



South St. Paul School Board - Work Session

Monday, October 26, 2026 5:00 PM

CITY HALL, 125 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, South St Paul, Minnesota 55075

I. SCHOOL STORE ITEMS

II. SCHOOL BOARD

II.A. 2-Year Board Agenda (L Brandecker)

II.B. Public Relations and Community Engagement (Board)

II.C. Committee Updates (Board)

- District 917
- AMSD
- Community Education
- Educational Foundation
- Finance, Facilities and Long-Range Planning
- Local Issues
- Policy
- SSP Open Foundation
- Superintendent Executive

II.D. Other Items Deemed Necessary by the School Board

Date: October 26, 2026

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None.

Topic: School Store Items
Presenter(s): School Board
Background: The Board will discuss items sold at the school store and their alignment with the district’s wellness policy. Specifically, the discussion will focus on the sale of caffeinated energy drinks, which are currently prohibited under district policy. Administration is seeking Board input on the possibility of establishing guidelines that would allow an exception for high school students while continuing to prohibit sales to middle school students. Additional guidelines could include limiting purchases to one energy drink per student. The purpose of this discussion is to determine whether a limited exception to the wellness policy should be considered and, if so, what parameters should be established.
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A

Date: October 26, 2026

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: 2-Year Board Agenda

Topic: 2-year Board Agenda
Presenter(s): School Board
Background: Over the past several work sessions, the School Board has worked collaboratively to develop its Two-Year Board Agenda, establishing governance priorities and areas of focus aligned with the district's Strategic Plan. With the agenda now developed, the Board will transition to regularly reviewing the document at its work sessions to keep priorities at the forefront, monitor progress, and plan for upcoming work. The Two-Year Board Agenda is intended to serve as a living document, allowing the Board to revisit and adjust priorities as needs and opportunities evolve. At Monday's work session, the Board will review the agenda, discuss upcoming areas of focus, and plan for future meetings and activities to support continued progress on its governance priorities.
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A

Mission: Engage. Educate. Empower!

Vision: Nurturing an inclusive Packer community of lifelong learners!

Key Board Roles	2026 - 27 SY
Board Self-Governance	- Review and Set Board 2-Year Agenda (June/ongoing) - Update and Review, School Board Handbook (June) - Complete, End of Year Board Self-Evaluation (June) - Establish, Board Self-Evaluation Tool with Areas of Focus (June/July) Board/officer transition planning (November/December) - Mid-Year Check-in on Board Self-Evaluation (December) School Board Organization (December/January) Recruit candidates for BoE election (April) - School Board Professional Development Best Practices in Governance (semi-annually) and MSBA Learning to Lead Workshop Series
District Policy	Review/approve District Policies on a three-year cycle, with the exception of designated policies that require annual review.
Superintendent Relations	Establish, Superintendent Goals (June/July) - Mid-year check-in on Superintendent Goals (December/January) - Conduct/Report, Superintendent Evaluation (June) - Short and Long-Term Succession planning (ongoing) - One-on-One Meetings with the Superintendent (Semi-Annual)
Engagement	- Establish and maintain a Community Engagement Calendar Student Leadership Group Engagement (i.e. Affinity, Student Council, Athletic Captains, etc.) Recruit Engagement for District Committees (September) Legislative Advocacy and Strategic Priorities (On-Going) - meet with legislators Nov/Dec. - Expand Partnerships with City, Community and Businesses

Excellence in Management

Review means work session agenda item

Report means on air at regular business meeting

Approve means approval at the regular business meeting

Quality in Action means showcasing schools, departments, and programs during regular business meeting

July

Work Session

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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Ed Services/Student Services:** Summer Academies and Extended School Year
- **QIA:** Donation Recognition for Ed Foundation, SSP Open Foundation, SSP Lions
- **Report: Student Services:** Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

August

Work Session

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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Superintendent:** Back-to-School Highlights from Principals
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, [Health Insurance Contract](#)
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, [Health and Dental rates](#)

September

Work Session

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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Superintendent:** Kaposia Education Center
- **Finance:** Review/Approve, [Preliminary Property Tax Levy](#)
- **Educational Services/Student Services:** Report, State Assessment Data

Excellence in Management

Review means an update at the work session

Report means on air at the regular business meeting

Approve means approval at the regular business meeting

Highlight means items for Friday Update

October

Work Session

- **Superintendent:** Report, Score Card Introduction
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA:** Lincoln Center
- **Finance:** Federal Funds Micro Purchasing Threshold
- **Educational Services:** Report, CACR and A&I Report: [Student Achievement Results](#)
- **Human Resources:** Approve, [Resolution for Board Member\(s\) as substitute](#)

November

Work Session

- Elementary/ Literacy Teaching & Learning (Scott)
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Student Services:** Report, Introduction to Student Services Dept. and Continuum of SPED Services Offered in SSPPS (Birth to 22)
- **Finance:** Review/Report, [Enrollment Update on Enrollment Options and Demographics](#)
- **Educational Services:** Review/Approve, Middle School & High School [Course Proposals](#)

December

Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Superintendent:** Athletics and Activities
- **Finance:** Approve, [Final Property Tax Levy](#)
- **Educational Services:** Review/Approve, CACR & A&I Report [Summary Report](#)
- **Early Learning and Community Education:** Review/Approve, Community Education Fees

Excellence in Management

Review means an update at the work session

Report means on air at the regular business meeting

Approve means approval at the regular business meeting

Highlight means items for Friday Update

January

Work Session

- Secondary Teaching & Learning (Natalie)
 - Enrollment update - Open Enrollment
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Middle School:** TBD
- **Finance:** Review/Approve, [Budget Setting Guiding Change Document](#)
- **Finance:** Review/Approve (between Jan-March), [Proposed Budget Adjustments](#)
- **Finance:** Review/Approve, [Audit report](#)
- **Educational Services:** Review/ Approve, [District Calendar](#)
- **Student Services:** Report, Mental Health & Wellness Services

February

Work Session

- Technology Dept (Tom)
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: Winter Athletics??:** TBD
- **Human Resources:** Review, [Negotiation Parameters](#)
- **Human Resources:** Approve, [Discontinuing and Reducing Educational Programs and Positions](#)
- **Educational Services:** Review/Approve, AIPAC Annual Compliance (Vote of Concurrence)

Excellence in Management

Review means an update at the work session

Report means on air at the regular business meeting

Approve means approval at the regular business meeting

Highlight means items for Friday Update

March

Work Session

- Early Learning/ Community Ed/ ABE (Tom/ Kristen/ Jeanne)
 - Budget/Staffing Preparation
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: High School:** TBD
- **QIA: Biliteracy Seal**
- **Finance:** Review,Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Planning Update
- **Finance:** Review/Approve,Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Adjustments, if needed
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, [Continuing Teacher Contacts for Tenure and Probationary](#) Releases
- **Student Services:** Report, Equity & Access: 504, Homeless, and Foster Youth Services

April

Work Session

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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA: CLC:** TBD
- **Finance:** Review/Report,Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Planning Update
- **Finance:** Review/Approve,Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Adjustments, if needed
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, [Probationary, Limited Contract, and Long-Term Substitutes Releases](#)
- **Human Resources:** ULA Resolution proposing to place teacher(s), if needed

Excellence in Management

Review means an update at the work session

Report means on air at the regular business meeting

Approve means approval at the regular business meeting

Highlight means items for Friday Update

May

Work Session

- TBD/Budget?
 - Facilities
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Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA:** Athletics and Activities
- **Finance:** Review, Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Planning Update
- **Finance:** Review, [Food Service/Community Ed/Debt Service Budgets](#)
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve Probationary Non-licensed Staff Releases
- **Human Resources:** [Review/Approve Continuing Teacher Contracts](#) (Tenure)
- **Early Learning and Community Education:** Review/Approve, [Food Service/Community Ed/Capital Budgets](#)
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June

Work Session

- TBD
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June

Work Session/Business Meeting

- **QIA:** Ed Services
- **Finance:** Review/Approve, [2022-23 Final Budgets](#)
- **Finance:** Review/Approve, Long-Term Facilities Maintenance 10-Year Plan SSPPS and District 917
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, [Independent Group Employment Agreements](#)
- **Human Resources:** Approve, [Pay Equity 2023](#) (every three years - due January 2027)
- **Human Resources:** Approve, 2025-26 [Dental Insurance Plan](#) (August/September 2025)
- **Human Resources:** Review/Approve, 2023-25 Bargaining Agreements: [Teachers](#), [Educational Support Professionals](#),
- **Student Services:** Review/Approve Discipline Policy & Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

2027-28 and beyond planning

- **Board:** Enrollment: Enrollment Trends and Enrollment Strategies
- **Board:** Finance & Facilities: Communication and Funding Strategies
- **Educational Services:** Review/Approve, [ATPPS](#) and TDE Plans
- **Educational Services:** Review, IB Program Approval
- **Educational Services:** Report, Curriculum Review
- **Educational Services:** College and Career Readiness
- **Educational Services:** Reading
- **Student Services:** Report, Community Partnerships
- **Student Services:** Report, MTSS Tiered Framework - Academic Supports
- **Student Services:** Report, MTSS Tiered Framework - Behavioral Supports
- **Student Services:** Report, Post-Secondary Transition Services

Acronyms

ADSIS - Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instruction Services

ATPPS - Alternative Teacher Professional Pay System

BoE - Board of Education

B-8 - Birth to Age 8

CCR - Career and College Readiness

CSCC - Central Square Community Center

LTD - Long-Term Disability

MCA - Minnesota Common Assessment

MSBA - Minnesota School Boards Association

OPEB - Other Post-Employment Benefits

SAAP - State Approved Alternative Programming

SEAC - Special Education Advisory Council

SSPPS - South St. Paul Public Schools

TDE - Teacher Development Evaluation

TRA - Teachers Retirement Association

WBWF - World's Best Workforce

WBL - Work Based Learning

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None

Topic: Public Relations and Community Engagement
Presenter(s): School Board
Background: As part of its ongoing commitment to community engagement, the Board will review and discuss the 2026-27 Public Relations and Community Engagement Calendar throughout the year. The calendar serves as a resource for planning engagement opportunities, promoting transparency, and supporting meaningful connections with district stakeholders.
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A



School Board Agenda Item

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None

Topic: Committee Updates
Presenter(s): School Board Members
Background: School Board members will provide an update for the following committees that they serve on: • District 917 • AMSD • Community Education • Educational Foundation • Finance, Facilities, and Long-Range Planning • Local Issues • Policy • SSP Open Foundation • Superintendent Executive
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A

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