

Regular Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2024 6:30 PM

Teaching & Learning Center, Becker High
School
12000 Hancock Street
Becker, MN 55308

Agenda

1. PROCEDURAL ITEMS
 - 1.A. Call to Order
 - 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.C. Agenda
 - 1.D. Recognition of Visitors and Public Forum
 - 1.E. Presentations
2. REPORTS
 - 2.A. Student Report
 - 2.B. Superintendent's Report
 - 2.C. Committee Reports
3. CONSENT AGENDA
 - 3.A. Minutes
 - 3.B. Financial Report
 - 3.C. Disbursements
 - 3.D. Personnel
 - 3.E. Truth-in-Taxation Hearing: December 2, 2024, 6:30 PM
 - 3.F. Transportation Contract 2024-2025
 - 3.G. 24-25 SUBSTITUTE PAY RATES
4. GIFTS
5. GENERAL FUND TRANSFER

6. RESOLUTIONS: MSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
7. PRELIMINARY LEVY 2024 PAYABLE 2025
8. CLOSED SESSION #1
9. CLOSED SESSION #2
10. RESUMPTION OF OPEN SESSION
11. ADJOURN



A LEGENCE Company



ISD #726 – BECKER AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS REFERENDUM PROJECTS

Progress Update
September 4th, 2024

Agenda:

Progress Update

Progress Decisions

Intermediate Project Update

- Working on Punch list items
- HVAC Commissioning
- Meeting with H2I (Gym Floor Contractor) To Develop Schedule
- Trailer out this week (Rick has the garage project starting)
- Playground fence complete
- Pricing for Window Flashing **needs approval** (Existing windows along existing exterior wall in new entry corridor) **\$15,727.54**



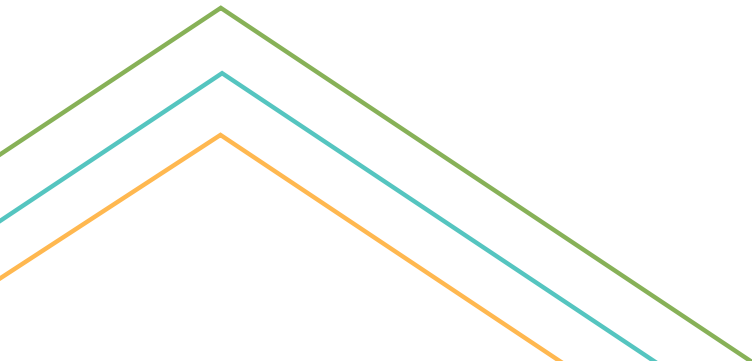
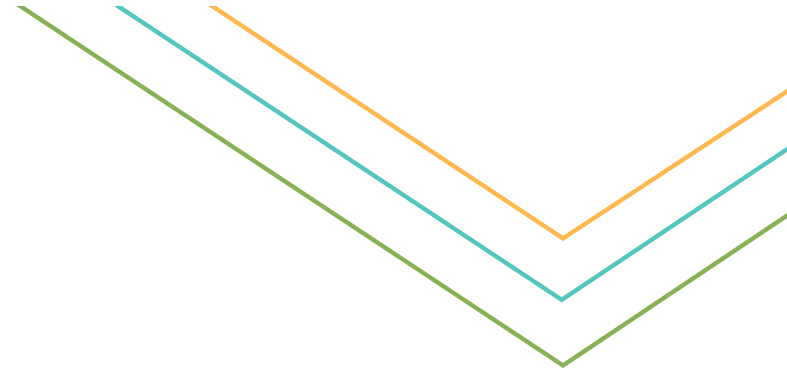
Primary/ECFE Additions & Renovations Project

Primary-

- McDowall Phase 1 of roof complete scaffolding down
- Fire wall work complete
- Waiting on material to cover the gym window in-fills

ECFE-

- A couple lingering door issues working on warranty with contractor/supplier
- Irrigation completed
- Sidewalk addition and fence work Pending



Other Items

Insurance Work

MS/HS Rooftop Items Begins this week with Weidner and Hubbard (Aprox 3-week duration)

- McDowall to replace Skylight Pyramids next summer due to lead times on material

Site Buildings

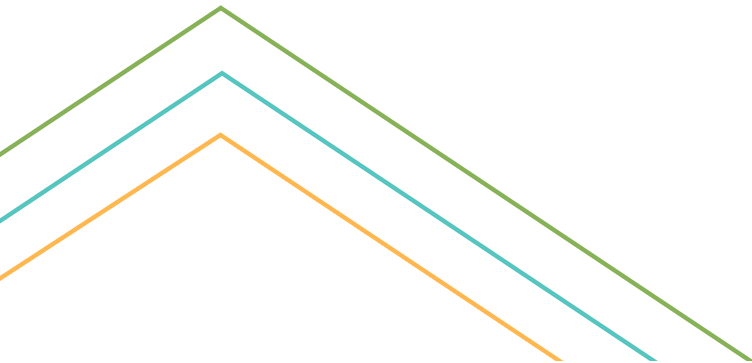
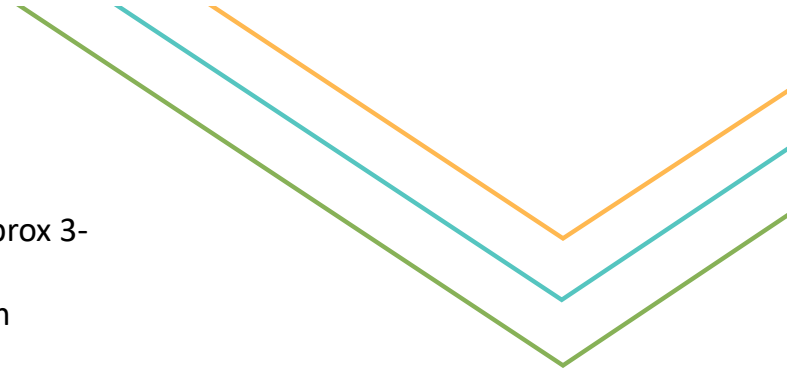
- Finishing up the Concession shed, material order issue with supplier

Transportation

- Nitrate System Installed
- Passed monthly State Coliform test (On-going Issue)
- Vaporizer for Propane tank upgrade starting
- Asphalt Milling installation complete

HS Roofing Project

- Developing Bid Documents with MLA
- Bid this fall for next summer





Q&A



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Board / Committee Meetings 2024

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

3 Finance 7:00 am
3 Facilities 4:30 pm
8 Organizational Meeting 6:30 pm
16 TRAK 5:30 pm CANCELED
17 Policy 6:00 pm CANCELED
22 Activities 7:00 am
22 EC Advisory 6:00 pm
29 Meet & Confer 3:45 pm CANCELED
31 Finance 7:00 am

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

8 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
17 Policy 6:00 pm CANCELED
31 Finance 7:00 am
31 Facilities 4:30 pm

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

5 Curriculum 5:00 pm
5 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
12 Activities 7:00 am
14 Policy 6:00 pm RESCHEDULED
15 Wellness 3:00 pm
21 Community Education 3:30 pm
21 Policy 6:00 pm CANCELED
28 Finance 7:00 am
28 Facilities 4:30 pm

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

5 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
14 Policy 6:00 pm CANCELED

March

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

4 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
13 Policy 6:00 pm RESCHEDULED
18 Activities 7:00 am
19 TRAK 5:30 pm
20 Policy 6:00 pm

September

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29	30					

4 Finance 7:00 am
4 Facilities 4:30 pm
9 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
18 Policy 6:00 pm
24 Community Education 3:30 pm

April

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28	29	30				

3 Finance 7:00 am
3 Facilities 4:30 pm
8 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
17 Policy 6:00 pm
22 Activities 7:00 am
22 EC Advisory 6:00 pm
24 Community Education 3:30 pm

October

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2 Finance 7:00 am
2 Facilities 4:30 pm
7 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
16 Policy 6:00 pm
23 Wellness 3:00 pm
28 Activities 7:00 am

May

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

1 Finance 7:00 am
1 Facilities 4:30 pm
6 Curriculum 5:30 pm
6 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
13 Activities 7:00 am
15 Meet & Confer 3:45 pm
15 Policy 6:00 pm CANCELED
21 TRAK 5:30 pm
29 Finance 7:00 am
29 Facilities 4:30 pm

November

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

13 Finance 7:00 am
13 Facilities 4:30 pm
18 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
25 Activities 7:00 am

June

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

3 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
 12 Policy 6:00 pm Rescheduled
 26 Finance 7:00 am
 26 Facilities 4:30 pm
 26 Policy 6:00 pm

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
 11 Policy Meeting 6:00 pm

Chair Jurek called the regular meeting of the School Board of District #726 to order on the 5th day of August, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Teaching & Learning Center.

Roll Call.

Members present: Troy Berning, Ryan Hubbard, Aaron Jurek, Connie Robinson, Corey Stanger, Pete Weismann

Members absent: None

Others present: Jeremy Schmidt, Superintendent
Kevin Januszewski, Director of Business Services

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

PRESENTATION: Tim Truebenbach, John Weekley: Sherburne and Northern Wright Special Education Cooperative

REPORTS/UPDATES:

- Superintendent
- Committee Meeting Updates: Finance, 284 Negotiations

Motion by Troy Berning, seconded by Corey Stanger, to *Approve the Consent Agenda* as presented:

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FROM THE JULY 8, 2024 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURES

Fund	2023-24		2023-24	Remaining	%
	Budget	July 2024	Year-to-Date	Budget	Spent
General	41,661,884	1,452,230	1,452,230	40,209,654	3.49%
Food Service	2,578,924	16,225	16,225	2,562,699	0.63%
Community Service	1,934,483	64,659	64,659	1,869,824	3.34%
Debt Service	3,818,538	252,769	252,769	3,565,769	6.62%
	\$ 49,993,829	\$ 1,785,883	\$ 1,785,883	\$ 48,207,946	3.57%

DISBURSEMENTS – in the amount of \$3,633,476.90

PERSONNEL

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Behrenbrinker, Cloey	Change in Position	Camp Opportunity Lead (was Assistant)	Camp Opportunity	7/22/24
Bertrand, Ashley	New	FACS Teacher	HS	08/26/24
Chaisson, Trysha	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	IS	08/26/24
Dimich, Jade	New	Camp Opportunity Lead	Camp Opportunity	08/19/24
Dockendorf, Joe	New	Long Term Substitute: Grade 6 ELA	MS	8/26/24
Doss, Josh	Resignation	JV Boys Basketball Coach	HS	7/29/24
Doss, Josh	Resignation	7th Grade Football Coach	MS	7/29/24
Fischbach, John	New	AM/PM Bus Driver	Bus Garage	7/29/24
Fladebo, Alyssa	New	Special Education (SLD) Teacher	IS	8/26/24
Geiger, Sara	Change in Position	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS (was PS/IS)	8/26/24
Hales, Lillian	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS	8/26/24
Hanson, Logan	Extracurricular Position	8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	MS	1/2/25
Hendrick, Hannah	Resignation	Camp Opportunity Lead	Camp Opportunity	7/23/24
Kothrade, Kelly Jo	New	AM/PM Bus Driver	Bus Garage	07/30/24
Kral, Jesse	Extracurricular Position	7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	MS	1/2/25
Martell, Corey	Resignation	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	07/18/24
Marx, Kyanna	Resignation	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	7/18/24
Midas Sue	Resignation	Science Teacher	HS	7/19/24
Muellner, Brad	Resignation	7th Grade Football Coach	MS	07/18/24
Nuest, Cory	New	Business Teacher	HS	8/26/24

Reibel, Scott	Extracurricular Position	Asst. Football Coach	HS	8/12/24
Rose, Dean	End of Assignment	Asst. Cook	IS	6/5/24
Saliterman, Adrienne	New (additional) Assignment	Special Education Paraprofessional (also Camp Opportunity)	MS	8/26/24
Senger, Lisa	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS	8/26/24
Simon, Kristina	New	5 Reading Interventionist	HS	8/26/24
Struffert, Katelynn	Change in Position	Camp Opportunity Lead (was Assistant)	Camp Opportunity	6/30/24
Uittenbogaard, Kathryn	New	Business Teacher	HS	8/26/24
Walter, Nancy	Resignation	Special Education Teacher	HS	7/25/24

DESIGNATION OF IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL WITH AUTHORITY (IOWA), as presented

24-25 FUNDRAISERS, as presented

EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATOR CONTRACT 24-25, as presented

COMMUNITY EDUCATION DIRECTOR CONTRACT 23-24, 24-25, as presented

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Connie Robinson, seconded by Corey Stanger, to ***Approve the 24-25 Health Insurance Rates***, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Corey Stanger, seconded by Ryan Hubbard, to hold the ***November Regular School Board Meeting on November 4, and to hold a Special School Board Meeting on November 13 to Canvass Election Results***. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Pete Weismann, seconded by Troy Berning, to ***Approve the 24-25 Substitute Teacher Pay Rates***, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Jurek will be sending ***Superintendent Review*** information to School Board Members for input. A closed session will be held at the September School Board meeting to review results.

The meeting was ***adjourned*** at 7:04 p.m.

 Aaron Jurek, Chair

Pete Weismann, Clerk

Recorder: Angela Oswald

BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
August 2024

EXPENDITURES

Fund	2024-25 Budget	August 2024	2024-25 Year-to-Date	Remaining Budget	% Spent
General	41,661,884	1,557,568	3,009,798	38,652,086	7.22%
Food Service	2,578,924	16,936	33,161	2,545,763	1.29%
Community Service	1,934,483	121,746	186,405	1,748,078	9.64%
Debt Service	3,818,538	-	252,769	3,565,769	6.62%
	\$ 49,993,829	\$ 1,696,250	\$ 3,482,133	\$ 46,511,696	6.97%

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Borchert, Ashley	New	Bus Driver	Bus Garage	9/4/24
Brown, Erin	End of Assignment	Special Education Social Worker	HS	8/28/24
Edling, Jen	Resignation	Cashier	HS	8/14/24
Edling, Jen	Change in Assignment (Increase in Hours)	Secretary	Food Service	7/1/24
Farber, Michelle	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	HS	9/16/24
Feierabend, Jenn	Resignation	Life Science Teacher	MS	8/14/24
Gorman, Carrie	End of Assignment	Special Education Paraprofessional	MS/IS	8/8/24
Halvorson, Beth	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS	9/9/24

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Hanrahan, Laurie	New	9th Grade Volleyball Coach	HS	8/12/24
Hansen, Jennifer	Change in Assignment	Custodian	MS (was HS/MS)	9/3/24
Hanson, Kathryn	Resignation	Special Education Paraprofessional	MS	08/22/24
Hodges, Stacy	Resignation	Special Education Paraprofessional	IS	8/25/24
Johnson, Kerrie	New	7th Grade Science Teacher	MS	08/26/24
Johnson, Sonie	Resignation	Special Education Paraprofessional	HS	08/23/24
Lagergren, Susan	Change in Assignment	Lunch Cashier (increase in hours)	HS	9/3/24
Lamp, Allison	New	MARSS/SIS Specialist	DO	8/19/24

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Leither, Tony	New	Boys Basketball Coach	MS	1/2/25
Lillback, Kelly	New	Asst. Cook	IS	9/3/24
Meyer, Nicholas	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	MS	9/3/24
Millaway, Dana	Resignation	Technology Assistant	PS/IS	10/4/24
Miller, Elliana	New	Kindergarten Teacher	PS	8/26/24
Murray, Meghan	New	First Grade Teacher	PS	8/26/24
Niskanen, Russell	Change in Assignment	AM/PM Transportation Paraprofessional (was Van Driver)	Bus Garage	08/13/24
Niskanen, Russell	Resignation	AM/PM Van Driver	Bus Garage	8/12/24

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Novak, Laura	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Olson, Jennifer	Resignation	Special Education Paraprofessional	HS	8/20/24
Olson, Rebecca	New	Food Service Worker	PS	9/3/24
Osborne, Emily	Resignation	Head Speech Coach	HS	8/9/24
Peterson, Vickie	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS	09/03/24
Pittman, Teresa	Resignation	Custodian	MS	8/30/24
Riebel, Mason	New	7th Grade Football Coach	MS	8/26/24
Risberg, Amanda	Additional Assignment	ECSE Paraprofessional (also EC Parent Educator)	EEC	9/9/24

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Robinson, Reyan	New	7th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/5/24
Safranski, Tory	New	Asst. Cook	PS	9/3/24
Saterbak, Nancy	Resignation	Food Service Worker	MS	8/14/24
Schug, Megan	New	Special Education Teacher	HS	8/26/24
Schulz, Jackie	Long-Term Substitute	6th Grade Teacher	MS	9/16/24 - 12/6/24 Approximately
St. Fleur, Marie-Lyne	New	Food Service Worker	HS	9/4/24
Stach, Barbara	Change in Assignment	Lunch Cashier (was lunch food service worker)	PS	9/3/24
Stang, Beth	New	AM/PM Bus Driver	Bus Garage	8/9/24

Name	Status	Job Title	Location	Effective
Aaseby, Sarah	New	8th Grade Volleyball Coach	MS	9/3/24
Stang, Sydney	Change in Assignment	Assistant Cook (was Food Service Worker)	MS	9/3/24
Suckot, Monte	New	Custodian	District/MS	8/19/24
Sura, Ann	New	Food Service Worker	IS	9/3/24
Thomas, Bailey	New	Long-Term Substitute Secretary	IS	9/16/24 - 12/20/24 Approximately
Wallin, Melissa	New	Special Education Paraprofessional	PS	9/9/24
Wolbeck, Amanda	New	AM/PM Bus Driver	Bus Garage	8/14/24

Becker

726

TRANSPORTATION NEGOTIATIONS COST SHEET SUMMARY

BOARD

Meeting Date: 8/7/24

Proposed By:

Year 1

Hours on Staff Roster 19866.76

Percent Change to Base 2.00%

0.00%

Health Ins Monthly Contribution - S \$ 750.00

Health Ins Monthly Contribution - F \$ 1,650.00

Total Package Cost Increase 14.08%

Average of 2 Years 7.04%

	2023-24	%Change	2024-25

SALARY SCHEDULE & PART-TIME SALARIES

SALARY RATE CHANGES

	\$ 719,047	14.56%	\$ 823,705	
Longevity Pay	\$ 378	89.68%	\$ 717	
Schedule and Part Time Salaries Total	\$ 719,425	14.59%	\$ 824,422	

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT SALARIES

FIELD TRIPS AND ACTIVITY TRIPS PER HOUR

	\$ 63,539	2.01%	\$ 64,815	
Extended Time Salaries (Overtime)	\$ -		\$ -	
Other Salaries (1)	\$ -		\$ -	
Other Salaries (2)	\$ -		\$ -	
Other Salaries (3)	\$ -		\$ -	
Special Assignment Salaries Total	\$ 63,539	2.01%	\$ 64,815	

INSURANCE RELATED BENEFITS (TRA & FICA are not charged to these expenditures)

Health Insurance	\$ 96,075	0.00%	\$ 96,075	
Dental Insurance	\$ 5,269	0.00%	\$ 5,269	
Life Insurance	\$ 3,255	0.00%	\$ 3,255	
Long Term Disability	\$ 367	14.59%	\$ 420	
Other Benefits	\$ -		\$ -	
Total Insurance Related Benefits Costs	\$ 104,966	0.05%	\$ 105,020	

SALARY MATCHING PROGRAMS (TRA & FICA are not charged to these expenditures)

District Expenditures for Salary Match Programs	\$ 4,250	5.88%	\$ 4,500
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PERA and FICA

<small>TRA & FICA are computed on Schedule and Extra Salaries</small>	7.50%		7.50%
PERA	\$ 58,722	13.57%	\$ 66,693
	7.65%		7.65%
FICA	\$ 59,897	13.57%	\$ 68,027
Total TRA and FICA Costs	\$ 118,619	13.57%	\$ 134,719

Read the comment in the cell below

		%Change	
TOTAL TWO YEAR AGREEMENT COSTS	\$1,010,800	12.14%	\$1,133,477
	2023-24		2024-25

Dollar Increase in Each Year \$122,677

Dollar Increase/ FTE in Each Year (FTE=2080 hrs) \$12,844

Dollar Increase Per FTE over Three Years

Sum or Year (1) Percentage + Year (2) Percentage

Weighted Percent for Settlement (2xYr1+Yr2)/3

TOTAL TWO YEAR ANTICIPATED SALARY COSTS	\$1,010,800		\$1,133,477
Comment	PERCENTAGE CHANGE	12.14%	

SUBSTITUTE PAY RATES

Effective 9/3/24

Bus Drivers	
Regular, ECSE, Summer SPED	Step 1
Field & Athletic Trips	Step 1
Custodian	Step 1
Dishwasher / Server	Step 1
Paraprofessional / Secretary	Step 1
Playground / Lunchroom Supervisor	Step 1
Van Driver	Step 1
Teacher	\$180 per day

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: "The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education."; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: "Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full."; and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Becker, ISD 726, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

DONOR	GIFT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Becker Blast Softball	Softball Upgrade Project	\$30,000.00
Becker Lions Club	Special Education Department	\$220.00
Becker PTSA	Primary School New Playground	\$13,000.00
Central MN Manufacturers Assoc Fund	Robotics	\$1,000.00
Coborn's	Middle School More Rewards	\$697.59
Country Lumber	Softball Upgrade Project	\$1,000.00
Dillon Radunz	Primary School New Playground	\$5,000.00
Liberty Paper	Baseball New Pitching Mound Cover	\$675.00
Pebble Creek Women's Club	TBD by Administrators	\$559.00
Pebble Creek Women's Club	School Supplies	n/a
T.J Potter	Softball Upgrade Project	\$1,000.00

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

Aye: Troy Berning, Ryan Hubbard, Aaron Jurek, Connie Robinson, Corey Stanger, Pete Weismann

Nay: None

Absent: None

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

By: _____ By: _____

Chair

Clerk

Date: _____

Date: _____



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #1: Cybersecurity

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved

submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

MSBA urges the legislature to prioritize and enhance cybersecurity measures across Minnesota schools by allocating dedicated funding and resources. This would include implementing a strategic cybersecurity plan that encompasses vulnerability assessments, staff training, incident response protocols, and infrastructure improvements to protect against potential cyber threats. Furthermore, MSBA recommends that the legislature consider the development of a statewide cybersecurity task force or similar, with appropriate funding to pay for the implementation and development of cybersecurity task force support, dedicated to supporting and guiding school districts in their efforts to secure sensitive information and maintain safe and reliable educational environments.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

Minnesota schools are increasingly vulnerable to cyberattacks, which could compromise the safety and security of student and staff information, disrupt educational operations, and lead to significant financial losses. As cyber threats become more sophisticated, schools must proactively enhance their cybersecurity defenses to prevent potential breaches.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

Cybersecurity incidents in schools can lead to unauthorized access to confidential information, operational disruptions, and potential financial fraud. The growing frequency and severity of cyberattacks on educational institutions necessitate a more robust and proactive approach to cybersecurity. By strengthening cybersecurity measures, Minnesota schools can deter potential attackers and minimize the risks associated with these threats.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

Supporting documentation includes references to recent state bills proposed and passed in California (SB 265) and Iowa (HF 452, HF 632) that have introduced measures for enhancing cybersecurity in public sectors, including schools. These legislative efforts highlight the critical importance of cybersecurity preparedness in safeguarding public institutions and provide a framework for similar actions in Minnesota.

California SB 265 (2023-2024 Regular Session): This bill, introduced by Senator Hurtado, emphasizes the need for a strategic, multiyear outreach plan to assist critical infrastructure sectors, including public and private sector computer networks, in improving cybersecurity. It outlines the requirement for state agencies to coordinate with various sectors and explore funding options for cybersecurity initiatives.

Iowa HF 452 (2023): This bill authorizes the expenditure of funds from the "Secure an Advanced Vision for Education" (SAVE) fund for cybersecurity purposes in school districts. It defines "cybersecurity event" and clarifies that school infrastructure funds can be used to protect against unauthorized access to or misuse of information systems.

Iowa HF 632 (2023): A successor to HF 452, this bill further solidifies the use of SAVE funds for cybersecurity by explicitly including the acquisition, development, and improvement of school information systems to protect against cybersecurity events. The bill outlines the framework for school districts to strengthen their technological defenses using these allocated state funds.

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #2: Mental Health Funding

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

MSBA urges the legislature to allocate sustained and adequate funding to support comprehensive mental health programs in schools. This includes providing resources for mental health practitioners, ensuring uniformity in mental health support across all schools, and creating partnerships with community organizations. The state government must prioritize mental health support in schools, going beyond temporary grant programs, to ensure all students have access to the mental health resources they need.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

In the Becker Public School District, we have faced tragedies related to mental health, which have highlighted the critical need for sustained mental health support in our schools. While we have implemented various support avenues, including partnerships with Lutheran Social Services and Greater MN Family Services, and have relied on community fundraisers like Dylan's Hope, the expiration of key grants, such as the Support Our Students grant, has left us struggling to maintain these essential services.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

Mental health support in schools is vital for student well-being, but the current funding mechanisms are insufficient. Reliance on temporary grants and community fundraisers creates instability and inequity in access to mental health services. Without consistent state funding, schools cannot ensure that all students receive the mental health support they need, leading to gaps in care and the potential for more tragedies.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

Supporting documentation includes a 2022 study from U.S. News & World Report, which underscores the value of mental health practitioners in schools. The study highlights the benefits of having mental health programs in educational settings, such as improved student outcomes, reduced behavioral issues, and enhanced overall well-being. Additionally, the following information outlines the specific mental health initiatives and challenges faced by Becker Public Schools:

Mental Health Initiatives in Becker Public Schools: In response to mental health challenges, Becker Public Schools have implemented partnerships with Lutheran Social Services and Greater MN Family Services to provide mental health support. The district also benefits from the annual Dylan's Hope fundraiser, which raises approximately \$60,000 each year for mental health initiatives, including school-wide assemblies and positive promotions.

Challenges Due to Expired Grants: The expiration of the Support Our Students grant, which previously funded mental health social workers in the district, has left a significant gap in our ability to maintain these services. Without state support, the district is unable to sustain the necessary mental health programs, which are crucial for the well-being of our students.

The Need for State Support: Temporary grants and community fundraising are not sufficient to meet the ongoing mental health needs of students. There is a pressing need for the state to provide uniform, sustained funding to ensure that all schools can support their students' mental health effectively and consistently.

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #3: Food Service Expenditures

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

Allow for broader use of food service funds to incorporate all purchases that improve the functionality of cafeteria, food preparation, storage, and food service areas. This includes the allocation of funds from the food service fund for renovations and modernization of serving areas and lunchrooms to improve efficiency, safety, and the overall dining experience for students, with pre-approval from MDE.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

Currently, there are federal restrictions that prohibit certain expenditures using the food service fund. With the addition of fully funded food service programming for all students due to additional state funding, there is a need to broaden the use of the food service fund to allow spending on any food service-related purchases. Current restrictions do not permit spending on certain new components such as opportunities to increase efficiency, comfort, flow of students, and more.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

Food service funding is now fully funded. In order to provide a better experience and offer proper choices for students, it would be beneficial if any related food service costs were able to be purchased using funds generated from universal meals for all. The restrictions on spending limit the ability of schools to make necessary upgrades and improvements to their food service facilities, thereby hindering the efficiency and quality of the services provided to students. This is particularly a problem due to the increase in meals being served within districts across the state.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

Current Statute and Legislative Changes: The recent legislative session included an addition to the statute that allows districts to recode costs related to lunchroom supervision, custodial services, utilities, and furniture to the food service fund if a surplus exists for three successive years. However, this is still limited and does not cover all necessary expenditures for renovations and modernization to improve efficiencies.

Testimony: Last year, Dr. Jeremy Schmidt testified before the Education Finance Committee, advocating for the expansion of permissible uses of the food service fund. He highlighted the challenges faced by Becker Public Schools, including a significant increase in student participation in school lunches, which has strained the existing facilities and resources. Dr. Schmidt emphasized the need for renovations and improvements to meet the growing demand and improve efficiency. The testimony was partially successful adding allowances to purchase tables with food service funds, but we can continue to improve our eating spaces for optimal performance using these funds.

Student Participation Rates and Financial Data: Becker Public Schools has experienced a substantial increase in student participation rates in both breakfast and lunch programs since the implementation of free meals for all. The district's data shows a 15-23% increase in lunch participation across different schools and a 26% increase in breakfast participation at the primary school level. This surge in participation underscores the need for expanded food service facilities and related expenditures.

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #4: End of Unemployment

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

End the provision of unemployment benefits for school employees during the period between academic terms. The current system, which allows non-instructional staff to collect unemployment during the summer months, should be reconsidered due to the lack of a permanent funding stream, the added administrative burden on school districts, and the negative impact on the availability of summer workers.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

The provision of unemployment benefits to non-instructional school employees during the summer months was enacted during the 2023 legislative session, with limited funding provided to school districts to cover the costs. This funding is expected to end by the summer of 2025 or 2026, leaving districts without a clear way to sustain these payments. Additionally, this extra income is not considered compensation, and it discourages employees from seeking summer work, which exacerbates staffing challenges during the summer.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

This policy creates several issues for school districts:

No Permanent Funding Stream: The funding provided to support this unemployment provision is temporary and expected to run out soon. Without additional funding, school districts will struggle to cover these costs.

Negative Impact on Summer Staffing: The availability of unemployment benefits during the summer discourages non-instructional staff from seeking employment, leading to a shortage of workers during the summer months when schools often need help with summer school, planning and training, and other tasks.

Administrative Burden: The process of managing hundreds of unemployment applications, handling denials, and managing appeals adds a significant administrative burden on school districts, diverting resources from more critical educational needs.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

Law Update from MN Unemployment Insurance: The law passed in 2023 amending the "Between Terms" language allows non-instructional staff to collect unemployment benefits during the summer. This provision is expected to increase the number of unemployment claims from school employees, as highlighted in the update provided by the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Legislative Background: An appropriation of nearly \$140 million was requested for the 2024-25 biennium to reimburse schools for their contributions to the unemployment insurance fund. However, this funding is temporary, and the expectation is that it will end by 2025 or 2026, leaving schools without a sustainable way to manage these costs.

Testimony and Articles: Various stakeholders, including school district representatives and administrators, have testified and written about the potential impact of this policy on school operations. These testimonies and articles underscore the challenges posed by the unemployment benefits provision, including the difficulty in recruiting summer workers and the administrative burden on schools.

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #5: ESST Carve Out for Districts

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved

submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

Amend the Employee Safe and Sick Time (ESST) law to provide clarity and uniform guidance for school districts, particularly where current policies already exceed the minimum requirements set by the law. The law should recognize existing benefits provided by districts, reduce the administrative burden, and ensure that negotiations are not hindered by ambiguities in the law.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

Many school districts, including Becker Public Schools, already offer benefits that exceed the ESST requirements. However, the implementation of the new law has led to increased paperwork, additional HR tasks, and complications during negotiations due to the lack of clear guidance. This has created unnecessary administrative burdens and confusion.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

The lack of clarity and uniformity in the ESST law has caused significant issues for school districts. Districts that already provide greater benefits than those required by the law are now faced with additional administrative work without any tangible benefit to employees. The law has also led to complications in negotiations, making it difficult for districts to maintain smooth operations and effective HR practices. A clearer, more uniform approach is needed to ensure that the law supports rather than hinders school district operations.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

- 2023 Minnesota Statutes (Section 181.9446): The law mandates the accrual of one hour of earned sick and safe time for every 30 hours worked, up to a maximum of 48 hours per year, with a carryover of up to 80 hours. While well-intentioned, this provision has led to challenges for districts with existing policies that surpass these minimum requirements.
- Impact on Negotiations and HR Processes: The new law has introduced additional paperwork and HR tasks, complicating negotiations and leading to inconsistencies in how benefits are administered. This has caused operational inefficiencies and increased the workload for HR departments in school districts.
- Need for Uniform Guidance: The law's implementation has highlighted the need for clearer, more uniform guidance that acknowledges the existing benefits provided by districts and reduces the administrative burden associated with compliance. School districts require a more streamlined approach that allows them to focus on their primary mission of educating students, rather than navigating complex and redundant legal requirements.

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.



MSBA Proposed Resolution Submission Form

Resolution #6: LTFM

Full name of School District: Becker Public Schools

Full name of individual submitting for the school board: Dr. Jeremy Schmidt

Title/Position of individual submitting for the school board: Superintendent

Phone number: 763-261-4502

Email address: jschmidt@isd726.org

This resolution is submitted with approval by the school board.

Please provide the date on which the authoring school board approved submission of this resolution: September 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED MSBA URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO:

Eliminate the long term facilities maintenance (LTFM) cap for all “1B” districts to create a statewide equitable path for every district to repair and maintain buildings and facilities.

*We are aware that this concern has been part of the MSBA legislative platform. We are submitting this resolution again for emphasis, because we believe that this should be a priority area for the 2025 Legislative Platform.

DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM:

MDE does not collect data on the condition of school district facilities. MDE can only report on how much state aid and district property tax is being utilized by districts. The condition of public school buildings across the state varies tremendously, with some buildings less than a year old, and some nearly 100 years old. It is essential for all of Minnesota’s public school districts to formulate a short and long term plan to properly maintain their buildings and facilities, regardless of building age. However, statutes and regulations governing how much money can be allocated by a district to repair and maintain their buildings are not equitable, and most severely disadvantage the state’s smaller “1B” public schools outside of the metro areas. Because of the LTFM cap applied to our district, we are unable to properly and adequately formulate a short or long term funding plan to repair all of the existing leaks.

EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM:

Each year schools are able to plan to fix only a portion of the roof leaks and roof problems across our buildings. Some of the leaks are severe enough that buckets have to be placed in student areas each time it rains. This is deeply unacceptable, unhealthy, and unsafe. It is unacceptable in a large urban “1A” district, and it should be equally unacceptable in smaller suburban and rural “1B” districts. Most homeowners would not maintain their own properties in this piecemeal fashion. School Boards and Districts are needlessly handcuffed by the LTFM cap applied to smaller “1B” districts, while 25 larger “1A” districts (nearly all in the metro area) qualify for Alternative Facilities authority. Under this authority, their locally elected school boards can issue bonds to address facility maintenance issues. Being able to manage the process of maintaining and repairing facilities should be an equitable process for each public school district across the state, that is not tied to square footage or enrollment.

A 2014 MDE School Facilities Finance report noted the largest 25 school districts encompassing almost 50% of the state’s total public student body spent an average of \$2.79 per square foot on deferred maintenance while the other 300+ districts covering the other half of the student body spent an average of \$0.58 per square foot on deferred maintenance.

Smaller and rural districts are capped at \$380 per pupil, while the Alternative Facilities districts do not have a cap. Alternative Facilities districts have the ability to keep raising their levies because their 10-year plans drive their expenses, and their boards are able to adopt the revenue plan to pay for it. The Alternative Facility districts again are pulling away from the rest of the state in their ability to raise money towards maintenance of their buildings. If nothing changes by 2025, Alternative Facility districts will have more than double the amount of money to spend per pupil compared to the rest of the districts in the state.

PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

<https://www.mreavoice.org/ltfmr-is-becoming-lopsided-again/> (Retrieved 17 July 2024)

[https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/123B.595#:~:text=\(a\)%20Long%2Dterm%20of%20facilities,quality%2C%20fire%20alarm%20and%20suppression](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/123B.595#:~:text=(a)%20Long%2Dterm%20of%20facilities,quality%2C%20fire%20alarm%20and%20suppression)

https://education.mn.gov/mdeprod/idcplg?ldcService=GET_FILE&dDocName=022061&RevisionSelectionMethod=latest&Rendition=primary

https://www.mnasa.org/uploads/4/7/7/9/47793163/minnesota_schools_long-term_facilities_maintenance_1pgr.pdf

https://www.mn.gov/mmb-stat/documents/budget/initial13/education/37_E+-+Budget+Books+Education_HTML+Docs_E374A30+Alternative+Facilities+Aid.htm#:~:text=This%20program%20allows%20large%20school,scale%20health%20and%20safety%20projects.

[MDE's School Facility Financing Working Group Report](#)

For MSBA Staff Use Only:

Date Received: Click or tap to enter a date.

File Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Category: Choose an item.

Recommendation: Choose an item.

Present Position(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

**BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GENERAL FUND
GROSS LEVY COMPARISON**

	ACTUAL 2023 PAY 2024	PROPOSED 2024 PAY 2025	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE
1 Operating Referendum Levies	\$ 3,255,642	\$ 3,256,869	\$ 1,227
2 Operating Capital Levy	355,636	354,544	(1,092)
3 Equity and Local Optional Levies	2,471,786	2,516,201	44,415
4 Reemployment Levy	20,000	25,003	5,003
5 Safe Schools Levy	105,576	108,214	2,638
6 Career & Technical Levy	37,761	39,913	2,152
7 Integration Levy	85,454	84,973	(481)
8 Long Term Facilities Maintenance	906,617	823,900	(82,717)
9 Building Lease Levy	315,561	382,540	66,979
10 Capital Projects Referendum Levy	608,881	634,029	25,148
11 Annual OPEB Levy	188,483	250,872	62,389
12 General Fund Adjustments	266	(4,471)	(4,737)
TOTAL PROPOSED LEVY	\$ 8,351,663	\$ 8,472,587	\$ 120,924

**BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
GROSS LEVY COMPARISON**

	ACTUAL 2023 PAY 2024	PROPOSED 2024 PAY 2025	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE
Basic Community Ed. Levy	\$ 108,867	\$ 111,613	\$ 2,746
Early Childhood Levy	69,152	73,971	4,819
Adults with Disabilities Levy	2,182	1,965	(217)
School Age Care Levy	49,194	54,218	5,024
Home Visit Levy	2,482	2,727	245
Abatements	5	247	242
TOTAL PROPOSED LEVY	\$ 231,882	\$ 244,741	\$ 12,859

**BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEBT SERVICE
GROSS LEVY COMPARISON**

	ACTUAL 2023 PAY 2024	PROPOSED 2024 PAY 2025	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE
Required Debt Service Levy	\$ 3,956,760	\$ 3,946,502	\$ (10,258)
Abatement Adjustments	164	4,339	4,175
Reduction For Debt Excess	<u>(153,840)</u>	<u>(230,090)</u>	<u>(76,250)</u>
TOTAL PROPOSED LEVY	\$ 3,803,084	\$ 3,720,751	\$ (82,333)

**BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ALL FUNDS
GROSS LEVY COMPARISON**

	ACTUAL 2023 PAY 2024	PROPOSED 2024 PAY 2025	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% Change
General Fund	\$ 8,351,663	\$ 8,472,587	\$ 120,924	1.45%
Community Education Fund	231,882	244,741	12,859	5.55%
Debt Service Fund	<u>3,803,084</u>	<u>3,720,751</u>	<u>(82,333)</u>	-2.16%
TOTAL PROPOSED LEVY	\$ 12,386,629	\$ 12,438,079	\$ 51,450	0.42%