

**BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

DATE: JUNE 15, 2026

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: ASHLEY EASTRIDGE, CPA, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE TALLY OF WRITE-IN VOTES ONLY IF WRITE-IN VOTES ARE GREATER THAN A BALLOT CANDIDATE'S TOTAL VOTES**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, section 204B.09, provides that a school board may adopt a resolution governing the counting of write-in votes for school board elections. The resolution may require that write-in votes for an individual candidate for the school board only be individually recorded if the total number of write-in votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest number of non-write-in votes for a ballot candidate; and

WHEREAS, the write-in vote counting process can be overly time consuming and require resources that does not result in a change of election results unless a single write-in candidate receives more votes than a ballot candidate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 31, Bemidji Area Schools, State of Minnesota, that the school board requires that write-in votes for an individual candidate for the school board will only be individually recorded if the total number of write-in votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest number of non-write-in votes for a ballot candidate. If not enough people filed for open positions and one of the open positions needs to be filled by a write-in candidate, then all write-in votes will be counted.

This resolution shall remain effective for all future elections until and unless a subsequent resolution on the same subject is adopted by the school board..

The motion for adoption for the Resolution was made by Member _____, duly seconded by Member _____,

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

- Aye:
- Nay:
- Absent:

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted by Independent School District No. 31, Bemidji Area Schools, State of Minnesota, this 15th day of June, 2026

By: _____ By: _____
School Board Chair School Board Clerk

