



River Trails

SCHOOL DISTRICT 26

TO: RTSD 26 Board of Education
FROM: Robert Rognstad
DATE: November 11, 2025
RE: NSSEO Committee Update

1. Shining Stars Update /Celebrations

The NSSEO Governing board was the Shining Star for the month. One of the “Micro-Businesses” put together cut flower bouquets for each of the board members. Micro-Businesses at Kirk are used to help develop high school and transition students towards independence. Please consider supporting Kirk School Micro Businesses. More information to follow.

HumanEx survey showed the best results thus far and demonstrates that NSSEO has highly engaged and content staff compared to other educational institutions, but also organizations in general. I think this highlights many of the reasons NSSEO is a great organization.

2. Any Governance Board Meeting Items with Financial Implications to Our District and/or Votes Taken Place

1. 5 new students have been or are being added to the rolls shortly. This will cause Miner enrollment to go over projections and is facilitating the hiring of additional staff. Associated costs are fully covered by established tuition rates and direct bill costs.
2. A focus on attendance saw a 20%+ improvement in Institute Day attendance. The Administration continues to focus on this in cooperation with union leadership.
3. Union negotiations are beginning with our first internal meeting occurring on November 5th. We have an excellent working relationship with the Union. We also have a strong, knowledgeable team representing the board and we are hopeful we will continue to make progress addressing some systemic issues. I am on the negotiating team along with Chris Lettow from District 57, and [Joe Sagerer](#) from District 214.

3. Upcoming Decisions / Votes to Watch

Work is finally starting on other items related to the Strategic Plan, specifically facilities.

The NSSEO board approved the start of the budget formation process for 26-27.

4. Questions / Follow-Up Needed

I am very happy to recommend that we approve and ratify the newly drafted “Articles of Agreement.” It’s been a long process but I am satisfied with the current draft. It allows full participation and cooperative management of the organization while maintaining critical governing and oversight responsibilities. Any remaining issues or clarifications can and will be worked out in the next year or so and I am EXTREMELY happy to see us moving forward with a workable and updated Governance structure.