

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102, and**

Available Streaming Online at www.spps.org/boe and Saint Paul Cable Channel 16

**June 10, 2025
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Halla Henderson, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: C. Franco, E. Valliant, H. Henderson, U. Ward, C. Allen, J. Vue, Y. Carrillo
Superintendent Stanley

J. Wikstrom Donaghue, Assistant General Counsel; S. Dahlke, Assistant
Clerk

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE MAIN AGENDA

MOTION: Director Henderson moved approval of the order of the main agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Vue.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

4. RECOGNITIONS

BF 34309 Acknowledgement of Good Work Provided by Students

The Earn as You Learn Program provides students in SPPS high schools an opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications such as Microsoft Office, OSHA safety, customer service and sales, and other certifications.

This year, 22 students earned Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel certifications. Students who complete the three Microsoft certificates earn a fourth certificate indicating they are Microsoft Office Specialist Associates.

Three students were named the Minnesota State Champions due to their extremely high exam scores. These students were selected to compete in Certiport's 2025 Microsoft Office Specialist U.S. National Championship in Dallas, Texas.

The students selected were:

- Yuepheng Xiong, Harding Senior High School
- Zane Zimmerman, Johnson Senior High School
- Joseph Kremer, Johnson Senior High School

BF 34310 Acknowledgment of Good Work Provided by Outstanding District Employees

1. Frost Lake Elementary School Bilingual Educational Assistant **Jonathan Ponce** has been named the Saint Paul Federation of Educators (SPFE) Educational Support Professional (ESP) of the Year.

Ponce has been an invaluable member of the SPFE/SPPS community since 2018. His unwavering commitment to supporting our students and schools has not gone unnoticed—he received nominations from four esteemed colleagues who recognize his passion and dedication.

As a proud and active member of the SPFE, Jonathan doesn't just work within the system; he actively shapes it. Serving as an Executive Board member, he represents ESP's at the table, ensuring that their voices are heard and valued.

2. Central Senior High School English teacher **Kimberly Colbert** has also been honored by the Saint Paul Federation of Educators (SPFE).

Colbert earned the Mary McGough Award, which is the highest honor given by SPFE in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of education in Saint Paul Public Schools. Colbert is a fearless teacher with endless creativity and energy. She has been devoted to this profession for well over 30 years in many different roles. Whether it is English, theater and Critical Ethnic Studies, Colbert has always looked for new ways to engage her students as critical thinkers and has potential activists who can make real world connections.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Michelle Wall** Budget

6. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Henderson moved approval of the Order of the Consent Agenda with these items pulled for separate consideration:

- **4-d: Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland and St Paul Central, Johnson, Como Park, Open World Learning, Harding, Humboldt, Washington High Schools for Boys' Hockey**

- **4-e: Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland Senior High and St Paul Central High School for Girls Gymnastics**
- **5-d: 2025-26 Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.**

The motion was seconded by Director Franco.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 20, 2025
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 20, 2025

MOTION: Director Henderson moved approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of May 20, 2025 and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 20, 2025. The motion was seconded by Director Carrillo.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committee of the Board Meeting was moved to June 17, 2025; the report from that meeting will be read at the Regular Meeting on July 15, 2025.

9. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

- Board of Education Meetings (5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- January 7, 2025 (Annual Organizational Meeting at 4:00pm)
- January 21, 2025
- February 18, 2025
- March 18, 2025
- April 22, 2025
- May 20, 2025
- June 10, 2025 (Special re: Non-Renewals at 5:00pm)

- June 17, 2025
- July 15, 2025
- August 19, 2025
- September 23, 2025
- October 21, 2025
- November 18, 2025
- December 16, 2025

B. Committee of the Board Meetings (4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

- January 7, 2025 (Annual Organizational Meeting at 4:00pm)
- February 4, 2025
- March 4, 2025
- April 8, 2025
- May 6, 2025
- June 10, 2025
- August 6, 2025 – Wednesday (Primary Election)
- September 9, 2025
- October 7, 2025
- November 5, 2025 – Wednesday (Election Day)
- December 2, 2025

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Stanley noted that there were over 1,800 students in 16 graduation ceremonies, and more graduates in August. Today was the last day of school, and she congratulated everyone on another school year. She also noted there are several year-end activities and athletics this week, including volleyball, trap shooting, and track and field, and wished the athletes and coached good luck. She also noted that summer learning programs begin June 24th, from Freedom Schools, to K-8 programs to credit recovery, which allow our students to continue learning and having fun all summer long – we anticipate about 14,000 students enrolled in summer learning programs.

11. AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

1. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Director Henderson moved approval of all items within the consent agenda withholding these items for separate consideration:

- **4-d: Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland and St Paul Central, Johnson, Como Park, Open World Learning, Harding, Humboldt, Washington High Schools for Boys' Hockey**
- **4-e: Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland Senior High and St Paul Central High School for Girls Gymnastics**
- **5-d: 2025-26 Rights and Responsibilities Handbook**

Director Ward seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:
 Director Carrillo Yes

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes

1. Gifts

BF 34311 Request for Permission to Accept a Donation from Global Arts Plus PTA

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept the gift from Global Arts Plus PTA in the amount of \$10,000, split evenly between Lower and Upper Campus. Lower Campus in the amount of \$5,000 to 19-510-291-000-5096-U001 and Upper Campus, in the amount of \$5,000 to 19-528-291-000-5096-U001.

2. Grants

BF 34312 Request for Permission to Accept Funds from the Minnesota Historical Society Legacy Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from the Minnesota Historical Society and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34313 Request for Permission to Accept Funds from the Saint Cloud State University Confucius Institute Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from the Saint Cloud State Confucius Institute grant program and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34314 Request for Permission to Accept Funds from the Saint Paul Chamber of Commerce Workplace Micro Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34315 Request for Permission to Accept Grant Funds from the Minnesota Department of Education's Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS) Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from the Minnesota Department of Education and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34316 Request for Permission to Accept Grant Funds from the Sauer Family Foundation

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to accept funds from the Sauer Family Foundation and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34317 Request for Permission to Submit to the Allina Health Charitable Contribution Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to Allina Health; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34318 Request for Permission to Submit to the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families Early Childhood Facilities Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit a grant to the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

BF 34319 Request for Permission to Submit to the Ramsey County School Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to submit to the Ramsey County School Waste Reduction and Recycling grant program; to accept funds; and to implement the project as specified in the award documents.

3. Contracts

BF 34320 Contract with Golden Grand Home Care LLC for 1:1 Nursing Services

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Golden Grand Home Care LLC for 1:1 Nursing Services.

BF 34321 K-10 FASTBridge Reading Screener Renewal

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Renaissance. The total cost for services will not exceed \$267,000.

BF 34322 Microsoft Subscription Services Renewal FY 26 – FY 28

That the Board of Education authorize administration to approve the proposal from Heartland Business Systems for the renewal of Microsoft Licenses in the amount not to exceed \$930,000 for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 school years.

BF 34323 Request to Sign the Concurrent Enrollment Contract with Saint Paul College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul College for FY26.

BF 34324 Request to Sign the Contract with Achieve Twin Cities

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract between Achieve Twin Cities and Saint Paul Public Schools for FY26.

BF 34325 Request to Sign the Contract with Junior Achievement North (JA North)

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the contract with JA North for the 2025-26 school year.

BF 34326 Request to Sign Contract with Saint Paul College for the Four Directions Program

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Contract between Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul College for FY26.

BF 34327 ITB #A232955-RP Prime Vendor Non-Food

That the Board of Education authorize the establishment of ITB #A232955-RP to Trio for the furnishing and delivery of non-food supplies for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, for an estimated value of \$2,000,000 for two years.

BF 34328 ITB#A224279-DW Renewal Petite Bananas

That the Board of Education authorize the renewal of ITB#A224279-DW to Russ Davis Wholesale, Inc. for furnishing and delivery of Petite Bananas for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, for an estimated value of \$245,000.

BF 34329 Construction Manager as Advisor Services for the Heights Community School HVAC Replacement and Fire Suppression Project (Project # 1120-25-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of construction manager as advisor services and pass through general conditions to Knutson Construction for the not-to-exceed fee of \$663,049.

BF 34330 Maximum Hourly Rate Increases for Pre-Qualified Professional Consultant Construction Managers as Advisors

That the Board of Education authorize the administration to adjust the terms of professional consulting services in accordance with the Request for Qualifications No. A21-1305-A to incorporate new maximum hourly billing rates per the above table.

BF 34331 Contract Amendment #6 for BTR Architects for the Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements (Project # 2070-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of Amendment #6 for BTR Architects in the amount of \$10,000 for the Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements (Project # 2070-23-01).

BF 34332 Contract Amendment #5 for ATSR Planners, Architects, and Engineers for the Farnsworth Aerospace Upper HVAC Replacement (Project # 1030-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of Amendment #5 for ATSR Planners, Architects, and Engineers in the amount of \$45,100 for the Farnsworth Aerospace Upper HVAC Replacement project (Project #1030-23-01).

BF 34333 Contract Amendment #2 for H+U Construction for the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping, and HVAC Replacement Project (Project # 4260-23-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of Amendment #2 for H+U Construction in the amount of \$22,655 for the Wellstone Elementary Plumbing, Piping, and HVAC Replacement Project (Project # 4260-23-01).

BF 34334 Rescission of Contract – WS 02A Selective Demolition, Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements (Project # 2070-23-01)

That the Board of Education rescind contract award to National Demolition for WS 02A Selective Demolition for the Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements project.

BF 34335 Design Services for The Heights Community School HVAC Replacement and Fire Suppression Project (Project # 1120-25-01)

That the Board of Education authorize award of design and construction administration services to TKDA for the not-to-exceed fee of \$519,000.

BF 34336 ITB #A233732-RP Prime Vendor Linen Services

That the Board of Education authorize the establishment of ITB #233732-RP to Cintas for the furnishing and delivery of linen services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, for an estimated value of \$150,000.

BF 34337 Annual Renewal of Oracle ERP, Database, and Cloud Services Agreements with Vaske IT, and Vendor Related Products and Services

That the Board of Education authorizes District administration to enter into product and service Renewal agreements, as presented, for a period of 12 months in the amount of \$1,630,981.88 for FY26, beginning July 1, 2025.

BF 34338 Request for Permission of Board of Education to Enter into a Renewal Agreement with Seesaw

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with Seesaw as the District's elementary digital workflow system for as long as Seesaw serves as the adopted digital workflow system for Saint Paul Public Schools.

BF 34339 Request for Permission of Board of Education to enter into a Renewal Agreement with Schoology

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with Schoology as the District's learning management system for as long as Schoology serves as the adopted learning management system for Saint Paul Public Schools.

BF 34340 Cloud-Based Evaluation Recording System and Professional Development Monitoring Contract with PowerSchool

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (designee) to enter into a contract with PowerSchool for Cloud-Based Evaluation Recording System and Professional Development Monitoring.

4. Agreements

BF 34341 Approval of an Employment Agreement With International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82 to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2025-2028

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82, is the exclusive representative; duration of said Agreement is for the period of May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2028.

BF 34342 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Laborers Local 563, to Establish Terms and Conditions of Employment for 2025-2026

That the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 625 approve and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement concerning the terms and conditions of employment of those employees in this school district for whom the Laborer's Local 563 is the exclusive representative; duration of said agreement is for the period of May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026.

BF 34343 Request to Sign the Concurrent Enrollment Joint Powers Agreement with Century College

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to sign the Concurrent Enrollment Joint Powers Agreement between Saint Paul Public Schools and Century College for FY26.

BF 34344 Request to Enter a Community Action Partnership Head Start and St. Paul Public Schools Memorandum of Understanding

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to enter into this partnership of Community Action Partnership Head Start and St Paul Public Schools

BF 34345 St. Mary of the Wood Music Therapy Professional Agreement

That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve this partnership with St. Mary of the Woods for student internship experiences for music therapy.

BF 34346 Lease Agreement with Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington County - Head Start at Bruce Vento

That the Board of Education authorize the execution of the Lease Agreement between the District and Head Start at Bruce Vento, located at 409 Case Avenue East.

5. Administrative Items

BF 34347 Monthly Operating Authority

That the Board of Education approve and ratify the following checks and electronic transfers for the period April 1, 2025- April 30, 2025

(a) General Account	#784652-785653	\$73,437,703.35
	#0011370-0011388	
	#7005502-7005524	
	#0012498-0012733	
(b) Construction Payments	- 0 -	\$12,934,040.37
(c) Debt Service	- 0 -	<u>\$14,025.00</u>
		\$86,385,768.72

Included in the above disbursements are two payrolls in the amount of \$49,390,670.97 and overtime of \$217,664.41 or 0.44% of payroll.

(d) Collateral Changes

Released: None

Additions: None

That the Board of Education further authorize payment of properly certified cash disbursements including payrolls, overtime schedules, compensation claims, and claims under the Worker's Compensation Law falling within the period ending October 31, 2025

BF 34348 Recommendations for Exclusion of Students Non-Compliant with Minnesota Statute 121A.15 Health Standards: Immunizations

That the Board of Education exclude noncompliant student(s) from school(s) effective June 10, 2025 should they not comply with Minnesota State Health Standards for Immunizations on or before this date.

Human Resources Transactions

BF 34349 Transactions for May 1 – May 31, 2025

BF 34350 Recommendations for Updated High School Athletics Participation Fees

That the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education approves the following alignment in student participation fees:

Effective June 11, 2025:

Participation fees for all high school sports, including hockey, lacrosse, danceline and alpine skiing, will be \$40 if the student qualifies for free/reduced lunch and \$90 otherwise.

BF 34351 Facilities Department FY26 Purchases over \$175,000

That the Board of Education authorize the purchases listed for the Facilities Department anticipated to be over \$175,000.

BF 34352 Phase Gate Approval of the Harding Senior High Athletics Improvements (Project #1110-26-01): Gate #2 – Project Charter

That the Board of Education approve the Harding Senior High Athletics Improvements (Project #1110-26-01) at Phase Gate Check #2 – Project Charter.

BF 34353 Annual Property and Liability Insurance Renewal

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (or designee) to authorize property and liability insurance premium payments for up to \$3.8 million in fiscal year 2026.

6. Bids

BF 34354 Phase Gate Approval of the Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements Project WS 02A (Project # 2070-23-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A25-5254 for Cherokee Heights Elementary School Building Systems Replacements (Project # 2070-23-01) to Maertens-Brenny Construction Company for a lump sum base bid plus Alternates #2 & 3 of \$961,000.

BF 34355 Phase Gate Approval of the Education and Operations Services Trades Shop Ventilation (Project # 4000-25-01): Gate #4 - Contract Award

That the Board of Education approve the award of the Education and Operations Services Trades Shop Ventilation (Project # 4000-25-01) to SVL, Inc. for a lump sum base bid plus Alternate 3 of \$435,174.

BF 34356 Phase Gate Approval of the Multi-Site Grounds Equipment Storage Project (Project #0803-25-02): Gate #4 - Contract Award

That the Board of Education approve the award of Bid No. A25-5512-JG for the Multi-site Grounds Equipment Storage Project (Project # 0803-25-02) to Versacon, Inc. for a lump sum base bid of \$623,500.

7. Change Orders

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

BF 34357 Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland and St Paul Central, Johnson, Como Park, Open World Learning, Harding, Humboldt, Washington High Schools for Boys' Hockey

Director Franco noted his appreciation for the response from Administration, and that there is movement in the streamlining and rebranding of this team that is inclusive of all SPPS schools in the city. He is encouraged to know there are plans on how to continue to grow this program, and the impacts within the metro to make this sport, and others, more accessible. He also shared the emphasis on how we co-op and a strategic plan to partner in the community and to make pathways stronger and to build upon programs. The fear of co-ops is that the home school does well, and the other school gave up space or are no longer offering it. He appreciates the efforts and hopes there are opportunities for us to partner with community and build the athletic program that our community needs to grow.

Director Allen provided details on the history of investments in athletics from the City many years ago, and the role of athletics in helping students to succeed. She also noted coaches, such as Mr. Mariucci, who

helped young female athletes experience hockey, and the role of hockey and how it translates to skills in basketball.

Director Carrillo echoed Director Franco and there is a gain of opportunities in efficiencies, and a synergy and ability to work together toward a single goal, and increasing the talents and resources to a single hockey team. He also noted that each school is unique, and ways to ensure that culture is not lost, and many schools span decades or centuries, and we need to be respectful to look towards the future, and to ensure that not one single school takes ownership of a local team, but a way for school teams to create incubators to a city-wide team. The passion for hockey at the state level is incredible, and we need to honor those championships by presenting a competitive team – once that honors the traditions and culture, and is open to those who may not have had the opportunity previously. He thanked the team for the efforts, and encouraged the sentiment to make it successful, while saving costs.

MOTION: Director Henderson moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship for Boys' Hockey with St. Paul Highland and St Paul Central, Johnson, Como Park, Open World Learning, Harding, Humboldt, Washington High Schools. Director Franco seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

BF 34358 Request for Approval to Create a Cooperative Sponsorship between St. Paul Highland Senior High and St Paul Central High School for Girls Gymnastics

Director Franco noted that this co-op agreement is being presented to the Board months after it was made as an announcement, and procedurally, we need to find some space for the Board to know and understand the decision point and community reaching out to the Board. He also noted we heard from several young people, alumni, parents, and those in community, that this is a deep care for the continuation of culture, community, and these decisions are not easy, and sometimes there are constraints, and hope that community is brought in before decisions are made.

MOTION: Director Henderson moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship for Girls' Gymnastics with St. Paul Highland Senior High and St Paul Central High Schools. Director Franco seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

Director Franco noted appreciation for the responses from Administration prior to the meeting, including this item. He also noted the robust discussion on this same item last year, and the hopes and aspirations for it. This is often the guide that school leaders use in buildings, and there is a lot of possibility in it. He believes it would be helpful for the Board to review this document, which is updated each year, and to examine it. It will also help important to engage with young people and their parents or guardians about this document, and ways to meet their needs of support.

MOTION: Director Henderson moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent (designee) to approve the updated 2025-26 Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. Director Carrillo seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

FURTHER AGENDA ITEMS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

A. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget

Superintendent Stanley welcomed senior leaders, led by Executive Chief of Financial Services, Tom Sager, to present this report. She noted appreciation for the collaborative budget process, and thanked board members, former interim superintendent, John Thein, senior executive leaders, principals, finance and HR staff, and all who have committed many hours towards ensuring multiple perspectives were included in the process. The new budget policy that the Board passed last year and our District Finance Advisory Committee have been helpful guideposts throughout this process. It's well known that our expenses as a district exceed our revenues, which requires spending down our fund balance while keeping it above the Board parameter of 5% of our daily operating expenses. We're not alone in facing this budget challenge, but that doesn't make it any easier when making decisions about what programs can continue and what reductions need to be made. Chief Sager has also been in consistent communication with our auditors, and the FY24 audit continues to progress to closure. We anticipate receiving a clean and unmodified opinion with no Government Auditing Standards also called Yellow Book findings, indicating compliance with all laws and regulations that could impact the district's financial statements. She is proud of everyone who has worked together to put this budget.

Included were details about the FY26 budget timeline, a 2025-26 budget overview, including the estimated budget shortfall for 2025-26 of approximately \$51.1M, and updates to the proposed budget. The FY26 budget shortfall progress categories and descriptions were also reviewed. A summary of All Funds was also shared, including figures of the General Fund, Food Service, Community Service, Building Construction, and Debt Service, as well as a graph depicting the total revenue by fund. Graphs were also shown of FY26 total expenditures by fund, FY26 General Fund revenue sources, and FY26 General Fund expenditures. The FY25 to FY26 General Fund expenditures comparison chart was also shared.

A review and details of the FY26 investments aligned to Board parameters was also included. The Board of Education budget parameters and guidelines include:

- Sustain funding for early education to retain and prepare students for success through their elementary education and to meet third grade literacy standards
- Sustain funding for efforts to increase enrollment, including maintaining funding for the enrollment project committee
- Sustain expenditures related to increasing student engagement and decreasing student absenteeism
- Additional Board guidelines for budget options:
 - Reserve at least 5% of annual operating expense in the unassigned fund balance
 - Decrease layers of central office staff

Information was also provided on FY26 school budgets and school based FTEs and allocations.

An overall chart showing the FY26 budget for Board approval included the estimate beginning fund balance, revenue, expense, and estimate ending fund balance.

The full presentation and budget book can be found in the BoardBook.

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS:

- Director Ward thanked everyone for their work, especially because there were new guidelines added to the process. This budget process felt different to him, as well as to the community, and there were a lot of questions answered ahead of today. Of all the budget cycles he has been involved, he felt more knowledgeable and prepared for this one. We are all in this to serve our students, and everyone has done an amazing job in making this new process work and honoring the parameters to ensure cuts are made far away from students as much as possible.
- Director Carrillo thanked staff for the countless hours provided to create presentations, answer questions, and deep dive into the data requested – while no budget process is perfect, we are making progress, and will have a fully implemented cycle with real engagement in the fall to education parents. It will be the responsibility of the Board to reach out to community in the fall conversations. Administration is able to present data at a user-friendly level and input sessions to help our community understand possibilities, but also the limitations and landscape for future budgets. There is transparency and engagement in this process. We are a service, not a business. We are trying to steer cuts away from schools. We also need to remember what we will be facing next year and in future years. He encouraged folks to ask questions, voice their concerns, and the Board will be the sounding board for them and guide this process going forward.
- Director Franco requested further details on the 8% of reduction in administration. He also appreciated the openness and sharing of information, and the ability for bringing forward this process earlier with more time to weigh-in, and was also appreciative of the adjustments to make to sustain as much service as we can while also recognizing there are some partnerships and programs that will not exist past this year. We are putting forward a budget in the most transparent way possible to deliver services that our students deserve. He went on to note the legislative session that recently concluded and we are monitoring closely at the state level and the reductions in funds that will impact SPPS. We will also be continuing to monitor the federal level government.
- Director Vue noted a few questions. He requested details about how we arrived to this budget from the May 20th presentation and the chances. Responses included the conversations with the Board about bringing back student engagement and support for that work. The second was ECFE

initiatives and programming, and in working with the team to bring back some of that work and still stay about the 5% threshold. He also requested details on the use of the reserve funds to balance the budget, and the impacts. Mr. Sager noted that the reserve is like a bank account and can only use the reserves once – then we need to find more revenue or adjust expenses or both. If left unchecked, we would anticipate going into FY27 with a deficit spend of around \$38M, and the reason that we are discussing a voter-approved referendum to help close the gap to prevent further reductions and maintain programs and services. He also asked Superintendent Stanley to provide feedback or insights in the spend down of the fund balance. She noted that we need to find additional revenue and we have been forthcoming and transparent with community members and the Board in needing to find additional revenue – including a referendum in November and to look at our facilities portfolio to determine options for reductions and analyze expenses. With the referendum we are able to onramp quickly, but to analyze the community-based focus and engagement with analyzation of facilities will be a longer on-ramp. There will be engagement with community and authentic communication. Director Vue also noted questions about the impact of the previous year’s audit not completed prior to the vote. Mr. Sager noted that the impact is minimal and that compiling a budget is for the future based in FY25, and in 2025, the audit had not began yet for that year, but for FY24. We are required to go through an independent audit to ensure reporting is accurate and complete, and we have been in constant contact with the auditors, and the most recent update from them indicates healthy and positive news about the audit with an unmodified opinion.

- Director Henderson also noted that this year’s budget process felt different, and appreciates the collaborative work that happened over the last eight months in terms of doing this differently, and aligned with the policy and values and needs of the community. Chief Turner noted the fall conversations with the community and parents. We will begin the next process with community in January. Chief Collins noted the questions from board members about wanting more information, and to organize that information in a meaningful way in the lens of transparency. The information on the webpage is more transparent and beyond allocations, and we will continue to evolve how that looks. Chief Sager noted that it’s important to look at what was reinforced and emphasized. Months ago we were faced with \$150M deficit, most of which was ESSR fund, and we set out as a team to solve this. We thought collaboratively and in a well-rounded and holistic way to balance the budget with multiple perspectives and ended with a process and end product that is good and sound.
- Director Henderson noted the ways to stay within the parameters with reductions and cuts, but the work was centrally located, and appreciated the thoughtfulness and willingness to dig in and the hard conversations to lean into. She thanked Administration and her fellow board members for the expectations and to push ourselves forward to a better plan.

BF 34360 Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve and adopt the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget as presented. Director Ward seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes

Director Allen

Yes

B. Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2025 Payable 2026 Levy of Independent School District 625 - Saint Paul Public Schools

Superintendent Stanley introduced Jackie Turner, Executive Chief of Administration and Operations, and Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services, to present this item. This item is an updated population count that is submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education indicating the residential population in the school district from about 311,000 to over 313,000. This number is important for the levy certification process that starts in September, and is the basis for the funding for the community service fund and Community Education, which is based on the population count. As the population count increases, so does the revenue for that part of the formula. Conversely, if the amount decreases, the revenue for community services also decreases. It is similar to enrollment funding for students. When this figure changes or there is new data, the requirement is to acknowledge it and send updated information to MDE for the Pay26 levy.

Director Carrillo requested clarification on the impacts to the tax base to be levied. Response: This will have a slight increase to the tax base, and there will be a slight increase to the fund from property taxes.

The full resolution can be found in the BoardBook.

BF 34361 Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2025 Payable 2026 Levy of Independent School District 625 - Saint Paul Public Schools

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2025 Payable 2026 Levy of Independent School District 625 - Saint Paul Public Schools, which states:

WHEREAS, the Independent School District #625 has experienced an increase in population from the 2020 census figure of 311,527 to the current census figure of 313,375 as determined by the State Demographer.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District 625 that the census figure of 313,375 be certified to the State Demographer for approval of use in the 2025 payable 2026 revenue calculations.

Director Valliant seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Carrillo	Yes
Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes

C. Policy Update

a. THIRD READING: Policy 401.00 - Equal Employment Opportunity

Superintendent Stanley welcomed Maria Eustaquio, Director of EEO, to present this update.

This policy was last updated in 2019, and there is a new policy format with a policy purpose and statement of policy. Updates to the policy include wording changes. It now cross references Title IX – Grievance Procedures (102.00.01) and 418.00 Gender Inclusion – Staff.

The full presentation and draft of the policy revisions can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

BF 34362 THIRD READING: Policy 401.00 - Equal Employment Opportunity

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the revisions to Policy 401.00 - Equal Employment Opportunity. Director Franco seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

b. THIRD READING: Policy 408.00.5 - Pre-Service Training

Ms. Eustaquio also presented this item. It was last revised in 2013. Policy changes include a policy purpose, information about student teaching and practicum and field experience. Changes also include revisions to the requirements for pre-service training, and to align with state statute.

The full presentation and draft of the policy revisions can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

BF 34363 THIRD READING: Policy 408.00.5 - Pre-Service Training

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the revisions to Policy 408.00.5 - Pre-Service Training. Director Franco seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

c. THIRD READING: Policy 425.00 – Nepotism

Ms. Eustaquio also presented this item. This policy was last revised in 2008, and will transition to a new policy format. The policy purpose was added, clarification of when family members or business partners can not be involved in or influence decisions related to employment status, and definitions of “nepotism”, “family member,” “business partner,” and “direct supervision.” Information about exceptions, and the complaint process were also added.

The full presentation and draft of the policy revisions can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

BF 34364 THIRD READING: Policy 425.00 – Nepotism

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the revisions to Policy 425.00 - Nepotism. Director Carrillo seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

- d. THIRD READING: Policy 420.00: Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions

Superintendent Stanley welcomed Becky Schmidt, Director of Health and Wellness, to present these updates.

Within the presentation included details on the rationale for the amendment to this policy which is the rescission of the policy, comparisons to other districts, language proposed to be removed and the justification for the removal of that language.

The full presentation and draft policy changes can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

BF 34365 THIRD READING: Policy 420.00: Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the rescission of Policy 420.00 - Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions. Director Vue seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
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Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

e. THIRD READING: Policy 516.01: Immunizations

This presentation included information about the rationale for the changes, and the proposed language revisions and the justification for them.

The full presentation and draft policy changes can be found in the BoardBook.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION: None

BF 34366 THIRD READING: Policy 516.01: Immunizations

MOTION: Director Henderson moved to approve the revisions to Policy 516.01 - Immunizations. Director Vue seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

10. INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Information Requests/Responses and Items for Future Agendas

- Director Valliant requested an update around our efforts supporting students experiencing homelessness or are highly-mobile. She also requested an update on the progress of the financial literacy workgroup.
- Director Franco emphasized a deep dive into the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, and the plans to ensure our young people are familiar with it, and align with this tool or to give feedback.
- Director Henderson requested an update on the work of CAREIALL, and how teachers are feeling and next steps for supporting teacher in their first year.

B. Board of Education Reports/Communications

- Director Ward shared his experiences at graduation ceremonies and thanked everyone for their work on them. He also shared that, regarding the budget process, he hopes that those who had concerns about funding continue to speak with the Board and share their concerns with continued engagement. There will be opportunities in the fall with the start of the next budget cycle.

- Director Carrillo highlighted the June 4th event at Maxfield with Dr. Stanley for the groundbreaking of the new playground, and the inventiveness and efforts in community and collaboration. He also thanked the Trust for Public Land and staff at Maxfield, as well as the MN Advisory Board. It is an opportunity to impact the health of students in the Rondo community, and a platform that other communities can look towards to foster collaboration with organizations like the Trust for Public Land and find places to make green space meaningful to the community and impact learning and quality of life. He also highlighted graduations, including Hubbs with the incredible speeches and emotions from students who through challenges graduated and public appreciation to them and an example for all of us and our ultimate goal – we do not give up on students, and always have their back. He also shared about the Washington and Johnson graduations with Director Henderson, and the students showed so much health and love, and it was great to see the unique culture that each school fosters. Journeys was also an amazing experience, and was great to see students who, like those at Hubbs, have gone through a lot and fought to be at graduation, and he encouraged the community to support our students as they move into adulthood. He also attended graduations for 5th graders and 8th graders, and the promotion ceremonies, which was also an amazing experience with our community, staff, and families.
- Director Allen congratulated all the graduates, including kindergartners. She also raised the new mascot at Central, and provided her experiences while in high school of the school mascot and representation. She thanked the Central Creative Collective for their work, and this student-led movement.
- Director Franco also noted graduation ceremonies, and that it is his favorite time of the year for many reasons – including the nostalgia of being a graduate of SPPS and alumni, and to see the excitement of the young people sharing the stage. He thanked the parents and guardians of students and their support for their students, and the celebration for them. He thanked them all for their support and their continued trust in SPPS for their child's education. He also noted a kindergarten graduation at Riverview. He also attended a 100-year celebration for Cherokee Heights, and the continued commitment to education on the West Side. He also noted the folks impacted by summer construction and the clean-up of classrooms, and thanked the team for the continued work.
- Director Vue noted the Parent Academy Graduation, and he is proud of the Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships, and the parents who captured the experiences of kids in the classroom. He also noted the Hmong Senior Recognition Event, as well as a brief update on the work of the H.M.O.N.G. Project, timeline, and work of the group. He also noted it was his first meeting of the Afrocentric Work Group in redesigning Benjamin E. Mays as the Afrocentric school. The recent highlight was seeing his son walk across the stage as a graduate of OWL.
- Director Valliant shared about her time at Adams and East African Magnet School, and the great tour with excited students and amazing teachers. She also noted graduations, and reminisced about her son's graduation in 2020. She attended Central and Como Park graduations, as well as Creative Arts, and is looking forward to Summer Graduation. She also attended a kindergarten graduation at Maxfield for her son.
- Director Henderson shared her experience at the LEAP graduation, and to see the students' progress and the story of one student who found his home at LEAP, which spoke to the path that so many of our students take and they find where they are supposed to be, and graduations allow us to recenter and to ensure our students find their place and their homes regardless of the circumstances. She also noted the Afrocentric work group meeting, and the desire for this to be successful, and we need it to be for our communities, and we have one opportunity to do it right for our community. She is proud of the work and the tenacity of the work group as we continue to push and do better for our students to be able to succeed and the support for them.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Director Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Franco seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Director Franco	Yes
Director Valliant	Yes
Director Henderson	Yes
Director Ward	Yes
Director Vue	Yes
Director Allen	Yes
Director Carrillo	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

For clarity and to facilitate research, these minutes reflect the order of the original Agenda and not necessarily the time during the meeting the items were discussed.

Prepared and submitted by:

Sarah Dahlke

Assistant Clerk, St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education