

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #0656

Regular School Board Meeting

March 17, 2025, 5:30 pm

Faribault Public Schools

710 17th Street SW

Faribault, MN 55021

MINUTES

Members present: John Bellingham, Lynda Boudreau, Candace Knudson, Linda Moore, Casie Steeves, Chad Wolff, and Superintendent Jamie Bente. Members absent: Jerry Robicheau. Others in attendance were Student Representatives Jillian Huberty and Isse Ali, administrators, staff, and members of the public.

I. Call to Order

- A. Determination of a Quorum Present
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Wolff, to approve the agenda. The Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

III. Recognition, Awards, and Presentations - None

IV. Items of Information

- A. Student Board Representatives Jillian Huberty and Isse Ali
- B. School Board Members Boudreau, Wolff, Moore, and Bellingham
- C. Superintendent Jamie Bente

V. Public Comment

- Yvette Maethaler - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Mike Lambert - Diversity, Equity Inclusion
- Janet Moline - Civil & Parental Rights
- Carolyn Treadway - Federal education funding cuts

VI. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Wolff, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.

- A. Minutes - February 18, 2025, February 27, 2025, and March 3, 2025
- B. Employment
- C. Additional Assignments/Other
- D. Authorization of Payments, Transfers and Investment Account

VII. District Advisory Committee - No report

VIII. Policy Committee

- A. Policy Committee report from Linda Moore and Casie Steeves
- B. First Reading of Policies
 - 1. Policy 503: Student Attendance
 - 2. Policy 507.5: School Resource Officers
 - 3. Policy 613: Graduation Requirements

4. Policy 615: Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP's, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students
 5. New Policy 598: Information Security
- C. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Knudson, to approve the second reading of policies. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.
8. Policy 519: Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies
 9. Policy 522: Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy
 10. Policy 614: School District Testing Plan and Procedure
6. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Boudreau, to approve Policy 418: Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School. Moved by Moore, seconded by Boudreau, to amend Policy 418 by adding the words to page 418-5, VI.A.2: "refer students 18 or over to local resources where students may obtain..." and at the end of the paragraph add the following paragraph: "Refer students under 18, with parental/guardian knowledge and consent, to local resources where students may obtain medically accurate information about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, and treatment for a substance use disorder..." The amendment failed 2-4 (with Boudreau and Moore voting in favor, and Knudson, Steeves, Wolff, and Bellingham voting against). Moved by Moore, seconded by Boudreau, to amend Policy 418 by adding on page 418-6, VII.A.2: add "Students 18 or over may be referred to drug or alcohol assistance..." and add an additional paragraph at the end: "Students under 18, with parental/guardian knowledge and consent, may be referred to drug or alcohol assistance or rehabilitation programs; school based mental health services, mentoring and counseling, including early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use and violence and appropriate referral to direct individual or group counselling services, which may be provided by school based mental health service providers; and/or referral to law enforcement officials when appropriate." The amendment failed 2-4 (with Boudreau and Moore voting in favor, and Knudson, Steeves, Wolff, and Bellingham voting against). The main motion passed after discussion 5-1 (with Moore voting against).
7. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Steves, to approve Policy 515: Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Moore, to amend Policy 515 on page 515-24, VIII. B. Private Records Not Accessible to Parent, after language of 1. e. insert:
"2. Upon parental request, the "Responsible authority must not conceal or deliberately withhold information to a parent regarding their minor child's:
a. request to use a different name or pronoun to be recognized as a different gender, or
b. request to receive gender-affirming care that involves medical interventions including but not limited to, puberty blocking medications, hormone injections, or sex altering surgeries."

Moved by Wolff, seconded by Knudson, to refer Policy 515 to the Policy Committee and to legal counsel. The motion passed after discussion 5-1 (with Moore voting against).

11. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Bellingham, to approve Policy 721: Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources. The motion passed by roll call vote after discussion 5-1 (with Boudreau abstaining, Knudson, Steeve, Wolff, and Bellingham voting in favor, and Moore voting against).

D. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Wolff, to approve the second reading of rescission of Policy 537: Positive School Expectations Policy. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Steeves left the meeting from 6:40 p.m. to 6:42 p.m.

IX. Other Committees

- A. Finance Committee report from John Bellingham, Chad Wolff, and Lynda Boudreau
- B. Ice Arena report from John Bellingham
- C. Facilities Committee report from Linda Moore

X. Other Matters

A. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Boudreau, to approve Gifts/Donations - Resolution 25-26. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote after discussion 6-0.

B. Moved by Wolff, seconded by Boudreau, to consider approval of the MetLife Dental Coverage renewal for FY26 - July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.

C. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Bellingham, to consider approval of Resolution Number 25-25; Probationary teachers to be non-renewed for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote after discussion 6-0.

D. Moved by Wolff, seconded by Boudreau, to consider approval of Resolution Number 25-27; Probationary Administrator to be non-renewed for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote after discussion 6-0.

XI. Dates to Remember

- March 28, 2025, 11:00 a.m. - Buckham West
- April 7, 2025, 5:30 pm - Work Session
- April 10, 2025, 7:45 am - Facilities Committee Meeting
- April 14, 2025, 7:30 am - Finance Committee Meeting
- April 21, 2025, 5:30 pm - Business Meeting
- April 28, 2025 – 3:00 p.m. - Board Retreat

XII. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Knudson, to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Casie Steeves, Clerk
Approved: April 21, 2025