

School Board Meeting
Monday, July 20, 2026 6:30 PM Central

Aitkin Public Schools - Media Center
306 Second Street NW
Aitkin, MN 56431

Jen Burgos: Present
Roland Hill: Present
Cindi Hills: Present
Rev. Dawn Houser: Present
Brian Leitinger: Absent
Holly Mindrum: Present
Kassie Peterson: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call meeting to order by the chairperson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

4. *Comments from visitors

4.A.

- Comments from visitors must be in relation to Aitkin Public Schools and/or to agenda items.
- We recommend that you sign up at the comment table if you wish to speak. You will be called up in order as listed on the sign-up sheet. When you come forward to comment, please be seated at the comment table facing the Board Members. State your name prior to your comment. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.
- The Board will not engage in any discussion or debate during this comment session. The Board will take the information and find answers as appropriate.
- As part of Board protocol, it is unacceptable for any speaker to slander or engage in character assassination at a public board meeting.

5. Approval of agenda - revise or remove as needed

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

Amend motion to approve the agenda with the removal of "7.A.4.a." Business Manager Contract from the consent agenda to agenda item "9. Other". This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

6. MSBA Policy Updates:

6.A. Approve the following policies from the June 2026 MSBA Policy Updates:
These are a One-Meeting Adoption.

Motion to approve the MSBA policies as presented. This motion, made by Holly Mindrum and seconded by Rev. Dawn Houser, Passed.

6.A.1. Policy 402 Disability Nondiscrimination (see highlighted item for update)

6.A.2. Policy 423 Employee-Student Relationships

6.A.3. Policy 507.5 School Resource Officers

6.A.4. Policy 509 Enrollment of Nonresident Students

6.A.5. Policy 521 Student Disability Nondiscrimination (see highlighted area, changed name from Dan Stifter to Mary Morem)

6.A.6. Policy 524 Internet Technology & Cell Phone Acceptable Use & Safety

6.A.7. Policy 613 Graduation Requirements

6.A.8. Policy 621 Literacy and the Read Act

6.A.9. Policy 709 Student Transportation Safety

6.A.10. Policy 722 Public Data Requests (see yellow highlights, changed name from Dan Stifter to Mary Morem)

6.A.11. Policy 208 Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies (THIS IS AN OPTIONAL REVISION)

7. New business:

7.A. Approve consent agenda items as follows:

Motion to approve the consent agenda with the change to move item "7.A.4.a" to item "9. Other" for further discussion. This motion, made by Holly Mindrum and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

7.A.1. Approve the following School Board Meeting Minutes:
June 22 School Board Work Session, June 22nd School Board Meeting

7.A.2. Approve financials for the Month of June, 2026:

- Office receipts in the amount of \$949,815.57.
- Report of expenditures, including \$421,137.34 for bills and \$973,993.05 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Donations in the amount of \$4,564.82.
- Wire transfers in the amount of \$1,200,000.00.
- Employee reimbursements.

7.A.3. Consider and approve extracurricular positions

7.A.3.a. Jackson MacDonald - Football volunteer 2026-27 season

7.A.3.b. Wyatt Sanford - Football volunteer 2026-27 season

7.A.3.c. Jim Henrickson - Activities Director 2026-27 season

7.A.3.d. Jim Henrickson - Concessions 2026-27 season

7.A.3.e. Alan Hills - Ticket Manager 2026-27 season

7.A.4. Hirings

7.A.4.a. Amber Kulig - Business Manager 2026-2027 and 2027-2028

7.A.5. Consider and approve contract 2026-27 with Speech Partners

7.A.6. Approve Milk and Bread Bids for 2026-27 school year

7.A.7. Transportation Fuel Quotes for the 2026-27 school Year

7.A.8. Consider and approve 2026-27 pay rates

7.A.9. Approve Meal Prices for 2026-27

Breakfast: Student 2nd Meal, Staff and Guest \$3.25 (increase from \$3.00)

Lunch: Student 2nd Meal, Staff and Guest \$5.30 (increase from \$5.25)

Milk or Juice separate from meal: \$0.50 (increase from \$0.45)

7.A.10. Agreement 2026-2027 University of Minnesota Duluth

7.A.11. Girls Tennis — Co-Op with ISD #182 approved by MSHSL

7.A.12. MOU Aitkin County Sheriffs Office

7.A.13. MREA Membership Renewal for the 2026-27 school year

7.A.14. Aitkin County Chain of Custody Plan

7.B. Discussion Items:

7.B.1. Discuss 2026-2027 Handbooks

The handbooks were discussed and will be on the agenda in August for approval.

7.B.2. Rippleside Roof Discussion

Motion to approve the proposed Rippleside Elementary Roof replacement. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Holly Mindrum, Passed.

8. Administrative reports:

8.A. Board Members Reports:

8.B. Committee Reports:

8.C. Principal's Report:

Ms. Leah Olk, Rippleside Elementary School

Ms. DeMars, Aitkin High School

SP Goal 10

8.D. Community Education - Nedra Henline

SP Goal 10

8.E. Superintendent's report:

8.E.1. Enrollment Update

8.E.2. Other:

8.F. Upcoming meetings:

School Board Meeting - August 17, 2026 - AHS Media Ctr. 6:30 pm

9. Other:

7.A.4.a Motion to approve Business Manager Contract 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 - Amber Kulig. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

Brian Leitinger: Absent, Roland Hill: Nay, Holly Mindrum: Nay, Jen Burgos: Yea, Cindi Hills:

Yea, Rev. Dawn Houser: Yea, Kassie Peterson: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 2, Absent: 1

Roland Hill: Nay, Holly Mindrum: Nay

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Rev. Dawn Houser and seconded by Jen Burgos, Passed.

Recorded by Heather Hipp

Kassie Peterson

Dated: 8/17/26
