

Regular School Board Meeting  
Tuesday, December 17, 2024 6:30 PM Central

District Services Center  
709 Portia Johnson Dr.  
Duluth, MN 55811

Henry Banks: Present  
Kelly Durick Eder: Present  
Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Present  
Jill Lofald: Present  
Sarah Mikesell: Present  
Amber Sadowski: Present  
Stephanie Williams: Present  
Present: 7.

1. Call to Order  
at 7:07 p.m.

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of the Agenda

Move to Approve the agenda. This motion, made by Kelly Durick Eder and seconded by Sarah Mikesell, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

5. School and Community Recognition

Assistant Superintendent Bonds presented the School and Community Recognition.

6. Audit Presentation

Executive Director Simone Zurich and Michelle Swoboda from Wipfli presented the Audit.

7. Report of the Superintendent

7.A. Reports from Student School Board Representatives

Superintendent Magas acknowledged the student representatives for their work on the school board this year.

Student Representative Patronas presented the East Student Report.

7.B. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Magas presented the Superintendent's Report.

Topics included:

Student Reports

Budget Reduction and Realignment Update

Solar Projects Update

Legislative Update

Other

### 7.C. Schedule of Meetings and Events

## 8. Report of Standing Committees

### 8.A. Committee of the Whole

#### 8.A.1) Monthly Committee of the Whole (*December 3, 2024*)

Assistant Superintendent Bonds presented the Monthly Committee of the Whole report.

### 8.B. Human Resources/Business Services Committee (*December 10, 2024*)

Member Durick Eder presented the Human Resources/Business Services Committee report.

### 8.C. Policy Committee (*December 3, 2024*)

Member Loeffler-Kemp presented the Policy Committee report.

## 9. General Board Committee Updates

Member Banks will be attending the Transportation Hazard Safety Committee meeting tomorrow.

Member Williams gave an update on the City of Duluth Park & Recreation Board meeting.

Member Loeffler-Kemp gave an update on the Head Start Policy Committee.

Member Loeffler-Kemp gave an update on the Duluth Public Schools Foundation.

## 10. Consent Agenda

Move to Approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Rosie Loeffler-Kemp and seconded by Kelly Durick Eder, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

## 11. Resolutions from Committee Reports

### 11.A. B-12-24-4071 - Certified Tax Levy 2024 Payable 2025

Move to Approve B-12-24-4071 Certified Tax Levy 2024 Payable 2025. This motion, made by Sarah Mikesell and seconded by Amber Sadowski, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

### 11.B. B-12-24-4072 - Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools

Move to Approve Resolution B-12-24-4072 Acceptance of Donations to Duluth Public Schools. This motion, made by Amber Sadowski and seconded by Rosie Loeffler-Kemp, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

## 12. Special Resolutions and Action Items

### 12.A. SP-12-24-4069 School Board Member Attendance at 2025 MSBA Leadership Conference

Move to Approve Resolution SP-12-24-4069 School Board Member Attendance at 2025 MSBA Leadership Conference. This motion, made by Rosie Loeffler-Kemp and seconded by

Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0



---

Chair Durick Eder



---

Clerk Mikesell

Stephanie Williams, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

12.B. SP-12-24-4070 School Board Member Attendance at MSBA Learning to Lead Workshop Series and Officers' Workshop

Move to Approve Resolution SP-12-24-4070 School Board Member Attendance at MSBA Learning to Lead Workshop Series and Officers' Workshop. This motion, made by Henry Banks and seconded by Amber Sadowski, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

12.C. CONTRACT - American Rescue Plan Act Subward Agreement Amendment (St. Louis County and Duluth Public Schools)

Move to Approve the Contract - American Rescue Plan Act Subward Agreement Amendment (St. Louis County and Duluth Public Schools). This motion, made by Kelly Durick Eder and seconded by Sarah Mikesell, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

12.D. Budget Reduction and Realignment

Move the School Board of Independent School District 709 to Approve the Budget reallocation and realignment for a total amount of up to \$7.6 million over multi years Fy 25 and Fy 26. The school board directed administration to develop reductions to the amount up to \$2.6 million for 2024-2025 and up to \$5 million 2025-26 budget. Duluth Public Schools and school districts across Minnesota are facing challenging fiscal environments due to a number of factors, increase in operation costs, unfunded mandates and the sun setting of federal pandemic relief funds. DPS is facing a budget shortfall for the 2025-26 school year and the foreseeable future. The District Administration is recommending \$5 million budget adjustment for Fy 26 as part of a budget realignment. After multiple meetings with staff, the School Board, and district administrators, District Leadership is in the process of finalizing recommendations to meet that amount. This process has included opportunities for community, staff, student, and family feedback. This motion, made by Kelly Durick Eder and seconded by Jill Lofald, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah Mikesell: Yea, Amber Sadowski: Yea, Stephanie Williams: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

13. Questions / Other

School Board members expressed recognition and appreciation to the staff, including Executive Director Simone Zunich, Board Secretary Patty Paquette, and Board Chair Jill Lofald.

14. Adjournment

Move to Adjourn at 9:06 p.m. This motion, made by Kelly Durick Eder and seconded by Sarah Mikesell, Passed.

Henry Banks: Yea, Kelly Durick Eder: Yea, Rosie Loeffler-Kemp: Yea, Jill Lofald: Yea, Sarah