

## **September 15, 2025**

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 698 met in special session on Monday, September 15, 2025 in the media center. Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A virtual Zoom option was available.

Board members present at roll call were: Leanaya Miller, Tanya Johnson, Kellee Young, Dave Rohde and Tracy Hutchinson. Also present: Superintendent Sue Hoeft and Administrative Assistant Ashley Engh. Principal Amanda Fjeld, Business Manager Haley Walsh joined by Zoom.

School Board vacancy applicant withdrew their application for appointment earlier in the day. Discussion took place to discuss the continued posting for the vacancy and interviews and appointment will be scheduled upon receiving applications. Applications will be received until filled or August 2026 when candidacy filing begins for the 2026 election. Additionally, discussion regarding legislative action that the Minnesota School Board Association is working to bring forward regarding reduction of school board membership from six to five took place.

Presentation from InGensa regarding timeline to move forward with Facilities Assessment findings. Discussion took place. A Special Meeting will be held on Monday September 22, 2025 at 6:00pm for board action on the project. A community engagement meeting will be held on October 23, 2025 prior to the band concert.

Five minute recess was taken at 7:07pm. Recess concluded at 7:13pm.

Board Chair Miller read the following statement: This next item on the agenda is for discussion of a union request regarding position additions to an existing union contract that would require reopening negotiations after the contract has been approved and ratified. All or portions of this discussion may be held in closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.03.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Young, to close the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. The meeting closed at 7:14pm.

Motion by Rohde, seconded by Johnson, to reopen the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. The meeting reopened at 8:08pm.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hutchinson, to approve the 2025-2027 Education MN Contract. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hutchinson, to approve the District Literacy Lead MOU with Education MN. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hutchinson, to approve the combined grades MOU with Education MN. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Hutchinson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the resignation of Sarah Phillips, Educational Assistant. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Update was given from the personnel committee regarding changes to job description and at will employee contracts. Superintendent Hoeft shared that none of them have been reviewed by legal counsel at the request of the board directive to not utilize legal counsel.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Young, to approve updated job descriptions for the following positions: Food Service Manager, Assistant Food Service Manager, District Administrative Assistant/MARSS Coordinator/Enrollment, School Nurse, School Secretary/Accounts Payable and Library/Tech Specialist. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Hutchinson, seconded by Young, to approve the At Will Contract for Ashley Engh, District Administrative Assistant/MARSS Coordinator/Enrollment for FY26. In favor: Hutchinson, Miller, Young, Johnson. Opposed: Rohde. Motion carried.

Motion by Hutchinson, seconded by Young, to approve the At Will Contract for Melanie Skripsky, School Secretary/Accounts Payable for FY26. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Rohde, seconded by Johnson, to approve the At Will Contract for Alexa Ruzynski, Library/Tech Specialist for FY26. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Hutchinson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the At Will Contract for Charlene Trotter, School Nurse/District Substitute Teacher for FY26. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Hutchinson, seconded by Young, to approve the At Will Contract for Paula Josephson, Food Service Manager for FY26. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Young, seconded by Johnson, to approve the At Will Contract for Carrie Johnson, Assistant Food Service Manager for FY26. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Miller declared the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

**NOTE: Minutes unofficial subject to school board approval.**