

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Menahga Public School District No. 821

Monday, March 16, 2026, 6:30 PM, HS Media Center

The March 16, 2026 regular meeting of the Menahga Public School board called to order by Chair Howard at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Mission and Vision Statement.

Board members present: Katie Howard, Andrea Haverinen, Julia Kicker, Cherie Peterson, Sara Makela, and David Treinen.

Others present: Business Manager Dana Kennedy, ES Principal Lisa Parrish, HS Principal Michelle Koch, Assistant Principal John Hedstrom and Superintendent Jay Kjos.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Andrea Haverinen VOTE carried unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

Andria Bristow presented the Winter Data Report.

Kevin Votaw and Jordan Herman “The Metier Guys” shared on Metier.

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen

to remove the following from the consent agenda: Budget Planning Timeline attachment, Budget Overview attachment, and Revenue Expenditure Attachment.

MOTION BY Sara Makela

to remove the following from the consent agenda: 3. Notice of assignments for the following extra-curricular coaches/advisors for the 2025-2026 school year: Alayna Day, Assistant Golf Coach Step 1; Anthony Wurdock, Volunteer Golf Coach; Andreas Aho, Volunteer Golf Coach; Sara Kinyoun, Junior High Softball Coach step 1; Stephen Schreiber, Volunteer Track Coach; Jesse Bucholz, Head Football Coach step 1;

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY David Treinen VOTE carries unanimously to approve the following consent items:

1. February 9, 2026 regular meeting minutes; February 11, 2026, paraprofessional negotiation meeting; February 19, 2026 community ed meeting minutes; March 4, 2026 pairing and sharing meeting minutes; March 6, 2026 policy meeting minutes;
2. Activity fund and monthly claims in the amount of \$253,399.16
4. Renew Contract with Mathew Redetzke, Technology Assistant;
5. Teacher Contract with Jesse Bucholz, Elementary School Teacher, MA Step 8, 1.0 FTE per EMM Master Agreement, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year;
6. Work Assignment for John Carstenson, Route Bus Driver; per Transportation Handbook, beginning March 1, 2026;

- 7. Transportation Employees' Terms and Conditions of Employment Handbook;
- 8. Custodial Employees' Terms and Conditions of Employment Handbook;
- 7. 2026 Better Health Collective Renewal;
- 8. FY 26-27 FED Agreement;
- 9. Eide Bailly Agreement;

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE carried unanimously to approve Budget Planning Timeline attachment, Budget Overview attachment, and Revenue Expenditure Attachment.

MOTION BY Sara Makela SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE 3-3-0 with Katie Howard, Cherie Peterson, and Andrea Haverinen opposed, motion failed to carry the approval of the spring sports coaches and to table the fall sports coaches.

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY Katie Howard VOTE 3-3-0 with Sara Makela, David Treinen, and Julia Kicker opposed, motion failed to carry the approval of line item number 3 on the consent agenda as stated.

Recess at 7:53 p.m. meeting resumed at 7:57 p.m.

MOTION BY Sara Makela SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Kayla Huttunen, Elementary Teacher with Menahga Public Schools, effective February 25, 2026. We thank Kayla for her 10 years of dedicated service to the students of our school.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Andrea Haverinen VOTE carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Tim Coy, Bus Driver with Menahga Public Schools, effective February 13, 2026. We thank Tim for his 2 years of dedicated service to the students of our school.

MOTION BY Sara Makela SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from James Roth, Athletic Coordinator with Menahga Public Schools, effective March 11, 2026. We thank James for his year of dedicated service to the students of our school.

Andrea Haverinen introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Essie Neumann is a probationary teacher in Independent District No. 0821.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent District No. 0821, that pursuant to Minn. Stat. 122A.40, subd. 5¹ and the District Master Agreement, the teaching contract of Essie Neumann, a probationary teacher in Independent District No. 0821, shall be non-renewed at the end of the 2025-2026 school year effective June 30, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding the non-renewal of the teacher's teaching contract.

VOTING RECORD

The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution was duly seconded by Cherie Peterson and upon vote being taken thereon,

The following voted in favor thereof, David Treinen, Cherie Peterson, Sara Makela, Julia Kicker, Katie Howard, and Andrea Haverinen.

The following voted against the same: none

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted on March 16, 2026.

Cherie Peterson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Logan Caron is a probationary teacher in Independent District No. 0821.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent District No. 0821, that pursuant to Minn. Stat. 122A.40, subd. 5¹ and the District Master Agreement, the teaching contract of Logan Caron, a probationary teacher in Independent District No. 0821, shall be non-renewed at the end of the 2025-2026 school year effective June 30, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding the non-renewal of the teacher's teaching contract.

VOTING RECORD

The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution was duly seconded by Julia Kicker and upon vote being taken thereon,

The following voted in favor thereof, Cherie Peterson, Sara Makela, Julia Kicker, Katie Howard, Andrea Haverinen, and David Treinen.

The following voted against the same: none

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted on March 16, 2026.

The following resolution was introduced by Katie Howard

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, MS 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: "The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the

district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education."; and

WHEREAS, MS 465.03 provides: "Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. *Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full.*";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Menahga Public School Dist 821 gratefully accept the following donations as identified below: \$150 from Jean Weyer to the Menahga Special Olympics Unified Team; \$2,500 from Menahga Education Foundation to the Stem Program; donations designated for the Wrestling Fan bus were received from: Howard's Driveway \$500, Community First Bank \$500, Hub 71 \$200, West Central Telephone \$300, Lamb-Weston/RDO Frozen \$100, Menahga Concrete \$300, and Hessig Consulting \$500.

Resolution seconded by Sara Makela

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

voting aye: Sara Makela, Julia Kicker, Katie Howard, Andrea Haverinen, David Treinen, and Cherie Peterson.

voting nay: none

absent: none

Whereupon, said resolution was declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE 4-2-0 with Cherie Peterson and David Treinen opposed, motion carries to approve the Comfort Dog Grant.

MOTION BY Katie Howard SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE carried unanimously to accept, with gratitude, the following grant(s); FY26 Farm to School Full Tray Grant in the amount of \$15,000 awarded to the School Nutrition Program.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE carried unanimously to approve the review of Policy 711 Video Recording on School Buses as presented.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY David Treinen VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 712 Video Recording other than on Buses as presented.

MOTION BY Sara Makela SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 722 Public Data and Data Subject Requests as presented.

MOTION BY David Treinen SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to adjourn the March 16, 2026 regular meeting of the Menahga Public School board at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

