

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
MAY 18, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenny Frenzel, Ann Long Voelkner, Anna Manecke, Dave Wall, Todd Haugen and Superintendent Jeremy Olson

Jacobi Burmeister Pater – Student Representative
Mckenzie Edevold – Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jack Aakhus

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Jenny Frenzel, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Shindelar – Bus Drivers Compensation
Angela Denny – Bus Driver Negotiations

REQUEST TO REMOVE TOPIC(S) FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Anna Manecke, seconded by Dave Wall, and carried by all in attendance to approve the following items:

- A. Minutes from the April 20, 2026 School Board Meeting
- B. Bills Totaling: \$6,996,252.03
- C. Certified Staff Resignations
- D. Non-Certified Staff Resignations
- E. Field Trip Request — JROTC

SPECIAL TOPICS

Spotlight Presentation “CTE at the High School”

Tony Hommes spoke about the evolution over 100 years of CTE. The graduation rates have increased with those who take CTE classes. CTE is part of everything and this gives students access to the tools needed to learn trades.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Jacobi Burmeister Pater and Mckenzie Edevold reported on graduation, AP exams, class to teacher ratios, following policies, and cost savings in landscaping.

LISTENING SESSION REVIEW

Jenny Frenzel and Anna Manecke spoke to one participant about transportation negotiations. They would like Board members as part of negotiations.

DONATIONS

The motion was offered by Jenny Frenzel, seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and carried by all in attendance to accept the following donations, \$6,000 from the Gene Dillon PTO to Gene Dillon, \$2,000 from the Jeffers Foundation to Gene Dillon Elementary, \$1,000 for the Solway PTO to Solway Elementary, the Derek Kringen Scholarship fund received the following donations; \$1,000 from Suzanne Kringen, \$500 from Jared Echternach and \$500 from Kay Mack.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Capital Projects Schedule

Ashley Eastridge, Director of Business Services, presented the \$1,505,260 estimated expenses for capital projects for the summer of 2026. This is funded with Long Term Facilities Maintenance Funds and facilities bonds.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League

Ann Long Voelkner offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

2026-2027 RESOLUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of Bemidji Area Schools, Counties of Beltrami and Hubbard, State of Minnesota, delegates the control, supervision and regulation of interscholastic athletic and fine arts events (referred to in Minnesota Statutes, Section 128C.01) to the Minnesota State High School League, and so hereby certifies to the State Commissioner of Education as provided for by Minnesota Statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Bemidji High School is authorized by this, the Governing Board of said school district or school to renew its membership in the Minnesota State High School League; and, participate in the approved interschool activities sponsored by said League and its various subdivisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Governing Board hereby adopts the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of said League and all amendments thereto as the same as are published in the latest edition of the League's Official Handbook, on file at the office of the school district, or as appears on the League's website, as the minimum standards governing participation in said League-sponsored activities and athletics. Further, the administration and responsibility for determining student eligibility and for the supervision of such activities are assigned to the official representative identified by the Governing Board.

Signing the Resolution for Membership affirms that this Governing Board has reviewed the required membership materials provided by the League which defines the purpose and value of education-based activity and athletic and programs and defines each member schools responsibilities. Member schools must develop and publicize administrative procedures to address eligibility suspensions related to Student Code of Responsibilities (Bylaw 206.2) violations for students participating in activity programs by member schools.

The above Resolution was adopted by the Governing Board of this school district and is recorded in the official minutes of said Board and hereby is certified to the State Commissioner of Education as provided by law.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Anna Manecke, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Anna Manecke, Jenny Frenzel, Ann Long Voelkner, Dave Wall and Todd Haugen

NOES: No

ABSENT: Jack Aakhus

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Resolution Establishing Dates for Filing Affidavits of Candidacy

Dave Wall introduced the following resolution and urged its adoption:

NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR ELECTION TO THE SCHOOL BOARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 31 STATE OF MINNESOTA

WHEREAS Minnesota Statutes, section 205A.06 establishes the processes regarding affidavits of candidacy for election to a school board, including the requirement for publishing notice of the first and last dates on which affidavits of candidacy may be filed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 31 State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 31 shall begin on July 14, 2026 and shall close on July 28, 2026. An affidavit of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the \$2 filing fee paid prior to 5:00 o'clock p.m. on July 28, 2026.
2. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said filing dates to be published in the official newspaper of the district, at least two (2) weeks prior to the first day to file affidavits of candidacy.
3. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said filing dates to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least ten (10) days prior to the first day to file affidavits of candidacy.
4. The notice of said filing dates shall be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 31 shall begin on July 14, 2026 and shall close at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on July 28, 2026.

The general election shall be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. At that election, three members will be elected to the School Board for terms of four (4) years each.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available from the school district clerk at, (Superintendent's Office) 502 Minnesota Ave NW, Bemidji, MN 56601. The filing fee for this office is \$2. A candidate for this office must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or more or will be upon assuming office, will have maintained residence in the school district from which the candidate seeks election for thirty (30) days before the general election, and must have no other affidavit on file for any other office at the same primary or next ensuing general election, except as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 204B.06, subdivision 9.

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the filing fee paid prior to 5:00 o'clock p.m. on July 28, 2026.

The motion for adoption was, duly seconded by Member Anna Manecke,

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

Aye: Anna Manecke, Jenny Frenzel, Ann Long Voelkner, Dave Wall, and Todd Haugen

Nay: None

Absent: Jack Aakhus

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted by Independent School District No. 31, State of Minnesota, this 18th day of May, 2026.

First Reading of MSBA 506R:Code of Conduct

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Jenny Frenzel, and carried by all in attendance to approve the first reading of MSBA 506R:Code of Conduct.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Regular School Board Meeting, May 18, 2026, 6:30 PM, District Office Board Room

OTHER

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Olson shared about events around the district.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Dave Wall, seconded by Jenny Frenzel, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn the meeting. Time: 7:20 p.m.

Jenny Frenzel, Clerk

Date Approved

Todd Haugen, Chair

Date Approved