

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 761**  
**Owatonna Public Schools**

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**In the Matter of the Proposed Closing  
of the former Owatonna Public Schools  
District Office and the Rose Street Center**

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**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

A public hearing on the proposed closing of the former Owatonna Public Schools District Office and the Rose Street Center by Independent School District No. 761, Owatonna Public Schools (“School District”) was held on June 16, 2025.

The hearing was conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.51, subdivision 5. Information regarding the proposed school closing was presented by School District Administration. All individuals wishing to speak and offer evidence in favor of, or in opposition to, the proposed closing were given the opportunity to testify during the hearing.

**FINDINGS**

1. In November 2019, the Owatonna community passed two bond referendum questions for a new high school campus to be constructed and to re-purpose the old high school building and campus.
2. A twenty-five member Owatonna High School Citizens’ Task Force (“OHS Task Force”) was formed and began meeting in November 2021 to explore re-use of the former Owatonna High School building and campus.
3. The Owatonna High School Citizens’ Task Force recommended on April 11, 2022 that the District move operations that were housed at 515 West Bridge Street and 115 East Rose Street to the 333 East School Street property.
4. The former Owatonna High School building located at 333 East School Street, Owatonna was closed and remodeled to re-purpose the property.
5. Operations housed at 515 West Bridge Street and 115 East Rose Street began moving to 333 East School Street in July, 2024.
6. The School District published notice of the school closings hearing in the official newspaper for two weeks before the hearing.

7. At the hearing, members of the public were allowed to present testimony for and against the proposed school closure.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

1. The closures of the former Owatonna Public Schools District Office and Rose Street Center are necessary and practicable.
2. The School District has complied with the procedural requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.51, subdivision 5, for the purpose of closing the former Owatonna Public Schools District Office and Rose Street Center.