

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ORONO
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 278
HELD ON MAY 9, 2022

Present: Bob Tunheim, Mike Bash, Kristine Flesher, Ali Howe, Laura Wallander, Sarah Borchers,
Martha Van de Ven

Absent: None

Member Mike Bash joined the meeting remotely.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Orono Independent School District No. 278 was held on Monday, May 9, 2022 and called to order by Board Chair, Bob Tunheim, at 7:00 PM.

3. – Consideration of the Agenda

4. – Consent Agenda

Member Laura Wallander introduced the Consent Agenda and moved its approval.

- Approved Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 25, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Peter Sherman, full-time English Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 25, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Robert Bevars, full-time Reading Interventionist Teacher at Orono Schumann Elementary School, effective August 25, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Danielle Malin, 0.8 FTE Math Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 29, 2022
- Approved the change of assignment of Christine Gagnon, full-time Technology Integration Specialist at Orono Public Schools, to 0.8 FTE Technology Integration Specialist at Orono Public Schools, effective July 1, 2022
- Approved the change of assignment of Kaila Frank, full-time Math Teacher at Orono High School, to 0.8 FTE Math Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 29, 2022
- Approved the resignation of Sophie Koehler, full-time General Music Teacher at Orono Intermediate School, effective June 30, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Pamela Byrnes, part-time Office Clerk at Orono High School, effective May 2, 2022
- Approved the change of assignment of Keith Clark, full-time Districtwide Floater Custodian at Orono Public Schools, to full-time Custodian at Orono Elementary Center, effective May 2, 2022
- Approved the resignation of Kyle Whittaker, full-time Custodian at Orono Elementary Center, effective May 19, 2022
- Approved Bill Vouchers: 312873-312923, 1543-1547, EP Register: 901478-901489, EFT Vouchers: 217-218, 6341-6345 and Capital One: 51766-51784

The motion for the approval of the Consent Agenda was duly seconded by Member Sarah Borchers.

And upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Mike Bash, Sarah Borchers, Ali Howe, Martha Van de Ven, Laura Wallander

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said Consent Agenda was declared duly approved.

5. – Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Dr. Flesher began her report by sharing that last month, U.S. News and World Report published its annual "Best High School" rankings. She reported that Orono High School not only maintained its ranking as the #1 traditional high school in the state, but advanced one position to #4 overall. Schools are ranked on their students' performance on state-required tests, graduation rate, and how well they prepare students for college. Dr. Flesher gave credit to all teachers, parents and staff who work diligently to prepare our students academically. Credit was also give to our students who challenge themselves academically and achieve remarkable success. In 2021, 450 Orono High School students took 899 Advanced Placement exams with 79% earning a score of 3 or higher.

Next, Dr. Flesher shared that over the weekend, the Orono Chess Club competed at the School Chess Association statewide primary and elementary championship. The Orono K-3 team beat 28 other teams to win the state championship. The students were incredibly focused and narrowly beat Breck School, denying them a third consecutive state title. Thank you to Coach Igor Rybakov who teaches chess through Community Education. Congratulations to the following chess players:

- Drew Brinkmeyer, 2nd Grade
- Robbie Crawford, 3rd Grade
- Greyson Hess, 3rd Grade
- Holden Hoffarber, 2nd Grade
- Bobby Martin, 2nd Grade
- Teddy Martin, 2nd Grade
- Asher Stratmann, 3rd Grade

Next, Dr. Flesher remarked that last week, you may have seen the newscasts with Governor Tim Walz. USA Special Olympics announced that Minnesota will be hosting the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games. The governor made the announcement Friday at the University of Minnesota's Huntington Bank Stadium, where he was joined by U of M President Joan Gabel, UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson, and Dave Dorn, president and CEO of Special Olympics Minnesota. In addition, Dr. Flesher shared that Orono High School students Jenna Perkins and 2020 Orono Graduate Danny Striggow were named Honorary Chairs of the 2026 games and joined the Governor's press conference. This is a tremendous honor for our state and students. The event is expected to draw 4,000 athletes and 75,000 fans from across North and South America.

Dr. Flesher ended her report by extending gratitude for the exceptional community outreach last week in our district. May 2-6 was National Teacher Appreciation Week. Orono's parent organizations once again pulled out all the stops to show support for our exceptional teachers. May 6 was School Lunch Hero Day. Child Nutrition coordinator Jackie DeRoma shared some incredible statistics so far this year:

- Total breakfasts served: 92,138. This is compared to 4,993 breakfasts served during the 2018-19 school year.
- Total Lunches served: 246,232. This is an increase of 33,765 meals compared to 2018-19.

Thank you was also extended to Lauren Spoke and all Child Nutrition staff for an outstanding job this year.

Dr. Flesched noted that May 3 was Orono's first community Wellness Expo. Thank you was extended to all organizers, representatives and volunteers. Special thanks was given to Kristin Nafstad, Tiffany Clifton and Genna Torney for their outstanding work managing donations and volunteers. Returning for the first time in two years, the Empty Bowls program raised \$2,000 for IOCP.

6. – Board Members Questions and Comments

7. – Old Business

7. A – Policy Review

The following revised policies were presented to the board for a second reading and approval.

- Policy 413: Drug and Alcohol Testing
- Policy 414: Chemical Use and Abuse
- Policy 415: Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
- Policy 416: Tobacco-Free Environment
- Policy 417: Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions
- Policy 418: Gifts to Employees and School Board Members
- Policy 419: Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions and Creations
- Policy 420: Employee-Student Relationships
- Policy 421: License Status
- Policy 422: Acceptable Use of Electronic Technologies – Personnel
- Policy 423: Expense Reimbursement
- Policy 424: Conflict of Interest
- Policy 425: Donations to Athletic Teams, Coaches and Other Staff

Member Martha Van de Ven motioned to approve the revised policies as presented.

The motion to approve the revised policies as presented was duly seconded by Member Laura Wallander.

And upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Mike Bash, Sarah Borchers, Ali Howe, Martha Van de Ven, Laura Wallander

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said motion was declared duly passed.

7. B – Other Old Business as Necessary

No other old business was brought forward.

8. – New Business

8. A – Long Term Facilities Revenue for Intermediate School District 287

Sarah Borchers introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPROVING INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 287'S LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THOSE PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT'S APPLICATION FOR LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE REVENUE

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of District No. 278, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The School Board of Intermediate School District 287 has approved a long-term facility maintenance program budget for its facilities for the 2023-24 (fiscal year 2024) school year in the amount of \$ 923,118.00 of which District No. 278's proportionate share is \$ 28,051.71, consisting of \$ 4,316.62 for pay as you go projects and \$ 23,735.09 for debt service payments on the 2017B Facilities Maintenance Bonds and the proposed 2022A Facilities Maintenance Bonds. The various components of this program budget are attached as Exhibit A hereto and are incorporated herein by reference. Said budget is hereby approved. (Exhibit A)
2. Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.53, Subdivision 1, as amended, provides that if an intermediate school district's long-term facility maintenance budget is approved by the school boards of each of the intermediate school district's member school districts, each member district may include its proportionate share of the costs of the intermediate school district program in its long-term facility maintenance revenue application.
3. The proportionate share of the costs of the intermediate school district's long term facility maintenance program for each member school district to be included in its application shall be determined by multiplying the total cost of the intermediate school district long-term facility maintenance program times a three year weighted average adjusted pupil units formula. For 2023-24, (FY 2024) the long-term facility maintenance costs shall be funded through annual levy. The inclusion of this proportionate share in the district's long-term facility maintenance revenue application for FY 2024 is hereby approved, subject to approval by the Commissioner of Education. Upon receipt of the proportionate share of long-term facility maintenance revenue attributable to the intermediate school district program, the district shall promptly pay to the intermediate school district the applicable aid or levy proceeds.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.595, Subdivision 3, the intermediate district issued \$5,065,000 Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2017B. Such bonds are payable from long-term maintenance revenue transferred by each member district. This district hereby covenants to adopt in each fiscal year during the term of such bonds, a resolution authorizing the inclusion in the application for long-term facilities maintenance revenue the District's proportionate share for such fiscal year of debt service on such bonds.
5. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.595, Subdivision 3, the intermediate district plans to issue up to \$4,930,000 Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2022A. Such bonds will be payable from long-term maintenance revenue transferred by each member

district. This district hereby covenants to adopt in each fiscal year during the term of such bonds, a resolution authorizing the inclusion in the application for long-term facilities maintenance revenue the District's proportionate share for such fiscal year of debt service on such bonds.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Ali Howe and, upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Sarah Borchers, Mike Bash, Martha Van de Ven, Laura Wallander, Ali Howe

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was approved and adopted by the school board of Independent School District No. 278.

8. B – Elementary Spotlight – Dash's World Adventure

Ms. Bailey Nett, Instructional Technology Coordinator and Ms. Lindsey Lallas, Third Grade Teacher, presented to the board information about a third grade interdisciplinary unit that utilized coding, social studies, math and writing.

8. C – Resolution to Renew the Expiring Capital Projects Levy Authorization for Technology of the School District and Call an Election Thereon

Member Laura Wallander introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO RENEWING THE EXPIRING CAPITAL PROJECT LEVY AUTHORIZATION FOR TECHNOLOGY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CALLING AN ELECTION THEREON

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 278, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The Board hereby determines and declares that it is necessary and expedient for the School District to renew its existing capital project levy authorization for technology which is scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2022. The proposed capital project levy authorization will be in the amount of 2.539% times the net tax capacity of the School District. The proposed capital project levy will raise approximately \$1,253,030 for taxes payable in 2023, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten (10) years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded by the approved capital project levy authorization during that time period is approximately \$12,530,300. The additional revenue from the proposed capital project levy authorization will provide continued funds for the acquisition, replacement, maintenance and support of instructional technology and software, devices, equipment, networks, security, operational infrastructure, and technology support personnel. The question on the approval of the capital project levy authorization for technology shall be School District Question 1 on the School District ballot at the special election held to approve said authorization.

2. The ballot question specified above shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the School District at a special election, which is hereby called and directed to be held in conjunction with the State General Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this special election are those polling places and precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the School District, and which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the School District. The voting hours at those polling places shall be the same as those for the State General Election.

4. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said special election to be provided to the county auditor of each county in which the School District is located, in whole or in part, and to the Commissioner of Education, at least seventy-four (74) days before the date of said election. The notice shall specify the date of said special election and the title and language for each ballot question to be voted on at said special election. Any notice given prior to the date of the adoption of this resolution is ratified and confirmed in all respects.

5. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be posted at the administrative offices of the School District at least ten (10) days before the date of said special election.

6. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the School District at least four (4) days before the date of said special election and to cause two sample ballots to be posted in polling places located within the School District on election day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot.

7. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said special election to be published in the official newspaper of the School District, for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of said election. The notice of election so posted and published shall state each question to be submitted to the voters as set forth in the form of ballot below and shall include information concerning each established precinct and polling place.

8. The Clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials and to take such other actions as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election and generally to cooperate with state, city, township and county election authorities conducting the State General Election and other elections on that date. The Clerk and members of the administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with those other elections, including entering into agreements or understandings with appropriate municipal and county officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots, election administration and cost sharing.

9. The Clerk is further authorized and directed to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the following form, with such changes in form and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate the use of an optical scan voting system:


[Form of Ballot on the Following Page]

Special Election Ballot

Independent School District No. 278
(Orono Public Schools)

November 8, 2022

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: .

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question.
To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question.

**School District Question 1
Renewal of Capital Project Levy
To Fund Technology**

The board of Independent School District No. 278 (Orono Public Schools) has proposed a capital project levy authorization of 2.539% times the net tax capacity of the school district. This authorization would renew the school district's existing authorization which is scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2022. The proposed capital project levy authorization will raise approximately \$1,253,030 for taxes payable in 2023, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$12,530,300. The additional revenue from the proposed capital project levy authorization will provide continued funds for the acquisition, replacement, maintenance and support of instructional technology and software, devices, equipment, networks, security, operational infrastructure, and technology support personnel.

Yes

No

Shall the renewal of the capital project levy authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 278 be approved?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING TO RENEW AN EXISTING CAPITAL PROJECTS REFERENDUM THAT IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE.

10. Optical scan ballots must be printed in black ink on white colored material, except that marks to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed in another color ink. The name of the precinct and machine-readable identification must be printed on each ballot. Voting instructions must be printed at the top of the ballot on each side that includes ballot information. The instructions must include an illustration of the proper mark to be used to indicate a vote. Lines for initials of at least two election judges must be printed on one side of the ballot so that the judges' initials are visible when the ballots are enclosed in a secrecy sleeve.

11. The individuals designated as judges for the State General Election shall act as election judges for this special election at the various polling places and shall conduct said election in the manner described by law. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast and submit the results to the School Board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections. The election must be canvassed by the School Board between the third and the tenth day following the election.

12. If the capital project levy authorization proposed in School District Question 1 is approved, a capital project referendum account shall be created as a separate account in the general fund of the School District. All proceeds from the capital project levy must be deposited in the capital project referendum account. Interest income attributable to the capital project referendum account must be credited to the capital project referendum account. Money in the capital project referendum account may be used only for the costs of acquisition and betterment of the approved projects. As required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.71, subdivisions 8, the School Board hereby determines and states that the funds approved by the voters for said authorization will only be used as authorized in Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.10, subdivision 14. The funds in the capital project referendum account may be accumulated and not be expended until sufficient funds are available, may be accumulated and not be expended until additional funds from a bond issue are available, or may be expended on an ongoing basis for approved project costs. Any funds remaining in the capital project referendum account that are not applied to the payment of the costs of the approved projects before their final completion shall be transferred to the School District's debt redemption fund.

13. The Clerk shall make all Campaign Financial Reports required to be filed with the School District under Minnesota Statutes, Section 211A.02 available on the School District's website. The Clerk must post the report on the School District's website as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the receipt of the report. The School District must make a report available on the School District's website for four years from the date the report was posted to the website. The Clerk must also provide the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board with a link to the section of the website where reports are made available.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Sarah Borchers and upon vote being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Sarah Borchers, Mike Bash, Martha Van de Ven, Laura Wallander, Ali Howe

and the following voted against the same: None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

8. D – Other New Business as Necessary

No other new business was brought forward.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the District Office Assembly Room.

Member Laura Wallander motioned to adjourn the School Board Meeting.

The motion to adjourn the School Board Meeting was duly seconded by Member Martha Van de Ven.

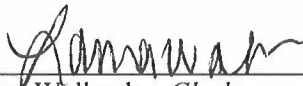
And upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Mike Bash, Sarah Borchers, Ali Howe, Laura Wallander, Martha Van de Ven

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said motion was declared duly passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Bob Tunheim, *Chair*



Laura Wallander, *Clerk*