

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
St. Cloud Area School District 742  
St. Cloud, Minnesota  
February 4, 2026**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws (*following Community Input*) with the following Board Members present: Gina Acevedo, Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws, Heather Weems.

**I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting and Work Session agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to:

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

**LICENSED STAFF**

**Rehire**

Jillian Wandersee, Tier 4 SPED LD Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 12, 2026 through June 1, 2026, Lane MA, Pay Level 4 (95.5 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$33,099.27.

Krisi Lain, Tier 4 Long Call Substitute Counselor, Apollo High School, effective January 20, 2026 through April 3, 2026, Lane MA+20, Pay Level 8 (49 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$20,303.48. Ms. Lain is returning for this assignment after retirement.

**Leave of Absence**

Malinda O'Brien, SPED EBD Teacher, Clara's House, effective January 14, 2026 through March 15, 2026.

Brenna Hippman, SPED Social Worker, Quarryview Education Center, effective April 14, 2026 through November 30, 2026.

Nicole Schoborg, Kindergarten Teacher, Talahi Community School, effective April 27, 2026 through August 23, 2026.

Stacie Brand, Kindergarten Teacher, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 23, 2026 through February 16, 2026.

### **Resignation**

Brian Born, Life Studies 1.0 Teacher, South Junior High School, effective January 22, 2026.

### **NON-LICENSED STAFF**

#### **New Hire**

Jayapriya Chandrasekaran, Mental Health Advocate, McKinley-ALC, effective January 28, 2026, at an annual salary of \$75,000.

Amal Abdi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 27, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Tiffany Tate, Behavior Instruction Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective January 26, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Abdiqani Khalif, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 26, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Kamal Abdi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective January 26, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Nicholas Sones, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective January 26, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Jupree Rogers, Level 4 Advanced SPED Instructional Paraeducator, InStep, effective January 26, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

Jasmine Hall, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective January 29, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Mahad Mohamed, SPED Bus Paraeducator, District Services Building, effective January 21, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

Paige Lenorud, Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 21, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

### **Rehire**

Chiquita Simmons, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective January 29, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.50.

### **Leave of Absence**

Holly Campbell, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 19, 2026 through September 1, 2026.

Katherine Urena Ampara, Educational Equity Outreach Coordinator, Clearview Elementary School and Discovery Community School, effective November 20, 2025 extended through February 25, 2026.

Ashley Woods, Human Resources Supervisor, District Administration Office, effective January 19, 2026 through April 13, 2026.

Diana Swanson, Clerical Class II (12-Month), District Administration Office, effective February 10, 2026 through March 23, 2026.

Antionette Lee, Family Advocate, Madison Elementary School, effective January 7, 2026 through April 8, 2026.

Charmine Anderson, Kitchen Helper, Oak Hill Community School, effective January 12, 2026 through March 8, 2026.

Shannon Holroyd, Kitchen Helper, Madison Elementary School, extending leave to February 5, 2026.

Jodi Johnstone, Second Cook, Kennedy Community School, effective March 9, 2026 through March 22, 2026.

Nicolette Ayers, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Talahi Community School, effective January 12, 2026 through April 12, 2026.

### **Resignation**

Heather Winters, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, South Junior High School, effective January 15, 2026.

Zachary Eder, Security Officer, Tech High School, effective January 23, 2026.

Heather Green, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Apollo High School, effective January 15, 2026.

Alondra Collette, Early Childhood Instructional Paraeducator, Clearview Elementary School, effective January 30, 2026.

Hansel Caba Nunez, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Westwood Elementary School, effective January 30, 2026.

Joshua Jones, Custodian, South Junior High School, effective February 27, 2026. Mr. Jones was previously on a leave of absence.

### **Correction**

Abdi Abdullahi, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, resignation effective January 22, 2026. This is a correction to the January 21, 2026 Board action on the consent agenda where this item was listed with a last day of service of January 23, 2026.

Approve the Monthly Financial Report for December 2025.

Approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report for December 2025.

Approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 624 – Online Instruction (*Third Reading*).

Approve the Resolution Establishing School District Primary Election System.

Approve Board Policy 402 – Disability Nondiscrimination Policy (*Title Change Only*).

Approve Board Policy 401 - Equal Employment Opportunity (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 404 – Employment Background Checks (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 405 – Veteran's Preference (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 406 – Public and Private Personnel Data (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 407 – Employee Right to Know - Exposure to Hazardous Substances (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 408 –Subpoena of a School District Employee (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

Approve Board Policy 409 – Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions and Creations (*Reviewed, No Changes*).

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

### **III. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **A. Operations Update**

Matthew Boucher, Executive Director of Operations, and his team: Natalie Ratha, Transportation Supervisor; Marcus Lewis, Building and Grounds Supervisor; Sarah Motl, Nutritional Services Supervisor; and Matt Sherry, Safety Coordinator; each provided an update to bring into focus the critical role each department and their staff play in creating the preconditions for learning to happen. In school systems, it is important and necessary to focus on the design of learning, instruction, and student outcomes related to the magic that happens in the classroom.

### **IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. (ACTION ITEM) – Review and Approval of Tentative Contract Agreements**

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, reviewed the details of the tentative agreement with the Custodial Unit of School District 742 for 2025-2027. The total two-year cost is 6.37%, which is within the budgeting parameters established by the School Board for settlement with this employee group.

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to approve the agreement between the Custodial Unit and St. Cloud Area School District 742 for 2025-2027.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

#### **B. (DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM) – Review and Approval of Proposed Revised Board Policy 410**

Superintendent Laurie Putnam, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 410 - Family and Medical Leave Policy. This is being brought forward only as a first reading due to a law change that went into effect January 1, 2026, which complies with state statute.

Moved by Weems, seconded by Fenton to approve Proposed Revised Board Policy 410 – Family and Medical Leave Policy as presented for a first reading.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

C. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – 2026-2027 Middle Level Courses Update

Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, provided an update on 2026-2027 Middle Level Courses offerings and the course registration process. Our vision for middle level programming is future ready graduates through exploration, self-reflection, planning, and pathway opportunities for career awareness beginning in middle school.

V. **REPORTS**

A. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

Zach Dorholt, Chair of the Board Development, Policy, and Governance Committee, noted that the committee met on January 28, 2026. The committee addressed several Series 400 policies. Policy 410 (Family and Medical Leave) is undergoing substantive revisions to align with recent legislative mandates; it will proceed to a first reading on tonight's board agenda, and, given the legal necessity, requires only a single reading. Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination) underwent a title change only and is recommended for consent agenda, while Policies 401 and 404 through 409 remain unchanged. The committee also reviewed questions related to remuneration and approved dates for all 2026 meetings.

VI. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Board Chair Haws noted February 18, 2026 Regular Board Meeting topics will include:

- Early Childhood Update
- American Indian Education Update
- Native American Parent Advisory Committee (NAPAC) Compliance Documentation
- 2026-2029 Achievement and Integration Plan Goals
- Approval of Tentative Agreements (if any)
- Policy Readings

VII. **ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Board meeting. All Board members stated “aye”. The Board meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.

The Board then moved to the Work Session, which included discussion of the following items.

## **VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION**

### **A. Schools Update**

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning; Matthew Boucher, Executive Director of Operations; Dani Mehr, Executive Director of Special Education; and Dr. Jason Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, provided highlights of the district's four pillars of Safety, Belonging, Collaboration, and Excellence.

Matthew Boucher highlighted the Safety Pillar by sharing a picture of a construction cone costume that is worn at most elementary schools demonstrating safety while welcoming students each day. The district also provides information on Crisis Go to have better conversations and be more analytical about what behavior is telling us about our students who ride on the bus. The three areas include: (1) low level individual student behavior, (2) disruptive behavior that impacts many riders, and (3) severe/unsafe behavior.

Dani Mehr shared the Pillar of Belonging with artwork highlighting Talahi loving our valuable paraeducator staff. North's Sail Store provides an opportunity for students with developmental delays to work on their functional, literacy, and math skills with a staff order and delivery system. Talahi featured a Student of the Month displaying empathy, Westwood recently had some Grade 5 students work on the character skill of honesty, and Katherine Johnson Education Center students worked on community building and social emotional competencies with a community partner.

Nikki Hansen highlighted the Pillar of Collaboration as Oak Hill kicked off the One District One Book celebration of literacy in the month of February, South students engineered a Lego parrot, Tech staff participated in a basketball game with students, and teachers engaged in professional development on January 20.

Jason Harris featured the Pillar of Excellence with Apollo Boys and Girls Club Student of the Year, four Teacher of the Year candidates for Minnesota, an A3 Award for students with Academics, Arts, and Athletics, and Superintendent Laurie Putnam received a National Honor Award. North students took the Robotics Design Award at the Kimball Tournament, and Westwood honored students of the month.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT OF THE WORK SESSION**

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Andreasen to adjourn the Work Session at 8:27 p.m. All Board members stated "aye".

Heather Weems, Clerk

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.