MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ORONO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 278
HELD ON JUNE 9, 2025

Present: Sarah Borchers, Kristi Flesher, Todd Madson, Wendy Lundsgaard, Laura Wallander, Gavin Tempero
Timothy Usset arrived during Item 6 - Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Absent: None

Community Members Questions and Comments
No members of the community addressed the board.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Orono Independent School District No. 278 was held on Monday, June 9, 2025 and called to order by Board Chair, Sarah Borchers, at 7:00PM.

4. – Consideration of the Agenda
Chair Borchers requested that agenda item 9D be moved to the start of the meeting. Dr. Kristi Flesher, Superintendent, presented certificates to Quinn Martini, Orono Class of 2025, and Anthony Perrill, Orono Class of 2026, to recognize their achievement in winning the Boys State Tennis Tournament in Doubles.

5. – Consent Agenda
UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Wendy Lundsgaard, and 5 aye votes yes, zero aye notes no, 1 voting member absent, the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- Approved Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on May 12, 2025
- Approved the appointment of Ellie Davenport, as full-time Special Education Teacher at Orono Schumann Elementary and Orono Intermediate School, effective August 25, 2025.
- Approved the appointment of Adara Kamarainen, as full-time School Psychologist Intern at Orono Public Schools, effective August 20, 2025 through June 5, 2026.
- Approved the appointment of Nicholas Stoterau, as full-time Special Education Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 20, 2025.
- Approved the appointment of Holly Howe, as full-time Fourth Grade Teacher (LTS) at Orono Intermediate School, effective May 6, 2025 through June 6, 2025.
- Approved appointment of Jennifer Kremers, as full-time Business Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 20, 2025.
- Approved the appointment of Sarah Williams, as full-time Speech Language Pathologist (LTS) at Orono Middle School, effective August 20, 2025 through June 5, 2026.
- Approved the appointment of Brandon Richardson, as full-time Special Education Teacher at Orono Middle School, effective August 20, 2025.
- Approved the change of assignment of Kelly Jordahl, full-time Third Grade Teacher at Orono Intermediate School, to full-time MAC Second Grade Teacher at Orono Schumann Elementary School, effective August 25, 2025.

- Approved the change of assignment of Carrie Ellis, full-time Spanish Teacher at Orono High School, to full-time Spanish Teacher at Orono Middle School, effective August 25, 2025.
- Approved the change of assignment of Cara Forbrook, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher at Orono High School, to 0.8 FTE Special Education Teacher at Orono High School, effective August 25, 2025.
- Approved the leave of absence for Hannah Kenny, full-time Speech Language Pathologist at Orono Middle School, effective August 25, 2025, through June 5, 2026.
- Approved the leave of absence for Rebecca Schultz, full-time Second Grade Teacher at Orono Schumann Elementary School, effective August 25, 2025 through June 5, 2026.
- Approved the appointment of Sarah Hunter, as full-time Special Eduation Paraeducator at Orono High School, effective September 2, 2025.
- Approved the leave of absence extension for Samantha Koscielniak, effective May 19, 2025 through June 5, 2025.
- Approved the leave of absence for Jeanine Weisbeck, full-time Principal's Assistant Secretary at Orono Schumann Elementary School, effective September 2, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
- Approved the leave of absence for Teri Flemal, full-time Kitchen Manager at Orono Middle School, effective September 2, 2025, through November 3, 2025.
- Approved the resignation due to retirement of Stephen Gorman, full-time Custodian at Orono High School, effective June 30, 2025.
- Approved the resignation of Elizabeth Antonenko, part-time Program Assistant at Orono Discovery Center, effective June 30, 2025.
- Approved the resignation due to retirement of Lavinia Pottios, part-time CPR First Aide Instructor at Orono Community Education, effective July 31, 2025.
- Accepted Donations Totaling: $777,115.50
- Approved Treasurer's Report for April 2025
- Approved Electronic Fund Transfers for April 2025
- Designated Dr. Kristine Flesher as the 'Identified Official with Authority' to authorize access by local education agency users to Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) secure websites
- Approved Bill Vouchers: 321703-321905, 1938-1947, EP Register: 902867-902940, EFT Vouchers: 299-300, 6613-6618 and Capital One: 53235-53262

6. – Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Dr Flesher opened her remarks with a message of gratitude to teachers and staff who closed out this academic year with so many amazing demonstrations of academic engagement and personal connectedness. Our schools were buzzing with projects, performances, and presentations that highlighted the depth of learning taking place across all grade levels. The Class of 2025 Commencement on Thursday was a true highlight—an inspiring evening filled with memorable speeches, proud families, and joyful graduates ready to take their next steps. She thanked the families who provide the guidance and support their children – and our staff – need to succeed.

Athletics Update - Congratulations to:

- 2025 graduate, Quinn Martini, and rising senior Anthony Perrill won the state championship Boys Tennis Doubles.
- Ava Hannemann who earned the 2025 Ms. Minnesota Golf award. this weekend. She will be joined by teammate Nora Benson competing at the State Tournament. The Girls Golf team ended the season as Section 2AAA runners up.
- Boys Golf state qualifier, Dylan Kringen. He was part of the Boys team that also finished in second place at Sections.
- Girls Lacrosse finished their regular season as Section champions. The team will begin their state tournament tomorrow.
- Boys Track & Field State qualifiers:
    - Owen Chapman – Boys 3200, 1600m
    - Luke Withrow – Pole Vault
    - Carsen Burckhardt – Shot Put
    - Art Bocharnikov – High Jump
    - Gabe Hallen – 1600m, 800m, 4x400m
    - Cooper Munsch – 1600m
    - Dane Heinen – 400m, 4x400m
    - Trevor Stundahl – 300m Hurdles, 4x400m
    - John Skoog – 4x400m
- and the Girls state qualifiers:
    - Lydia Richardson – Triple Jump, Long Jump
    - Taylor Walsh – 4x800m, 800m, 4x400m
    - Delaney Stephens – 4x800m, 800m
    - Jocie Hallen – 4x800m
    - Ryanne Andreen – 4x800m, 4x200m, 4x400m
    - Eleanor Bernstein-Foster – 4x200
    - Kate Spaniol – 4x200m, 4x100m
    - Mila Bailey – 4x200m, 4x100m, 200m
    - Taydem Ide – 4x100m
    - Addison Mushitz – 4x100m
    - Alivia Uselding – 300m Hurdles, 4x400m
    - Natalie Kindseth – 4x400m
- The Trap Team, an activity offered through Orono Community Education, will be competing at state June 12.
- Boys Lacrosse and Baseball teams ended their season as Section Runners-Up.
- Our Softball team advanced to the Section semi-finals.

Dr. Flesher closed her remarks by thanking Community Education Director Tiffany Clifton and her entire team for overseeing summer curriculum, hiring, and registration. Community Education programming continues to be in demand because of its high quality and reputation

for providing outstanding engagement and experiences for all. Summer registrations this year have exceeded last year's record-breaking enrollment.

7. – Board Members Questions and Comments
Gavin Tempero - the Facilities & Finance committee met to discuss items that will be presented during the board meeting. Nothing more to report.

Wendy Lundsgaard - the OHS band played at the Memorial Day Service in Maple Plain. The OMS band played at Stonebay Senior Living. OMSPA held year-end parties. Ms. Lundsgaard gave a Legislative Update highlighting: votes on the Finance & Policy Omnibus Bill, no-increase in spending over the next 2 years, Gen Ed formula indexing, Summer Unemployment Aid, LTFM roof repairs, balanced Education Budget, Student Support Funds, Library Aid, Literacy Aid, SpEd Transportation.

Todd Madson - Thanked the PTO and OFE and acknowledged their importance to Orono Public Schools.

Laura Wallander- attended Ice Arena Board meeting highlighting: new board member, Steve Persian, and Arena 99% rented for summer. Attended Community Ed Advisory Council meeting highlighting: record number of summer enrollments, Spartan Kids is fully staffed and no longer has a waiting list. Ms Wallander closed her remarks by highlighted upcoming Community Ed events: Spartan Express, Pop in and Read, Support our Spartans, Family Color Dash, and ECFE On Location.

Timothy Usset - attended the Employee Recognition Breakfast and Orono High School Commencement Ceremony.

Sarah Borchers - nothing to report.

8. – Old Business
8. A – 2026-27 Academic Calendar (2nd Reading)
MOTION by Todd Madson, seconded by Laura Wallander, the Board of Education adopted the 2026-27 Academic Calendars, version 1 and version 4.1, as presented, pending approval of a September 1, 2026 start date by Minnesota Legislative action. VOTES: 6 aye votes yes, zero aye votes no. Motion carried.

8. B - Other Old Business as Necessary
No other old business was brought forward.

9. – New Business
9. A – Resolution for Continuation of Membership in Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL)(ACTION)
Every year, the Minnesota State High School League requires districts to adopt a resolution to continue their membership in the league.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Timothy Usset, the Board of Education adopted the resolution to continue the district's membership in the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). VOTES: 6 aye votes yes, zero aye votes no. Motion carried.

9. B – 2025-26 Preliminary Budget Approval
Mr. Nick Taintor, Director of Business Services, presented the preliminary budget for the 2025-2026 school year.

UPON MOTION by Todd Madson, seconded by Laura Wallander, the Board approved the preliminary budget for the 2025-2026 school year. VOTES: 6 aye votes yes, zero aye votes no. Motion carried.

9. C - 2025 Population Estimate Certification
Mr. Nick Taintor, Director of Business Services, presented to the board and recommended that the board adopt the resolution to certify the 2025 population estimate.

Member Todd Madson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE POPULATION ESTIMATE FOR THE 2025 PAYABLE 2026 LEVY OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 0278-01

WHEREAS, the Independent School District #0278-01 has experienced an increase in population from the 2020 census figure of 12,711, to the current census figure of 13,359 as determined by the State Demographer.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District #0278-01 that the census figure of 13,359 be certified to the State Demographer for approval of use in the 2025 payable 2026 revenue calculations.

For the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Timothy Usset and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Gavin Tempero, Wendy Lundsgaard, Todd Madson, Sarah Borchers, Laura Wallander, Timothy Usset

And the following voted against: no votes against

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

9. D – Other New Business as Necessary
No other new business was brought forward.

10. Information Items
10. A - June Enrollment

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the District Office Assembly Room.

Chair Sarah Borchers moved the meeting into a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.03 to discuss labor negotiation strategy at 7:58 PM.

The board reconvened to open session at 8:39 PM.

Chair Sarah Borchers moved the meeting into a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13D.05, Subdivision 3(a) to evaluate the performance of school district personnel at 8:39 PM.

The board reconvened to open session at 9:51 PM.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Timothy Usset, and 6 aye votes yes, zero aye votes against, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51PM.

Sarah Borchers, *Chair*

Laura Wallander, *Clerk*