

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #656

Regular School Board Meeting  
April 20, 2026, 5:30 p.m.  
Faribault Public Schools  
710 17<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Faribault, MN 55021

### MINUTES

Members present: John Bellingham, Lynda Boudreau, Candace Knudson, Linda Moore, Jerry Robicheau, Casie Steeves, and Superintendent Jamie Bente. Members absent: Chad Wolff. Others in attendance were Student Board Representative Amira Williams, administrators, staff, and members of the public.

#### I. Call to Order

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

II. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Knudson, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

#### III. Recognition, Awards, and Presentations

- A. Jefferson Elementary School Instructional Celebration presentation by Nick Jurrens, Principal, Amanda Sieger, Instructional Coach, Eryn Harman, 1st Grade Teacher, and Sarah Peterson, 1st Grade Teacher

#### IV. Items of Information

- A. Reports by School Board Members Knudson, Bellingham, and Boudreau
- B. Report by Student Board Representative Amira Williams
- C. Report by Superintendent Bente

#### V. Public Comment - None

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

- A. Minutes - March 16, 2026, and April 6, 2026
- B. Employment
- C. Additional Assignments/Other
- D. Authorization of Payments, Transfers, and Investment Accounts
- E. Retirements

#### VII. District Advisory Committee - No report

#### VIII. Policy Committee

- A. Policy Committee Minutes report by Linda Moore and Casie Steeves
- B. First Reading of Policies
  - 1. Review of Policy 608: Instructional Services – Special Education
  - 2. Review of Policy 612.1: Development of Parent Involvement Policies for Title I

3. Review of Policy 704.1: Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Capital Leases and Software-Based Information Technology Agreements
4. Revisions to Policy 427: Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers
5. Revisions to Policy 515: Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records
6. Revisions to Policy 530: Immunization Requirements
7. Revisions to Policy 615: Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students
8. Revisions to Policy 618: Assessment of Student Achievement
9. New MSBA Policy 625: Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence

C. Second Reading of Policies

10. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Steeves, to approve revisions to Policy 406: Public and Private Personnel Data. The motion passed after discussion, 4-2 (Bellingham, Knudson, Robicheau, and Wolff voted in favor, and Boudreau and Moore voted against).

11. Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Bellingham, to approve revisions to Policy 503: Student Attendance. The motion passed after discussion, 5-1 (Bellingham, Boudreau, Knudson, Robicheau, and Steeves voted in favor, and Moore voted against).

12. Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Boudreau, to approve revisions to Policy 520: Student Surveys. The motion passed after discussion (Bellingham, Boudreau, Knudson, Robicheau, and Steeves voted in favor, and Moore voted against).

X. Other Committees

A. Finance Committee report by Lynda Boudreau

Steeves left the meeting at 6:41 p.m. and returned at 6:43 p.m.

B. Facilities Committee report by Linda Moore

X. Other Matters

A. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Steeves, to approve Gifts/Donations - Resolution 26-23. The motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote, 6-0.

B. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Knudson, to consider approval of the Purchase Agreement for the Faribault Area Learning Center (ALC) property. The motion passed unanimously after discussion, 6-0.

C. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Bellingham, to consider approval to change auditing firms to CliftonLarsonAllen. The motion passed unanimously after discussion, 6-0.

D. Moved by Steves, seconded by Knudson, to consider approval of the rates for our 2026/2027 health insurance premiums for all non-teacher employees. The motion passed after discussion, 6-0 (Boudreau abstained).

E. Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Bellingham, to consider approval of Resolution 26-24: Placing a non-probationary administrator on ULA status. The motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote after discussion, 6-0.

F. Moved by Bellingham, seconded by Steeves, to consider approval of Resolution 26-25: Probationary teachers to be nonrenewed for the 2026-2027 school year. The motion passed by roll-call vote after discussion, 6-0 (Knudson abstained).

G. Moved by Boudreau, seconded by Knudson, to consider approval of the 2026 School Board Member Handbook. Moved by Moore, seconded by Knudson, to add measurable to "The Superintendent Evaluation Committee will set measurable goals annually with the superintendent..." The amendment passed unanimously after discussion, 6-0. Moved by Robicheau, seconded by Steeves, to strike the second bullet, "School board salaries are set at \$325.00 per month for directors and \$400.00 per month for board chairperson." The motion failed by roll-call vote after discussion, 3-3 (Robicheau, Bellingham, and Steves voted in favor, and Boudreau, Knudson, and Moore voted against). Moved by Moore, seconded by Knudson, to amend the sentence "Board committee assignments and board appointments are assigned 'per the discretion of each individual board member, with the approval of the board chair' during the school board's Organizational meeting in January." The motion failed by roll-call vote after discussion, 2-4 (Knudson and Moore voted in favor, and Bellingham, Boudreau, Robicheau, and Steeves voted against). The main motion passed unanimously after discussion, 6-0.

#### XI. Dates to Remember

April 22, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. - Community Education Advisory Council

May 4, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. - District Advisory Committee

May 4, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. - Board Work Session

May 6, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. - District Wellness Committee

May 11, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. - Finance Committee

May 14, 2026, at 7:45 a.m. - Facilities Committee

May 18, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. - Regular Business Meeting

XII. Moved by Steeves, seconded by Knudson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

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Casie Steeves, Clerk

Approved: May 18, 2026