

July 23, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 8:00 A.M. on July 23, 2025, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Gabardi, Galatz, Egan, Polcher and Chair Berklich.

Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

The following commented on collaboration agreements:
Danielle Sauter, Bob Rahja, Steve Oberstar and Jen Gigliotti.

Travis Vake commented on cooperative agreements.

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director: None

Administrators and Staff: None

Committee Report: None

APPROVE AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Galatz, supported by Director McLaughlin and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the July 16, 2025 Regular Meeting and the following: Accept the resignation from Greta Kolstad, school readiness teacher, Washington Early Learning Center, effective August 24, 2025. Approve the MOA between Laurie Allison, I.S.D. No. 701 and Hibbing United Educators to agree during the 2025-2026 school year Ms. Allison shall be permitted to teach as a 0.6 FTE Early Childhood Teacher.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR DONATIONS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the resolution for donations. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 LONG TERM FACILITIES
MAINTENANCE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PLAN AS
PRESENTED

Moved by Director Galatz, supported by Chair Berklich to approve the fiscal year 2026 Long Term Facilities Maintenance revenue and expenditure plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE “POST SECONDARY OPTIONS” PROGRAM SERVICE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN MINNESOTA NORTH COLLEGE AND I.S.D.
NO. 701 FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Polcher to approve the “Post Secondary Options” Program Service Agreement between Minnesota North College and I.S.D. No. 701 for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried 4-1 with Director McLaughlin abstaining.

SECOND READING OF POLICIES

Superintendent Aldrich presented the Second Readings of the following policies:

- 503 Student Attendance
- 607 Internet and Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
- 607.5 Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Communication Devices
- 802 Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher to change the policy 607.5 cell phones and other personal electronic devices from cell phones allowed during lunch period only to no cell phones or other personal electronic communication devices from bell to bell. A roll call vote was taken:

For: Directors Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich

Against: Directors Gabardi, Galatz and McLaughlin

Motion failed.

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Gabardi policy 607.5 cell phones and other personal electronic communication devices to read bell to bell with the exception of lunch. Chair Berklich did not allow the motion to be voted on.

Discussion Items:

Superintendent Aldrich provided a Referendum update.

School Board Directors discussed collaborative sports agreements.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK