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## School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting - February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** Call to Order

**ITEM:** Roll Call Attendance

	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Helen Bassett	_____	_____
David Boone	_____	_____
Sharon Brooks Green	_____	_____
Greta Evans-Becker	_____	_____
Mike Herring	_____	_____
Sam Sant	_____	_____
John Vento	_____	_____
David Engstrom, ex-officio	_____	_____



## School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** Acceptance of Agenda  
**ITEM:** 2. Acceptance of Business Meeting Agenda  
**COMMENTS BY:** Helen Bassett, School Board Chair

**Recommended Action:** Approve Business Meeting agenda.

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### Acceptance of Business Meeting Agenda – February 7, 2022

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Passed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Failed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abstentions:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools**

Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** School Board Chair’s Special Report

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**ITEM:** 3. School Board Chair’s Special Report

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**COMMENTS BY:** Helen Bassett, School Board Chair

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## Robbinsdale Area Schools Board Chair's Special Report

February 7, 2022

By: Helen JM Bassett

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The Robbinsdale Area Schools Board of Education participated in an eight-hour professional development (PD) session that occurred on January 21-22, 2022. The PD consisted of a facilitated discussion based upon best practices in school board governance. The textbook, *The Governance Core: School Boards, Superintendents, and Schools Working Together*, and *The Taking Action Guide for the Governance Core* workbook guide were utilized. This training helps to align the board with best practices that are promoted by the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA).

The board began participating in this professional development work in 2020, and then the following year in January and July of 2021. The professional development concluded on January 22, 2022. The completion of this PD provides an opportunity for the board to affirm, and recommit to the long-standing tenets and practices of the nationally accepted and widely practiced model of Policy Governance. The model clarifies the school board's role, as differentiated from that of the Superintendent, his Cabinet and administration.

To quote a passage from the textbook, "Governance is much more than just adopting and legislating policies. The word governance derives from a Greek word *Kubernesis*, that means **to steer a ship**." "Simply put, **governance is steering and management is rowing.**"

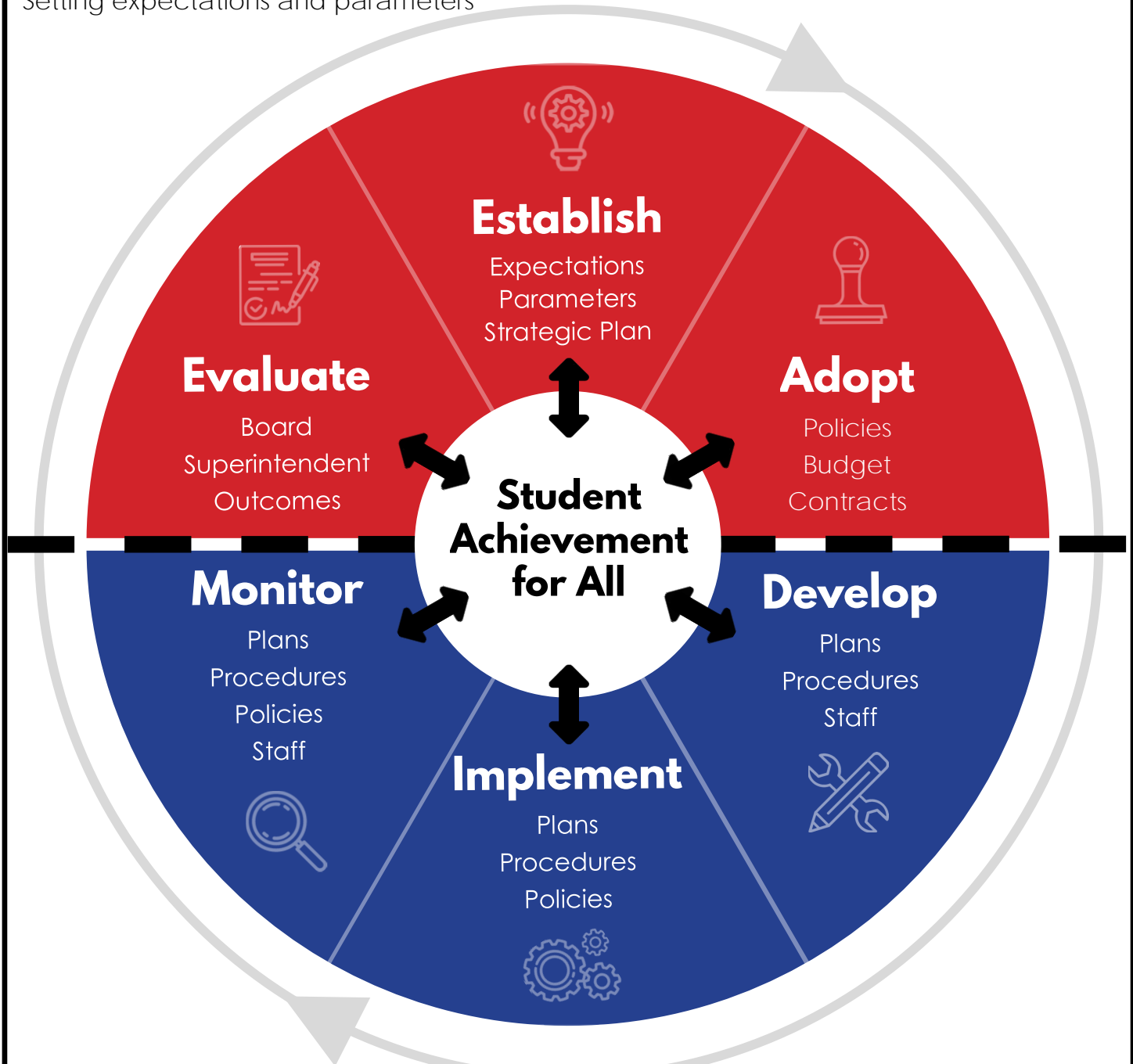
So what does this mean, and why should our community care? It means that we will be carefully assessing the work we do more closely through a policy governance lens. We are exploring new ways that we can be more efficient and have more time focusing on vision, fulfilling our oversight and stewardship responsibilities. We also are committed to working toward our agreed upon "moral imperative" which is to focus on working to create conditions in which student success and achievement is centered. We also look forward to pursuing efforts that support the Superintendent and his Cabinet, to achieve the ends we envision. One tangible example will be the work we do together, as we move forward with the community to create a new iteration of the district strategic plan - which will encompass the best elements of our Unified District Vision.

Together, the school board and Superintendent will work to meet the needs of our students, staff and community. A visual graphic reference created by the MSBA is provided as an attachment to this report, to show the theory of policy governance framework. Hopefully, the graphic will help the public visualize the model in practical terms. Through this work we believe that we will be able to focus on policy that matters most, and governance practices that are effective, and efficient.

# Board Governance Model

## The School Board Governs

Setting expectations and parameters



## The Superintendent Manages

Providing leadership and supervision



## School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** Superintendent's Report

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**ITEM:** 4. Superintendent's Report

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**COMMENTS BY:** David Engstrom, Superintendent

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## School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** Consent Agenda  
**ITEM:** 5. Approval of Consent Agenda  
**COMMENTS BY:** Helen Bassett, School Board Chair

Consent Agenda items are considered routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which the item will be removed as a Consent Agenda item and addressed. Consent Agenda items including administrative, personnel matters and financial matters.

**Recommended Action:** Approve the Consent Agenda items.

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### Approval of Consent Agenda – February 7, 2022

	Yes	No	Abstention
Helen Bassett			
David Boone			
Greta Evans-Becker			
Michael Herring			
Sam Sant			
John Vento			

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Passed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Failed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abstentions:** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*Approved XXXX*

A Regular Meeting of the School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools was held Tuesday, January 18, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Robbinsdale Area Schools Education Service Center. A recording of the meeting can be found at <https://rdaleorg.finalsite.com/discover/school-board>, School Board Meeting Webcasts tab.

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Bassett called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Directors present: Helen Bassett, David Boone, Sharon Brooks Green, Greta Evans-Becker, Michael Herring, Sam Sant, and John Vento; and David Engstrom, Superintendent. Director(s) absent: none. There was a quorum; and the meeting was called to order.

### **Acceptance of the Agenda**

Chair Bassett asked for a motion to accept the Regular Meeting agenda for January 18, 2022. MOTION: Director Boone moved approval of the agenda, and Director Vento seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.

### **Sharing the Success**

- A. *Accolades for "The Quill" - Robbinsdale Cooper High School's Newspaper - Advisor: Eric Zuccola*
  - a. International Second Place Award from the Quill and Scroll Society - including an "Excellent" rating for writing and editing, an general practices
  - b. All-State Silver Award from the Journalism Educators of Minnesota in recognition of excellence in writing, editing, photography and design of a high school newspaperComplete information regarding student staff of "The Quill" can be found at:  
<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/964?meeting=511764>
- B. *Virtual Sweet Potato Comfort Pie Service Event*
  - a. Chair Bassett and Leia Ward participated in this event on January 16, 2022 involving small groups making 93 pies in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s 93rd birthday
  - b. Groups nominated recipients for their pies - Robbinsdale School Board was nominated to receive four pies
  - c. Leia Ward presented one of the pies to Chair Bassett, in congratulations for being the first black chair of the Robbinsdale School Board

### **Superintendent's Report**

- A. *Health and Safety - Marti Voight, Assistant Superintendent and Amy O'Hern, Executive Director of Human Resources*

Provided an update on absences of staff and students, leading to schools going to distance learning.

### **Operations**

- A. *Approval of Staffing Ratios for 2022-2023*

MOTION: Director Sant moved approval and Director Boone seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.
- B. *Approval of Change to School Board Meeting Calendar*

Proposed moving Monday, March 21, 2022 meeting to Monday, March 28, 2022. MOTION: Director Vento moved approval of the resolution and Director Evans-Becker seconded the motion. Upon a vote being take thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.
- C. *Approval of FY21 Final Audit Report*

MOTION: Director Herring moved approval and Director Vento seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.

### **Consent Agenda**

Consent Agenda items include administrative, personnel matters, and financial matters. MOTION: Director Sant moved approval and Director Boone seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.

### **Board Reports**

Each month Board Members share updates from their different committee assignments and attendance at district and community events.

Director Herring attended the Government Advisory Council/District 281 Partnership virtual meeting on January 14, 2022.

Before the Regular Meeting, Director Evans-Becker facilitated the listening time held at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Education Service Center. Several community members spoke regarding:

- Student Handbook Review Committee
- Listening Time - time and format change recommendation
- PMS Seussical Musical at RMS
- School Safety - more parent/community feedback on committees

Director Evans-Becker attended the following events:

- Robbinsdale Area Schools Legislative Virtual Breakfast on January 10, 2022
- Special Education Advisory Council Virtual Meeting on January 10, 2022
- Interschool Council Virtual Meeting on January 12, 2022
- Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Leadership Convention on January 13-14, 2022 - including the Social Emotional session, and saw Chair Bassett receive her 20-Year and Director's awards

Director Boone will attend his first Legislative Action Coalition virtual meeting on January 20, 2022, and participating in the Board Governance Book Study Retreat on January 21-22, 2022. He looks forward to meeting new people in the new committees/groups he will be working with this year. Director Boone gave recognition to the Direct Line story about Mike Peterson from Plymouth Middle School (PMS). Mr. Peterson retired from being a custodian, then returned to PMS as a substitute teacher after earning a teaching degree while working as a custodian.

Director Brooks Green enjoyed an exciting long weekend. She told those who spoke at the Listening Session, "I did hear you." Director Brooks Green also attended the MSBA Leadership Convention - beginning with a pre-conference School Board of Color workshop which had diverse attendance. She congratulated Chair Bassett on her 20-year award. Director Brooks Green commended "The Quill" in regard to their accolades, and looks forward to more great things from them. She also attended a Dakota Language class on January 10, and learned a lot.

Director Vento attended the Financial Advisory Council meeting on January 11, 2022 where they discussed:

- PFM asset management and OPEB performance
- Preliminary audit for FY21
- Year to date ESSER updates
- Enrollment history ADM
- Five-year assumption models

They also called an additional meeting for February 17, 2022 to cover the final audit for FY21. Director Vento also attended the MSBA Leadership conference, noting it was the first time back together since the start of COVID two years ago - and not well attended. He enjoyed discussion on solar schools, and the vendors - and congratulated Chair Bassett on the awards she received. Director Vento will also be attending the Redesign meetings this year, but tonight's Board meeting conflicted this month.

Director Sant attended the following events:

- LAC Virtual Breakfast on January 10, 2022

- Intermediate District 298 Board Meeting on January 13, 2022 - where Crystal Brakke from Richfield was elected as Board Chair and Regina Neville from Edina was elected as Board Vice Chair
- MSBA Leadership Conference on January 13-14, 2022 - commenting on the great speakers, and Chair Bassett with the Board Members of Color

Director Bassett mentioned that like Director Brooks Green, she to heard everyone who spoke at the Listening Session... as did Superintendent Engstrom and Director Evans-Becker. She stated we do the best we can in the interest of our students. Director Bassett is excited to be the new Board Chair, and notes it will take a little time to get on her feet. She appreciated the awards she received at the MSBA Leadership Conference, and the support of her Board colleagues. Director Bassett recognized Melodie Hanson, district Redesign Program Director, for speaking at the conference in regard to school-based mental health with The Minnesota School Board Directors of Color and Indigenous Fellowship. She stated that Ms. Hanson has connections to many experts and resources in this area. Director Bassett also made note of the importance of the arts and other activities for students to discharge positive energy.

**Announcements** (can be found on our website)

**Adjournment**

MOTION: Director Evans-Becker moved approval and Director Brooks Green seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Boone, Brooks Green, Evans-Becker, Herring, Sant, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Meeting was adjourned.

Prepared and submitted by:

Molly Olson

Assistant Clerk, Robbinsdale Area Schools

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and School Board

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Clerk, Independent School District 281

**LICENSED STAFF - February 7, 2022**

**NEW HIRE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Step/Lane</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Julie Austin	CHS/RVA	1.0/TOSA	MA/10	01/31/2022
Nathan Mathias	FAIR PL	1.0/TOSA	MA/10	01/26/2022
Kelly Peterson	RMS	1.0/Science	BA30/2	01/24/2022
Michael Rask	MLE	1.0/Counselor	MA/7	01/31/2022

**REHIRE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Karen Hansen	FOE	1.0/TOSA	01/31/2022
Megan Van Epern	ZLE	1.0/TOSA	01/24/2022

**RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Nicole Norton	ESC	Program Director	02/04/2022
James Sura Wangensteen (33 yrs )	AHS	Math	02/02/2022

**NON-LICENSED STAFF - February 7, 2022**

**CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Shanteal Lewis	RMS	Special Ed EA to Program Assistant	01/19/2022

**NEW HIRE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Step/Lane</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Chase Brewer	ENE	Service Employee	CU7, Step 1	01/18/2022
Keaton Gustafson	AHS	Security EA	CL4, Step 3	01/18/2022
Najat Hamza	LVE	Tutor EA	CL3, Step 3	01/24/2022
Amari Mcdonald	RMS	Tutor EA	CL3, Step 2	01/03/2022
Lesia Newbern	MLE	Adventure Club EA	CL2, Step 2	01/18/2022
Laura Pierson	SEA	Tutor EA	CL3, Step 3	01/31/2022
Britney Samuels	NPE	Tutor EA	CL3, Step 3	01/12/2022
Melina Sanchez Briones	ENE	Tutor EA	CL3, Step 3	01/31/2022
Carla Smit	PMS	Nutrition Services	C3S, Step 3	01/24/2022
Jazmin Wilson	AHS	Program Assistant	LV7, Step 2	01/31/2022
Amanda Yang	RMS	Office Employee	CATII, Step 3	01/31/2022

**REHIRE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Jasmin Bridges	CHS	Special Ed EA	CL 3, Step 3 01/31/2022
Patricia Coats	RMS/SMS	Special Ed EA	CL 3, Step 3 01/18/2022
M'Angelo Harris	CHS	Program Assistant	LV7, Step 7 01/24/2022
Sophia Latourelle	RMS	Tutor EA	CL 3, Step 3 01/31/2022
Lisa Pleban	SEA	Tutor EA	CL 3, Step 3 01/31/2022
Alicia Tracy	CHS	Program Assistant	LV7, Step 6 01/24/2022

**RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Adrian Anderson	CHS	AVID Tutor EA	01/28/2022
Kelly Barrett (17 yrs.)	SOE	Health EA	01/27/2022
Joy Bartness	ZLE	Tutor EA	01/28/2022
Erin Boike	NHLC	ECFE EA	01/28/2022
Andrew Bukowski	FOE	Nutrition Services	01/31/2022
Susan Bukowski	ENE	Special Ed EA	01/31/2022
Ernest Clayton	SMS	Special Ed EA	01/28/2022
Barbara Conrad (22 yrs.)	NHLC	ECFE EA	01/19/2022
Marianna Geihl	ESC	Program Assistant	02/23/2022
Ishika Huq	NPE	Special Ed EA	01/24/2022
Amran Ibrahim	CHS	Nutrition Services	01/18/2022
Molly Libra	CLC	Special Ed EA	01/26/2022
Amy Provost	SOE	Special Ed EA	01/26/2022
Ricky Williams (12 yrs.)	CHS	Program Assistant	01/28/2022

**TERMINATION**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Shannon Smith	ENE	Tutor EA	01/19/2022



To: Members of the School Board  
From: Amy O'Hern, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Ukee Dozier, Executive Director of Finance  
Date: February 1, 2022  
Re: Tentative Agreement - AFSCME Contract

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

District Administration is recommending the approval of a two-year American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) effective dates of contract are July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

The two-year agreement calls for a salary schedule increase of 2% each year of the contract.

The two-year agreement calls for an increase into the employees cafeteria plan.

January 1, 2022 \$50

January 1, 2023 \$50

# Announcements | February 7, 2022

## Tuesday, February 8, 2022

**5:00 p.m.**

Community Connect Committee Meeting

## Wednesday, February 9, 2022

**9:30 a.m.**

Interschool Council Meeting

## Tuesday, February 15, 2022

**5:30 p.m.**

Redesign Meeting

## Thursday, February 17, 2022

**5:00 p.m.**

Legislative Action Coalition Meeting

**6:30 p.m.**

Financial Advisory Council Meeting

## Monday, February 21, 2022

**No School - Observing President's Day**

## Tuesday, February 22, 2022

**6:00 p.m.** School Board Listening Time

**7:00 p.m.** School Board Regular Meeting

*Visit the district calendar on our website for additional details on these meeting/events.*

*Visit our school websites for activities and sporting event details.*



## 2021-2022 School Board Meetings (approved Feb. 16, 2021)

Meetings are typically held the first and third Monday of each month (except when the calendar does not permit) at the Education Service Center, 4148 Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope, MN, third floor boardroom. School Board Work Sessions are scheduled to follow the first school board meeting of the month. School Board Work Sessions typically start ten minutes after the adjournment of the preceding School Board Business Meeting.

2021			
Monday	July 19	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	August 2	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	August 16	6 pm 7 pm 8 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting Special Work Session
Wednesday	September 8	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Wednesday	September 22	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	October 4	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	October 18	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	November 1	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Tuesday	November 2		Election Day
Monday	November 15	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
	Nov/Dec TBD		Closed Session for Supt. Review
Monday	December 6**	6 pm 7 pm	Truth in Taxation Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	December 20	6 pm 7 pm	Truth in Taxation (if needed) Listening Time



			Regular Meeting
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2022			
Tuesday	January 4	6 pm	Organizational Meeting Business Meeting Work Session
Tuesday	January 18	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	February 7	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Tuesday	February 22	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	March 7	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	March 28	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Tuesday	April 5	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Tuesday	April 19	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	May 9	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	May 23	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting
Monday	May 23	8 pm	Closed Session for Supt. Evaluation
Tuesday	June 7	6 pm	Business Meeting Work Session
Monday	June 20	6 pm 7 pm	Listening Time Regular Meeting





## School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**AGENDA SECTION:** Adjournment

**ITEM:** 7. Adjournment

**COMMENTS BY:** Helen Bassett, School Board Chair

**Recommended Action:** Call the business meeting to a close.

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### Adjournment of Business Meeting – February 7, 2022

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Passed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Failed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abstentions:** \_\_\_\_\_