3.b. Approve acceptance of the Koochiching County Opioid Settlement Grant in the amount of \$23,000 to support the purchase and installation of vape detectors.

Motion by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch, second by Tina Sather. Motion carried / failed.

3.c. Approve acceptance of the MDH Hydration Station Grant in the amount of \$3,000 to support the installation of a hydration station at West End.

Motion by Jessica Crosby, second by Toni Korpi. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

4. Approve the hiring of Teah Goulet as Assistant Volleyball Coach, for the 2026- 2027 Season. Motion by Roxanne Skogstad-Ditsch, second by Dale Johnson. Carried 5-1 Member Korpi voting no.

**Adjournment**

1. Motion by Tina Sather, second by Jessica Crosby to adjourn meeting at 6:22 p.m. Motion carried / failed. Carried 6-0

**Approved Minutes:**

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District Clerk

Date

Board Chair

Date