

**MINNETONKA SCHOOL BOARD
CLOSED SESSION, STUDY SESSION AND SPECIAL MEETING
District Service Center
February 19, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

CLOSED SESSION

- 4:30 1. Superintendent's Mid-Year Review
(pursuant to Minn. Statute 13D.05)

STUDY SESSION

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| 6:00 | 1. | Presentation from American Indian Parent Advisory Committee |
| 6:20 | 2. | Review of Policy #707: Transportation of Public School Students |
| 6:40 | 3. | Discussion on Updated 2026 Legislative Position Statements |
| 7:00 | 4. | Discussion on Long-Term Financial Stability/Enrollment Target |
| 7:20 | 5. | Review of Health and Dental Premium Rates for FY27 |

SPECIAL MEETING

- | | | |
|------|------|---|
| 7:40 | I. | Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag |
| | II. | Adoption of Agenda |
| 7:40 | III. | Approval of Health and Dental Premium Rates for FY27 |
| 7:55 | IV. | Authorization to Sell 2026B General Obligation Refunding Bonds |
| 8:00 | V. | Authorization to Sell 2026C Certificates of Participation Refunding Bonds |
| 8:05 | VI. | Adjournment |

CITIZEN INPUT

6:00 p.m. Citizen Input is an opportunity for the public to address the School Board on any topic in accordance with the guidelines printed on the reverse.

GUIDELINES FOR CITIZEN INPUT

Welcome to the Minnetonka School Board's Study Session! In the interest of open communications, the Minnetonka School District wishes to provide an opportunity for the public to address the School Board. That opportunity is provided at every Study Session during *Citizen Input*.

1. Anyone indicating a desire to speak to any item about educational services—except for information that personally identifies or violates the privacy rights of an individual—during *Citizen Input* will be acknowledged by the Board Chair. When called upon to speak, please state your name, connection to the district, and topic. All remarks shall be addressed to the Board as a whole, not to any specific member(s) or to any person who is not a member of the Board.
2. If there are a number of individuals present to speak on the same topic, please designate a spokesperson who can summarize the issue.
3. Please limit your comments to three minutes. Longer time may be granted at the discretion of the Board Chair. If you have written comments, the Board would like to have a copy, which will help them better understand, investigate and respond to your concern.
4. During *Citizen Input* the Board and administration listen to comments. Board members or the Superintendent may ask clarifying questions of you in order to gain a thorough understanding of your concern, suggestion or request. If there is any response or follow-up to your comment or suggestion, you will be contacted via email or phone by a member of the Board or administration in a timely manner.
5. Please be aware that disrespectful comments or comments of a personal nature, directed at an individual either by name or inference, will not be allowed. Personnel concerns should be directed first to a principal or executive director of the department, then to the Executive Director of Human Resources, then to the Superintendent and finally in writing to the Board.

PRESENTATION

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Study Session Agenda Item #1

**Title: Presentation from American Indian
Parent Advisory Committee**

Date: February 19, 2026

OVERVIEW:

Minnesota law requires public school districts to identify and serve American Indian students through culturally responsive programming that supports academic success, cultural identity, and belonging. This work is guided by parent and community voices and supported by American Indian Education (AIE) State Aid, which is intended to supplement, rather than replace, district responsibilities.

Each year, districts are required to work in collaboration with their American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) to develop actionable goals in five statutory areas:

1. supporting postsecondary preparation,
2. supporting academic achievement,
3. making curriculum relevant to students' cultural heritage,
4. providing positive reinforcement of student self-image, and
5. developing intercultural awareness among students, staff, and families.

These goals, along with action plans and monitoring of progress toward them, are developed and reviewed annually in collaboration between the District and the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC).

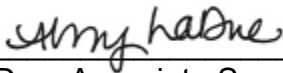
Minnesota State Statute Section 124D.78 states that the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) must meet by March 1 of each year to review the district's American Indian Education plan and vote on whether or not the committee concurs that the educational offerings that have been extended by the district have been meeting the needs of American Indian students. The outcome of this vote, along with supporting documentation, must be reported to the School Board and submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education. The vote and resolution must be presented to the School Board by one or more members of the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee. The vote is formally reflected on documentation provided by the Department of Education and must be submitted annually on March 1.

A vote of *concurrence* indicates that the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee believes the district's current programming is meeting the needs of American Indian students and may continue as implemented. A vote of *non-concurrence* does not indicate noncompliance or failure; rather, it initiates a structured process for the advisory committee, school board, and district leadership to engage in dialogue and identify opportunities to strengthen and enhance educational programming for American Indian students.

The purpose of this report is for representatives of the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) to present their vote and resolution along with any recommendations to the School Board.

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

This report is for the School Board's information and future direction.

Submitted by: 
Amy LaDue, Associate Superintendent

Concurrence: 
David Law, Superintendent

School Board
Minnetonka I.S.D. # 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota

Study Session Agenda Item 2

Title: Review of Policy #707: Transportation of Public
School Students

DATE: February 19, 2026

OVERVIEW:

As part of the District's ongoing policy review, Administration is recommending changes to Policy 707: Transportation of Public School Students.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the School Board approves the recommended policy changes at the Regular Board meeting on March 5, 2026.

Submitted by:



Anjie Flowers, General Counsel & Exec. Dir. of Human Resources

Concurrence:



David Law, Superintendent

MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICY 707: TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide ~~for the~~ transportation ~~for of~~ students consistent with the requirements of law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Minnetonka School District recognizes that transportation is an essential part of the District's services to students and parents. It is the policy of the District to provide for the transportation of students in a manner which will protect their health, welfare and safety.

III. REGULATIONS

- A. Transportation by the District is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to the District's discipline policy. When a student's bus riding privileges are revoked the parent or guardian is responsible for the student's transportation to school. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Revocation procedures for a student who is an individual with a disability ~~under 20 USC § 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Act), 29 USC § 794 (the Rehabilitation Act), and 42 USC § 12132, (Americans with Disabilities Act)~~ are governed by these provisions. ~~(Minn. Stat. § 121A.59)~~
- B. Requests to modify the District's transportation policies or procedures will be ~~very~~ carefully evaluated; ~~by~~ taking into consideration student needs, the financial impact of the request, and the impact on existing ~~D~~istrict transportation procedures and practices.
- C. District responsibility for students begins when the child boards the bus for the start of the school day and ends when the child leaves the bus at the end of the school day.
 1. It is the legal obligation of parents/guardians to assume the supervision of students when walking either to or from the bus stop and home, at the bus stop, and to and from school and home.
 2. If a student, either eligible or ineligible for District transportation service, elects to walk to school, the District does not assume responsibility for the safety of the student when walking to and from school.

IV. RESIDENT ELIGIBILITY

- A. Two or More Miles from School: The District shall provide transportation to and from

the school in which they are enrolled, at the expense of the District, for all resident students who reside two miles or more from the school, except for those students whose transportation privileges have been revoked or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student's parent or guardian. (~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.88, Subd. 1~~)

- B. Less Than Two Miles from School: Students who live less than two miles from the school in which they are enrolled are not eligible for free transportation under State law and will be required to pay a transportation fee set annually by the School Board.

Eligibility is determined by measuring the distance using the most direct route between the student's residence and the respective school of enrollment. Distances are electronically calculated with the assistance of the current bus routing software that incorporates detailed mapping capabilities. If the measurement is appealed, the District will re-measure the distance from the driveway of the school to the driveway of the student's residence using a global positioning system (GPS).

- C. "Fee for Service" Criteria and Rate Structure: Students who live less than two miles from the school to which they are assigned are required to pay a transportation fee set annually by the School Board.

Exceptions:

1. Bus service at the entire expense of the District will be provided to special education students who require transportation as part of their Individual Education Plan (IEP), ~~who reside within the District boundaries regardless of where they live. Special education students and who receive special education services and~~ riding a designated ~~special education~~ bus ~~for students receiving such services~~ will be transported at no charge. ~~Note:—All students, including special education students receiving special education services who, riding ride a bus not designated for transporting students who receive such services and services a regular school bus and~~ residing less than two miles from school ~~must will be required to~~ pay a fee for bus service.
2. ~~If a middle school student~~ Students who resides within the Minnetonka Middle School West (MMW) attendance area and ~~are more is more~~ than two miles from MMW, and ~~have has~~ accepted the District's offer to attend Minnetonka Middle School East (MME), a transportation fee will not be assessed, even if the student's residence is within two miles of MME.
3. Under the Optional Pupil Transfer (OPT), a pupil may be assigned by the Superintendent from the regularly assigned school to another school under the Optional Pupil Transfer (OPT) to achieve better class attendance.
 - a. The Superintendent will identify for possible reassignment, pupils who are located near adjacent borders or within areas which minimize transportation costs and/or disruption of multiple neighborhoods.
 - b. The District will provide transportation for OPT students.

D. Adjustment for Ability to Pay: The bus fee will be waived for students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals. If not eligible for free or reduced price meals, the District will consider an application to waive or reduce the transportation fee on a case-by-case basis. Special consideration will be given to students whose families are experiencing ~~are experiencing severe~~ financial hardship. ~~(for example, unusually high medical expenses.)~~

E. Other Policy Considerations:

1. Non-Public Students: All students, both public and non-public, residing less than two miles from their school will be required to pay the transportation fee.
2. Bus Pass Required: A bus pass will be issued to each student paying for bus service and to each student residing two or more miles from school. A pass will be required to ride the bus.
3. Prorated Fees: Space will be reserved for students who purchase a bus pass. ~~Purchase of a bus pass mandates~~ requires that a space be reserved for the student. ~~The Therefore, the~~ fee will cover a full school year's of service and will not be prorated ~~if should~~ the student elect ~~select to not~~ to ride the bus each day ~~each every day~~ or to ride only partial days. If the student moves from the District prior to the start of the final quarter or a student begins service after the start of the first quarter of the year, a prorated refund or charge will be provided. There will be no reduced fee if the student starts before the beginning of the second quarter and no refund if the student withdraws after the start of the final quarter.
4. Ready Start Kindergarten: Eligibility for free transportation will be determined based on the distance from the student's ~~child's~~ residence and the school in which the Ready Start program is located. If the distance is two miles or more, free bus services will be provided. If the distance is less than two miles the parents will be required to pay a fee to ride the bus.

F. Parent Option Program: The Parent Option Program is an option which allows any parent or guardian to request that a student attend school at a District school other than that student's regularly assigned school.

1. The parent/guardian has the responsibility for the transportation of a POP student.
2. Students attending a District school under POP may use existing District transportation services on a space available basis. The District will not alter existing bus routes to travel into another attendance area to pick up a student enrolled under POP.
3. A fee will be assessed if the student's residence is less than two miles from the school the student is enrolled in under the POP program.

G. Kindergarten Transportation:

1. Kindergartners riding regular elementary school buses in the morning and afternoon will use the same bus stops as the first grade through fifth grade students.
2. Kindergartners riding mid-day buses either to or from school will be picked up/dropped off in front of their houses whenever possible. In the event that road configurations, time constraints or other factors make ~~this~~—that impossible, the District will designate another nearby, safe location as the official bus stop.

V. TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULING PROVISIONS

The scheduling of routes, establishment of the location of bus stops, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of school children, the determination of fees, and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the School Board. (~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.88, Subd. 1~~)

- A. Delivery to School—Under normal circumstances, students should be delivered to their schools five to fifteen minutes prior to the start of school. Shuttle buses ~~that travel running runs~~ between schools may create an exception to this rule.
- B. After School Delivery Runs—Under normal circumstances, buses shall depart from the school within ten minutes of school dismissal.
- C. Shuttle Runs—Shuttle routes may be utilized to transport students from one school attendance area to another attendance area in order to expedite routes.
- D. Bus Stops—Whenever possible, bus stops will be located at a corner or intersection. Bus stops will be located to maximize bus route safety and efficiency.

1. Standard maximum walking distances for students to bus stop are as follows:

Grades K-5: 0.4 Mile
Grades 6-12: 0.6 Mile

Shorter walking distances may be afforded to students where possible, but the distances noted here may be used.

2. Location of bus stops shall take into consideration visibility of the bus stop from oncoming traffic, traffic flow, impact of seasonal variations, traffic conditions, construction activities, and ensuring the bus can safely navigate the street without a back-up maneuver.
- E. School Bus Capacity—Buses must adhere to the seating capacity limitations indicated on the vehicles.
 - F. Length of Ride—Regular bus runs shall not exceed the following maximum riding times:

1. Senior High School—45 minutes
2. Middle Schools—35 minutes
3. Elementary Schools—25 minutes
4. Nonpublic Schools—45 minutes
5. Special Education within District—50 minutes
6. Special Education outside District—70 minutes

VI. NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION

A. Within School District

1. Equal Treatment—Students attending nonpublic schools shall receive equal, but not necessarily identical, transportation services as provided to public school students.
2. School Hours—The nonpublic school is responsible for coordinating its calendar and starting and dismissal times with those of the District. The District shall determine the times that students will be transported to non-public schools and the dates of such transportation. Non-public schools will be expected to conform with these decisions.
3. Bus Routes—When separate routes for public and non-public students are used, nonpublic school routes shall operate within the same parameters as the District's public school routes.

B. Outside the District

1. District residents whose child/children attend a state certified nonpublic school outside the District are eligible for limited transportation or reimbursement for transportation expenses.
2. The Superintendent will determine whether the District will provide the student with transportation services or financial reimbursement for other transportation services.
3. Option to Reimburse—When the District elects to reimburse the student for transportation costs, it is responsible only for costs incurred in transporting the student from his/her residence to the District boundary.

VII. VIDEOTAPING ON SCHOOL BUS

A. Placement

1. Each and every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the District shall be equipped with a fully-enclosed box for placement and operation of a video camera and conspicuously placed signs notifying riders that their conversations or actions may be recorded on tape.
2. A video camera will not necessarily be installed in every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the District, but cameras may be rotated

from bus to bus without prior notice to students.

3. Video cameras will be placed on a particular school bus, to the extent possible, where the District has concerns about possible inappropriate behavior.

B. Use of Videotape

1. A videotape of the actions of student passengers may be used by the District as evidence in any disciplinary action brought against a student, arising out of the student's conduct on the bus.
2. ~~A videotape will be released to the public only in conformance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC §1232g, and the rules and/or regulations promulgated thereunder.~~
3. Videotapes will be viewed by District personnel on a random basis and/or when behavior issues ~~discipline problems on the bus~~ have been brought to the attention of the School District.
4. ~~A videotape will be retained by the District for a period of two (2) weeks, or until the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings in which the videotape is used for evidence.~~

VIII. TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

- A. If it is determined to be within the best interests of the District to transport nonresident students from within the student's resident district such transportation shall be provided to a nonresident student at the same level of service that is provided to resident students. ~~The District shall determine when the decision is made to transport nonresident students the appropriate fee for the service.~~
- B. ~~If the District decides to transport a nonresident student within the student's resident district, the District will notify the student's resident district of its decision, in writing, prior to providing transportation. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.88, Subd. 6)~~
- C. When divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately reside in different school districts and share physical custody of a student, the parents shall be responsible for the transportation of the student to the nearest bus stop within the Minnetonka School District during those times when the student is residing with the parent in the nonresident school district. ~~(Minn. Stat. § 127A.47, Subd. 3(b))~~

IX. TRANSPORTATION OF RESIDENT STUDENTS TO NON-DISTRICT SCHOOLS

In general, the Minnetonka Public School District shall not provide transportation between a resident student's home and the border of a nonresident district where the student attends school under the Enrollment Options Program. (Minn. Stat. § 124D.03, Subd. 8)

X. SPECIAL EDUCATION/DISABLED STUDENTS/STUDENTS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

- A. A resident student with a disability ~~disabled student~~ who is not yet enrolled in kindergarten, who requires special education services in a location other than the student's home, shall be provided transportation to and from the student's home at the expense of the District and shall not be subject to any distance requirement. (~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.88, Subd. 1~~)
- B. Resident ~~disabled~~ students who have disabilities ~~se handicapped conditions are such that the student cannot be safely transported on the regular school bus and/or school bus route and/or when the student is~~ who are transported on a special route for the purpose of attending an approved special education program shall be entitled to special transportation at the expense of the District. The District shall determine the type of vehicle used to transport ~~disabled~~ students on the basis of the disability~~handicapping condition~~ and applicable laws. This provision shall not be applicable to parents who transport their own child under a contract with the District. (~~Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600~~)
- C. Resident ~~disabled~~ students with disabilities who ~~attend~~are boarded and lodged at Minnesota state academies for educational purposes, but who also are enrolled in a public school within the District, shall be provided transportation, by the District to and from said ~~board and lodging~~ facilities, at the expense of the District. (~~Minn. Stat. § 125A.65~~)
- D. When a ~~disabled~~ student with a disability or a student who has it ~~h a~~ short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program located in another school district, and the student continues to live within the Minnetonka School District during the care and treatment, the Minnetonka School District shall provide ~~the~~ transportation, at the expense of the Minnetonka School District, to that student. (~~Minn. Stat. § 125A.15(b); Minn. Stat. § 125A.51(d)~~)
1. Before the placement of a pupil for care and treatment, the district of residence must be notified and provided an opportunity to participate in the placement decision. (~~See Minn. Stat. § 125 A. 51(e)~~). It is reasonable for the school district to refuse or delay transportation to a care and treatment program if the school district administration has been denied the opportunity to participate in the placement decision.
 2. ~~Consistent with the authority granted by Minnesota law, the purpose of this policy is to establish reasonable restrictions on the transportation of students who are temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program and who continue to live within the boundaries of Minnetonka School District ("District") during the care and treatment. In adopting this policy, the School Board has given consideration to various social, political, economic, and educational factors.~~
Reasonable Transportation Restrictions:
 - a. Closer Facility: The ~~D~~istrict may refuse to transport a student to a care and treatment facility if another care and treatment facility is at least ten miles closer to the student's home and is sufficient to meet the needs of the student. The following exception applies: The District will provide transportation to the next closest facility that is covered by the student's

insurer and has an opening if:

- i) The student's parent or legal guardian submits written documentation to the District showing that the insurer has formally denied coverage for a requested placement at the closest facility or
 - ii) The student's parent or legal guardian submits written documentation to the District ~~office~~—showing that the closest facility has denied a requested placement.
 - b. Ten Mile Radius: The District may refuse to transport a student to or from a care and treatment facility that is located more than ten (10) miles outside the District's geographic boundaries.
 - c. Regular Operating Hours: The District may refuse to transport a student to or from a care and treatment facility outside the District's regular operating hours.
 - d. Non School Days: The District is not responsible for and may not provide transportation when its schools are not in session, ~~although~~ ~~Tt~~transportation ~~Transportation~~ may be provided for ~~special education~~ students receiving special education services who will receive extended school year services.
 - e. The ~~d~~District may limit the number of trips to two trips, 2, in a given day, and will be based on the timing and location of the education services provided while the child is placed at care and treatment.
- E. When a nonresident ~~disabled~~ student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed in a residential program within the Minnetonka School District, including correctional facilities operated on a fee-for-service basis and state institutions, for care and treatment, the District shall provide the necessary transportation at the expense of the District. Where a joint powers entity enters into a contract with a privately owned and operated residential facility for the provision of education programs for ~~special education~~ students receiving special education services, the joint powers entity shall provide the necessary transportation. ~~—(Minn. Stat. § 125A.15(c) and (d); Minn. Stat. § 125A.51(e))~~
- F. Any parent of a student with a disability ~~disabled student~~ who believes that the transportation services provided for that child are not in compliance with the applicable law may utilize the alternative dispute resolution and due process procedures provided for in Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A. ~~(Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600, Subd. 2)~~
- G. Special transportation is provided within the student's enrollment area for that school or special program. If ~~at~~the student residing outside of the school district is accepted through open enrollment, the ~~D~~istrict may provide special transportation from the ~~D~~istrict's boundary area. ~~in accordance with the Minnesota 8th Circuit Court Ruling [Student] v.~~

XI. DISTRICT 288 SECONDARY VOCATIONAL PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION

The District will provide and pay for shuttle service between Minnetonka High School and Southwest Metro Career and Technical Program locations for students enrolled in the District #288 Secondary Vocational Program.

XII. WORK EMPLOYMENT/COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (WE/CEP)

No transportation will be provided for pupils enrolled in WE/CEP, unless the program provides transportation funding.

XIII. UNHOUSED HOMELESS STUDENTS

- A. UnhousedHomeless students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to other students in the District. (~~42 USC § 11432(e)(3)(C)(i)(III)(cc) and (g)(4)(A)~~)
- B. Upon request by the student's parent, guardian, or unhoused ~~homeless~~ education liaison, the District shall provide transportation for an unhoused ~~homeless~~ student as follows:
 - 1. A resident student who becomes unhoused andunhousedhomeless and is residing in a shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the District shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter if the shelter is two or more miles from the school of origin and the student's transportation privileges have not been revoked. (~~42 USC § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(I)~~)
 - 2. A resident student who becomes unhoused ~~homeless~~ and is residing in a shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements outside of the Minnetonka School District shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter if the shelter location is two or more miles from the school of origin and the student's transportation privileges have not been revoked, unless the District and the school district in which the student is temporarily placed agree that the school district in which the student is temporarily placed shall provide transportation. (~~Minn. Stat. § 125A.51(f); 42 USC § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(II)~~)

XIV. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

A. Provided Transportation ~~When Provided~~

Transportation shall be provided on all regularly scheduled school days or make-up days. Transportation will not be provided during the summer school break. Transportation may be provided for summer instructional programs for students with a disability or in conjunction with a learning year program. Transportation between home and school may also be provided, at the discretion of the District, on staff development days or other non-school days. (~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.88, Subd. 21~~)

B. Field Trip Transportation

The District will provide free transportation services for field trips when the field trips are an integral part of a required course of study.

C. Interscholastic/Co-curricular/Community Education ~~Service~~—Activity Transportation

There is a broad variety of transportation needs associated with interscholastic/cocurricular activities/Community Education sponsored activities. Not all activities or programs have District-provided transportation. At the start of the program's activities, participants will be informed of the scope of District-provided transportation services.

D. Transportation of Students by Staff

Transportation of students by staff shall occur only when all criteria mandated by the state have been met, including licensing, and vehicle inspection. Transportation shall only be provided by social workers, assistant principals, and principals.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)

Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.59 (Bus Transportation is a Privilege Not a Right)

~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)~~

~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.41 (Educational Aids for Nonpublic School Children; Definitions) Minn. Stat. § 123B.44 (Provision of Pupil Support Services)~~

~~10~~

Minn. Stat. 121A.59

Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent Minnetonka Public School Districts, Transportation) Minn. Stat. § 123B.92 (Transportation Aid Entitlement)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.04 (Enrollment Options Programs in Border States)

Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Children With a Disability)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.02 (Children With a Disability, Defined)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.12 (Attendance in Another District)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.15 (Placement in Another District; Responsibility)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.51 (Placement of Children Without Disabilities; Education and Transportation)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.515 (Placement of Students; Approval of Education Program) Minn. Stat. § 125A.65 (Attendance at Academies for the Deaf and Blind)

Minn. Stat. § 126C.01 (General Education Revenue - Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 127A.47 (Payments to Resident and Nonresident Districts)

Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600 (Transporting Pupils with Disability)

~~20 USC § 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004) 29 USC § 794 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)~~

~~42 USC § 2000a (Prohibition Against Discrimination or Segregation in Places of Public Accommodation)~~ 42 USC § 11431, et seq. (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001)

42 USC § 12132 (Americans With Disabilities Act)

Cross References:

Policy 506: Student Discipline and Code of Conduct

Policy 535: Students: Assignment to Schools

Policy 709: Student Transportation Safety

~~Policy 722: Public Data and Data Subject Requests~~

Adopted: May 4, 2006

Reviewed: May 25, 2023

Approved: June 1, 2023

Reviewed: February 19, 2026

MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICY 707: TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide transportation for students consistent with the requirements of law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Minnetonka School District recognizes that transportation is an essential part of the District's services to students and parents. It is the policy of the District to provide for the transportation of students in a manner which will protect their health, welfare and safety.

III. REGULATIONS

- A. Transportation by the District is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to the District's discipline policy. When a student's bus riding privileges are revoked the parent or guardian is responsible for the student's transportation to school. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Revocation procedures for a student who is an individual with a disability are governed by these provisions.
- B. Requests to modify the District's transportation policies or procedures will be carefully evaluated; taking into consideration student needs, the financial impact of the request, and the impact on existing District transportation procedures and practices.
- C. District responsibility for students begins when the child boards the bus for the start of the school day and ends when the child leaves the bus at the end of the school day.
 - 1. It is the legal obligation of parents/guardians to assume the supervision of students when walking either to or from the bus stop and home, at the bus stop, and to and from school and home.
 - 2. If a student, either eligible or ineligible for District transportation service, elects to walk to school, the District does not assume responsibility for the safety of the student when walking to and from school.

IV. RESIDENT ELIGIBILITY

- A. Two or More Miles from School: The District shall provide transportation to and from

the school in which they are enrolled, at the expense of the District, for all resident students who reside two miles or more from the school, except for those students whose transportation privileges have been revoked or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student's parent or guardian.

- B. Less Than Two Miles from School: Students who live less than two miles from the school in which they are enrolled are not eligible for free transportation under State law and will be required to pay a transportation fee set annually by the School Board.

Eligibility is determined by measuring the distance using the most direct route between the student's residence and the respective school of enrollment. Distances are electronically calculated with the assistance of the current bus routing software that incorporates detailed mapping capabilities. If the measurement is appealed, the District will re-measure the distance from the driveway of the school to the driveway of the student's residence using a global positioning system (GPS).

- C. "Fee for Service" Criteria and Rate Structure: Students who live less than two miles from the school to which they are assigned are required to pay a transportation fee set annually by the School Board.

Exceptions:

1. Bus service at the entire expense of the District will be provided to special education students who require transportation as part of their Individual Education Plan (IEP), who reside within the District boundaries and who receive special education services and riding a designated bus for students receiving such services will be transported at no charge. All students, including students receiving special education services who ride a bus not designated for transporting students who receive such services and reside less than two miles from school must pay a fee for bus service.
 2. Students who reside within the Minnetonka Middle School West (MMW) attendance area and are more than two miles from MMW, and have accepted the District's offer to attend Minnetonka Middle School East (MME), a transportation fee will not be assessed, even if the student's residence is within two miles of MME.
 3. Under the Optional Pupil Transfer (OPT), a pupil may be assigned by the Superintendent from the regularly assigned school to another school under the Optional Pupil Transfer (OPT) to achieve better class attendance.
 - a. The Superintendent will identify for possible reassignment, pupils who are located near adjacent borders or within areas which minimize transportation costs and/or disruption of multiple neighborhoods.
 - b. The District will provide transportation for OPT students.
- D. Adjustment for Ability to Pay: The bus fee will be waived for students who are eligible

for free or reduced price meals. If not eligible for free or reduced price meals, the District will consider an application to waive or reduce the transportation fee on a case-by-case basis. Special consideration will be given to students whose families are experiencing financial hardship.

E. Other Policy Considerations:

1. Non-Public Students: All students, both public and non-public, residing less than two miles from their school will be required to pay the transportation fee.
2. Bus Pass Required: A bus pass will be issued to each student paying for bus service and to each student residing two or more miles from school. A pass will be required to ride the bus.
3. Prorated Fees: Space will be reserved for students who purchase a bus pass. The fee will cover a full school year of service and will not be prorated if the student elects to not to ride the bus each day or to ride only partial days. If the student moves from the District prior to the start of the final quarter or a student begins service after the start of the first quarter of the year, a prorated refund or charge will be provided. There will be no reduced fee if the student starts before the beginning of the second quarter and no refund if the student withdraws after the start of the final quarter.
4. Ready Start Kindergarten: Eligibility for free transportation will be determined based on the distance from the student's residence and the school in which the Ready Start program is located. If the distance is two miles or more, free bus services will be provided. If the distance is less than two miles the parents will be required to pay a fee to ride the bus.

F. Parent Option Program: The Parent Option Program is an option which allows any parent or guardian to request that a student attend school at a District school other than that student's regularly assigned school.

1. The parent/guardian has the responsibility for the transportation of a POP student.
2. Students attending a District school under POP may use existing District transportation services on a space available basis. The District will not alter existing bus routes to travel into another attendance area to pick up a student enrolled under POP.
3. A fee will be assessed if the student's residence is less than two miles from the school the student is enrolled in under the POP program.

G. Kindergarten Transportation:

1. Kindergartners riding regular elementary school buses in the morning and afternoon will use the same bus stops as the first grade through fifth grade students.

2. Kindergartners riding mid-day buses either to or from school will be picked up/dropped off in front of their houses whenever possible. In the event that road configurations, time constraints or other factors make that impossible, the District will designate another nearby, safe location as the official bus stop.

V. TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULING PROVISIONS

The scheduling of routes, establishment of the location of bus stops, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of school children, the determination of fees, and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the School Board.

- A. **Delivery to School**—Under normal circumstances, students should be delivered to their schools five to fifteen minutes prior to the start of school. Shuttle buses that travel between schools may create an exception to this rule.
- B. **After School Delivery Runs**—Under normal circumstances, buses shall depart from the school within ten minutes of school dismissal.
- C. **Shuttle Runs**—Shuttle routes may be utilized to transport students from one school attendance area to another attendance area in order to expedite routes.
- D. **Bus Stops**—Whenever possible, bus stops will be located at a corner or intersection. Bus stops will be located to maximize bus route safety and efficiency.

1. Standard maximum walking distances for students to bus stop are as follows:

Grades K-5: 0.4 Mile
Grades 6-12: 0.6 Mile

Shorter walking distances may be afforded to students where possible, but the distances noted here may be used.

2. Location of bus stops shall take into consideration visibility of the bus stop from oncoming traffic, traffic flow, impact of seasonal variations, traffic conditions, construction activities, and ensuring the bus can safely navigate the street without a back-up maneuver.
- E. **School Bus Capacity**—Buses must adhere to the seating capacity limitations indicated on the vehicles.
- F. **Length of Ride**—Regular bus runs shall not exceed the following maximum riding times:
 1. Senior High School—45 minutes
 2. Middle Schools—35 minutes
 3. Elementary Schools—25 minutes
 4. Nonpublic Schools—45 minutes

5. Special Education within District—50 minutes
6. Special Education outside District—70 minutes

VI. NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION

A. Within School District

1. Equal Treatment—Students attending nonpublic schools shall receive equal, but not necessarily identical, transportation services as provided to public school students.
2. School Hours—The nonpublic school is responsible for coordinating its calendar and starting and dismissal times with those of the District. The District shall determine the times that students will be transported to non-public schools and the dates of such transportation. Non-public schools will be expected to conform with these decisions.
3. Bus Routes—When separate routes for public and non-public students are used, nonpublic school routes shall operate within the same parameters as the District's public school routes.

B. Outside the District

1. District residents whose child/children attend a state certified nonpublic school outside the District are eligible for limited transportation or reimbursement for transportation expenses.
2. The Superintendent will determine whether the District will provide the student with transportation services or financial reimbursement for other transportation services.
3. Option to Reimburse—When the District elects to reimburse the student for transportation costs, it is responsible only for costs incurred in transporting the student from his/her residence to the District boundary.

VII. VIDEOTAPING ON SCHOOL BUS

A. Placement

1. Each and every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the District shall be equipped with a fully-enclosed box for placement and operation of a video camera and conspicuously placed signs notifying riders that their conversations or actions may be recorded on tape.
2. A video camera will not necessarily be installed in every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the District, but cameras may be rotated from bus to bus without prior notice to students.
3. Video cameras will be placed on a particular school bus, to the extent possible, where the District has concerns about possible inappropriate behavior.

B. Use of Videotape

1. A videotape of the actions of student passengers may be used by the District as evidence in any disciplinary action brought against a student, arising out of the student's conduct on the bus.
2. Videotapes will be viewed by District personnel on a random basis and/or when behavior issues have been brought to the attention of the School District.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

- A. If it is determined to be within the best interests of the District to transport non-resident students from within the student's resident district such transportation shall be provided to a non-resident student at the same level of service that is provided to resident students.
- B. When divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately reside in different school districts and share physical custody of a student, the parents shall be responsible for the transportation of the student to the nearest bus stop within the Minnetonka School District during those times when the student is residing with the parent in the non-resident school district.

IX. TRANSPORTATION OF RESIDENT STUDENTS TO NON-DISTRICT SCHOOLS

In general, the Minnetonka Public School District shall not provide transportation between a resident student's home and the border of a nonresident district where the student attends school under the Enrollment Options Program. (Minn. Stat. § 124D.03, Subd. 8)

X. SPECIAL EDUCATION/DISABLED STUDENTS/STUDENTS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

- A. A resident student with a disability who is not yet enrolled in kindergarten, who requires special education services in a location other than the student's home, shall be provided transportation to and from the student's home at the expense of the District and shall not be subject to any distance requirement.
- B. Resident students who have disabilities who are transported on a special route for the purpose of attending an approved special education program shall be entitled to special transportation at the expense of the District. The District shall determine the type of vehicle used to transport students on the basis of the disability and applicable laws. This provision shall not be applicable to parents who transport their own child under a contract with the District.
- C. Resident students with disabilities who attend Minnesota state academies for educational purposes, but who also are enrolled in a public school within the District, shall be provided transportation, by the District to and from said facilities, at the expense of the District.

D. When a student with a disability or a student who has short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program located in another school district, and the student continues to live within the Minnetonka School District during the care and treatment, the Minnetonka School District shall provide transportation, at the expense of the Minnetonka School District, to that student.

1. Before the placement of a pupil for care and treatment, the district of residence must be notified and provided an opportunity to participate in the placement decision. . It is reasonable for the school district to refuse or delay transportation to a care and treatment program if the school district administration has been denied the opportunity to participate in the placement decision.

Reasonable Transportation Restrictions:

- a. Closer Facility: The District may refuse to transport a student to a care and treatment facility if another care and treatment facility is at least ten miles closer to the student's home and is sufficient to meet the needs of the student. The following exception applies: The District will provide transportation to the next closest facility that is covered by the student's insurer and has an opening if:
 - i) The student's parent or legal guardian submits written documentation to the District showing that the insurer has formally denied coverage for a requested placement at the closest facility or
 - ii) The student's parent or legal guardian submits written documentation to the District office showing that the closest facility has denied a requested placement.
- b. Ten Mile Radius: The District may refuse to transport a student to or from a care and treatment facility that is located more than ten (10) miles outside the District's geographic boundaries.
- c. Regular Operating Hours: The District may refuse to transport a student to or from a care and treatment facility outside the District's regular operating hours.
- d. Non School Days: The District is not responsible for and may not provide transportation when its schools are not in session. Transportation may be provided for students receiving special education services who will receive extended school year services.
- e. The District may limit the number of trips to two trips, in a given day, and will be based on the timing and location of the education services provided while the child is placed at care and treatment.

E. When a nonresident student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary

disability is temporarily placed in a residential program within the Minnetonka School District, including correctional facilities operated on a fee-for-service basis and state institutions, for care and treatment, the District shall provide the necessary transportation at the expense of the District. Where a joint powers entity enters into a contract with a privately owned and operated residential facility for the provision of education programs for students receiving special education services, the joint powers entity shall provide the necessary transportation.

- F. Any parent of a student with a disability who believes that the transportation services provided for that child are not in compliance with the applicable law may utilize the alternative dispute resolution and due process procedures provided for in Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A.
- G. Special transportation is provided within the student's enrollment area for that school or special program. If a student residing outside of the school district is accepted through open enrollment, the District may provide special transportation from the District's boundary area.

XI. DISTRICT 288 SECONDARY VOCATIONAL PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION

The District will provide and pay for shuttle service between Minnetonka High School and Southwest Metro Career and Technical Program locations for students enrolled in the District #288 Secondary Vocational Program.

XII. WORK EMPLOYMENT/COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (WE/CEP)

No transportation will be provided for pupils enrolled in WE/CEP, unless the program provides transportation funding.

XIII. UNHOUSED STUDENTS

- A. Unhoused students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to other students in the District.
- B. Upon request by the student's parent, guardian, or unhoused education liaison, the District shall provide transportation for an unhoused student as follows:
 - 1. A resident student who becomes unhoused and is residing in a shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the District shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter if the shelter is two or more miles from the school of origin and the student's transportation privileges have not been revoked.
 - 2. A resident student who becomes unhoused and is residing in a shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements outside of the Minnetonka School District shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter if the shelter location is two or more miles from the school of origin and the student's transportation privileges have not been revoked, unless the District and the school

district in which the student is temporarily placed agree that the school district in which the student is temporarily placed shall provide transportation.

XIV. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

A. Provided Transportation

Transportation shall be provided on all regularly scheduled school days or make-up days. Transportation will not be provided during the summer school break. Transportation may be provided for summer instructional programs for students with a disability or in conjunction with a learning year program. Transportation between home and school may also be provided, at the discretion of the District, on staff development days or other non-school days.

B. Field Trip Transportation

The District will provide free transportation services for field trips when the field trips are an integral part of a required course of study.

C. Interscholastic/Co-curricular/Community Education Activity Transportation

There is a broad variety of transportation needs associated with interscholastic/cocurricular activities/Community Education sponsored activities. Not all activities or programs have District-provided transportation. At the start of the program's activities, participants will be informed of the scope of District-provided transportation services.

D. Transportation of Students by Staff

Transportation of students by staff shall occur only when all criteria mandated by the state have been met, including licensing, and vehicle inspection. Transportation shall only be provided by social workers, assistant principals, and principals.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.59 (Bus Transportation is a Privilege Not a Right)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.59
Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent Minnetonka Public School Districts, Transportation)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.92 (Transportation Aid Entitlement)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.04 (Enrollment Options Programs in Border States)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Children With a Disability)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.02 (Children With a Disability, Defined)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.12 (Attendance in Another District)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.15 (Placement in Another District; Responsibility)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.51 (Placement of Children Without Disabilities; Education and Transportation)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.515 (Placement of Students; Approval of Education Program)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.65 (Attendance at Academies for the Deaf and Blind)
Minn. Stat. § 126C.01 (General Education Revenue - Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.47 (Payments to Resident and Nonresident Districts)
Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600 (Transporting Pupils with Disability)
42 USC § 11431, et seq. (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001)
42 USC § 12132 (Americans With Disabilities Act)
Cross References:
Policy 506: Student Discipline and Code of Conduct
Policy 535: Students: Assignment to Schools
Policy 709: Student Transportation Safety

Adopted: May 4, 2006
Reviewed: May 25, 2023
Approved: June 1, 2023
Reviewed: February 19, 2026

DISCUSSION

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Study Session Agenda Item #3

Title: Discussion on 2026 Legislative Position Statements February 19, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Board reviewed the draft 2026 Legislative Position Statements document at its November study session and December regular meeting. The document focuses on the need for the Legislature to provide sufficient funding for key funding formulas that are the backbone of programmatic stability for the District. We have also added additional interest areas that we will monitor based on our community feedback, Board goals and AMSD priorities.

If the District is not successful at the Legislature in getting the Operating Referendum Cap increased, it will only be able to rely on the limited funding increases available annually from the State of Minnesota, and that will be detrimental to being able to maintain all current programming offerings to 2030 and beyond.

Success in the 2026 Legislature in getting these initiatives enacted into law is critically important to maintaining the programs the District is operating in FY26 into FY27 and beyond.

ATTACHMENTS:

2026 Draft Legislative Position Statements

Submitted by: _____



David Law, Superintendent

MINNETONKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 276

2026 LEGISLATIVE POSITION STATEMENTS

Background

- The average Minnesota school district receives \$2,194 more per pupil than Minnetonka ISD 276 – 21% more per pupil than Minnetonka ISD 276
 - Average Minnesota district \$12,448 per pupil
 - Minnetonka ISD 276 \$10,254 per pupil
 - 320th out of 329 school districts in State Aid per pupil
- A decade ago the average Minnesota school district received \$1,287 more per pupil than Minnetonka ISD 276 – 16% more per pupil than Minnetonka ISD 276
 - Average 2015 Minnesota district \$9,114 per pupil
 - Average 2015 Minnetonka ISD 276 \$7,827 per pupil

2026 Legislative Platform Planks

Increase Local Optional Revenue by \$255 per pupil to restore lost purchasing power

- Funding has been frozen for a decade
- Would benefit all districts
- Third tier with no state equalization – local control
- Minnetonka ISD 276 impact - \$3,200,000 annually

Restore \$300 per pupil Operating Referendum Cap capacity taken away from Minnetonka ISD 276 in 2019

- Other school districts received \$300 per pupil in new money
- Minnetonka ISD 276 had \$300 shifted off of Operating Referendum to another funding formula – shift of funding but no additional money
- Referendum Cap was lowered to prevent Minnetonka ISD 276 from asking local populace for \$300 per pupil to get the same additional dollars as other school districts were merely awarded
- Minnetonka ISD 276 impact - \$3,800,000 annually

Increase the Special Education Cross Subsidy by an Additional 4% to 54%

- Special Education Cross Subsidy is scheduled to go up by 6% for FY27
- Special Education costs continue to increase faster than inflation
- Additional 4% for 10% increase in FY27 would benefit all districts
- Minnetonka ISD 276 impact - \$500,000 annually

Additional Interest Areas:

- Support for community-led student mental health efforts
- Support and emphasis on student experiential learning opportunities
- Discussions about student technology use in schools, including the use of AI



DISCUSSION

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Study Session Agenda Item #4

**Title: Discussion on Board Goal of Long-Term Financial
Stability and Enrollment Adjustment Considerations February 19, 2026**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Minnetonka School Board has a School Board Goal to ensure Long-Term Financial Stability. This Goal suggests a variety of strategies to implement including advocating for legislative change so that the District can ask for voter support for additional funding or use Board authority to raise the Local Optional Revenue, advocate for an larger increase in the per pupil funding, make reductions to expenditures, and make adjustments to the enrollment target to support a balanced budget. The Board has also prioritized maintaining a stable fund balance. As the state considers how to address a budget deficit for the upcoming fiscal biennium, it appears that legislative support to address our financial challenges is uncertain at best. With this in mind, and hoping to avoid additional cuts to staff and programs, District Administration is proposing an increase in the enrollment target, tiered over the next two years, which if successful will delay the need for additional cuts temporarily. The new proposed targets and financial impact were shared with the Board at their study session in January and their February regular meeting.

The Board will discuss this further at their February study session, including additional Board ideas to address community concerns related to increasing enrollment.

Submitted by: _____



David Law, Superintendent

INFORMATION

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Study Session Agenda Item #5

Title: Review of Proposed FY27 Health & Dental Insurance Premiums February 19, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Minnetonka Independent School District 276 has been self-insured for employee health and dental insurance since July 1, 2002. Self-Insurance for health and dental benefits means the District has its own plan for health and dental benefits, and then contracts out third party administration for the adjudication of claims. Premiums are contributed by employees out of the bi-weekly paychecks and by matching amounts from their fringe benefits compensation.

The School Board are the Trustees of the Self-Insurance Fund. There is a self-insurance advisory committee made up of representatives of all the employee groups of the District. This body makes recommendations to the School Board on annual premium levels and plan benefit levels for the School Board to consider when they are setting the annual premium rates and any plan design changes.

The Self-Insurance Fund has been very beneficial to both the District and employees. Since its inception, annual premium increases have averaged 4.15% over the first 24 years of the Self-Insurance Fund.

In FY25, the Self-Insurance Fund finished the year at a small \$382,543 surplus, with a cash balance of \$9,036,871 and a fund balance after liability accruals of \$6,545,471.

In FY26, claims have increased across the board with pulmonary, orthopedic and psychiatry claims accounting for the three highest claim categories. GLP-1 use for non-diabetes conditions is also accelerating at a 58% increase over FY25.

For FY27, Medical Trend (the term used in the medical industry for medical inflation) is running at 9.2% and Pharmacy Trend (the term used in the medical industry for prescription inflation) is running at 11.0%.

CBIZ Actuaries have calculated that for the Minnetonka ISD 276 Self-Insurance Plan, based on the experience rates of the prior 24 months of actual claims and prescriptions generated by it is necessary to increase Medical Plan rates by 11.0% to break-even operations in FY26.

This is 1.8% above the national trend this year with the bulk of that being accounted for by the increase in GLP-1 prescriptions.

For the Dental Plan, the Dental Trend is running at 4.5%.

CBIZ Actuaries have calculated that for the Minnetonka ISD 276 Self-Insurance Plan it is necessary to increase Dental Plan rates by 2.84% to continue break-even operations in FY27.

Rates for FY27 are proposed as follows:

Base Plan Perform Network	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$989	\$1,098	\$109
Employee + 1	\$1,682	\$1,868	\$186
Family	\$2,363	\$2,623	\$260
VEBA HRA Plan Open Access	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$916	\$1,017	\$101
Employee + 1	\$1,559	\$1,731	\$172
Family	\$2,190	\$2,431	\$241
HD HSA Plan Open Access	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$823	\$869	\$87
Employee + 1	\$1,400	\$1,477	\$147
Family	\$1,969	\$2,047	\$206
Smart Care HD HSA Care Lane	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$745	\$786	\$78
Employee + 1	\$1,264	\$1,334	\$133
Family	\$1,778	\$1,875	\$186

Dental Plan	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$50	\$52	\$2
Family	\$122	\$126	\$4

The Self-Insurance Advisory Committee met on February 9, 2026 to review these options and voted unanimously to recommend to the School Board that for FY27 medical premiums be increased 11.0%, and dental premiums be increased 2.84%.

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

The proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Health and Dental Insurance Premiums are presented for the School Board's review.

Submitted by: 
Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance & Operations

Concurrence: 
David Law, Superintendent

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Board Agenda Item III.

Title: Approval of Proposed FY27 Health & Dental Insurance Premiums February 19, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Minnetonka Independent School District 276 has been self-insured for employee health and dental insurance since July 1, 2002. Self-Insurance for health and dental benefits means the District has its own plan for health and dental benefits, and then contracts out third party administration for the adjudication of claims. Premiums are contributed by employees out of the bi-weekly paychecks and by matching amounts from their fringe benefits compensation.

The School Board are the Trustees of the Self-Insurance Fund. There is a self-insurance advisory committee made up of representatives of all the employee groups of the District. This body makes recommendations to the School Board on annual premium levels and plan benefit levels for the School Board to consider when they are setting the annual premium rates and any plan design changes.

The Self-Insurance Fund has been very beneficial to both the District and employees. Since its inception, annual premium increases have averaged 4.15% over the first 24 years of the Self-Insurance Fund.

In FY25, the Self-Insurance Fund finished the year at a small \$382,543 surplus, with a cash balance of \$9,036,871 and a fund balance after liability accruals of \$6,545,471.

In FY26, claims have increased across the board with pulmonary, orthopedic and psychiatry claims accounting for the three highest claim categories. GLP-1 use for non-diabetes conditions is also accelerating at a 58% increase over FY25.

For FY27, Medical Trend (the term used in the medical industry for medical inflation) is running at 9.2% and Pharmacy Trend (the term used in the medical industry for prescription inflation) is running at 11.0%.

CBIZ Actuaries have calculated that for the Minnetonka ISD 276 Self-Insurance Plan, based on the experience rates of the prior 24 months of actual claims and prescriptions generated by it is necessary to increase Medical Plan rates by 11.0% to break-even operations in FY26.

This is 1.8% above the national trend this year with the bulk of that being accounted for by the increase in GLP-1 prescriptions.

For the Dental Plan, the Dental Trend is running at 4.5%.

CBIZ Actuaries have calculated that for the Minnetonka ISD 276 Self-Insurance Plan it is necessary to increase Dental Plan rates by 2.84% to continue break-even operations in FY27.

Rates for FY27 are proposed as follows:

Base Plan Perform Network	FY26	FY27	Change
Employee	\$989	\$1,098	\$109
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Employee	\$50	\$52	\$2
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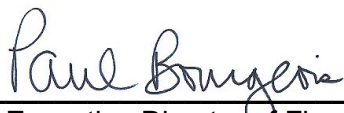
The Self-Insurance Advisory Committee met on February 9, 2026 to review these options and voted unanimously to recommend to the School Board that for FY27 medical premiums be increased 11.0%, and dental premiums be increased 2.84%.

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

It is recommended that the School Board approved the Fiscal Year 2027 Health and Dental Insurance Premiums as presented.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 does hereby set Health Insurance Premium rates for the Self-Insurance Trust Fund for Fiscal Year 2027 at an increase of 11.00% for Health Insurance Premiums over Fiscal Year 2026 rates, and does hereby set the Dental Insurance Premium rates for Fiscal Year 2027 at an increase of 2.84% for Dental Insurance Premiums over Fiscal Year 2026 rates.

Submitted by: 
Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance & Operations

Concurrence: 
David Law, Superintendent

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Board Agenda Item IV.

**Title: Authorization to Sell 2026B General Obligation
Refunding Bonds**

February 19, 2026

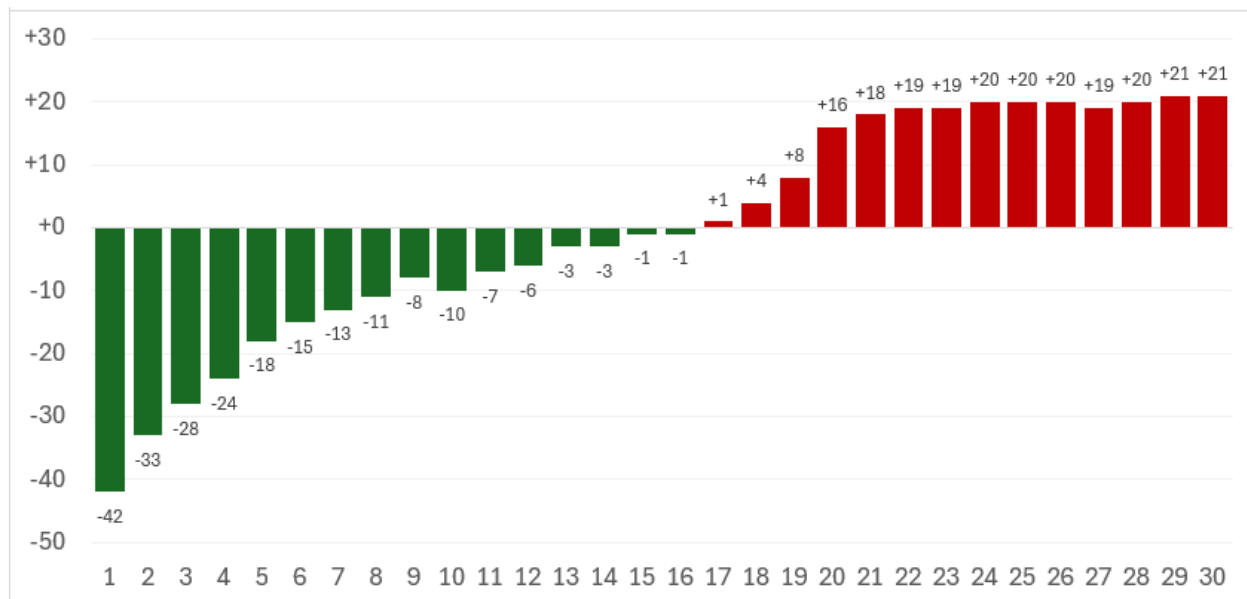
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Minnetonka Independent School District 276 has a practice of constantly monitoring its existing portfolio of General Obligation bonds and Certificates of Participation Bonds for opportunities to refund them and lower outstanding principal, lower interest rates, and lower the annual payments as appropriate.

Since 2008, the District has undertaken 50 refunding transactions that has saved taxpayers a cumulative \$26,799,556. In 2021, just as inflation was starting and it looked like interest rates would be rising, the District refunded 15 of its outstanding GO Bond and COP Bond issues utilizing 10 refunding transactions while interest rates were still low, saving taxpayers \$2,322,896.

For the past several years interest rates have remained elevated so refunding opportunities have been fewer than in prior years, but we have continued to monitor all of our bonds so that we are ready to strike when the iron is hot, as they say in the blacksmith trade.

The bond interest rate curve has declined significantly on the near term or “short” end of the interest rate curve as noted in the following graphic showing recent basis point declines in green or increases in red.



At this point in time, the 2015B, 2017B and 2019C Long Term Facilities Maintenance Bonds are “in the green” for refunding. Of note, the 2017B bonds are themselves refunding of Long Term Facilities Maintenance Bonds from 2008 and 2010, so we are in fact “getting a second bite of the apple” to lower costs even further from those original 2008 and 2010 bonds.

The resolution authorizes us to bundle the remaining coupons from the 2015B, 2017B and 2019C Long Term Facilities Maintenance Bonds totaling \$15,165,000 and refund them with one 2020B Long Term Facilities Maintenance Refunding Bond of \$13,865,000.

The estimated benefits of the transaction include lowering of the outstanding bond principal by \$1,300,000, dropping the interest rate from an average of 3.68% on the existing coupons to 3.11% on the 2026B coupons, and lowering the annual payments by a total of \$500,372.71 from FY27 through FY39, or \$38,490 annually.

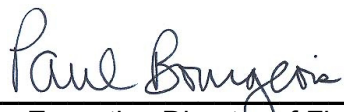
The attached resolution to authorize the sale of \$13,865,000 in 2026B General Obligation Refunding Bonds was prepared by the District’s bond counsel Dorsey & Whitney.

ATTACHMENTS

RESOLUTION RELATING TO GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026B; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS AND ANY BOARD OFFICER TO AWARD THE SALE THEREOF AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAID AWARD AND SALE

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

It is recommended that the School Board approve the Authorizing Resolution as prepared by Dorsey & Whitney.

Submitted by: 
Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance & Operations

Concurrence: 
David Law, Superintendent

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO
GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026B

Issuer: Independent School District No. 276 (Minnetonka), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

Kind, date, time and place of meeting: A special meeting held on February 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
at the School District offices in Minnetonka, Minnesota.

Members present:

Members absent:

Documents attached:

Minutes of said meeting (including):

RESOLUTION RELATING TO GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026B; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS AND ANY BOARD OFFICER TO AWARD THE SALE THEREOF AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAID AWARD AND SALE

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation issuing the bonds referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto, as described above, have been carefully compared with the original records of said corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the governing body of said corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting, so far as they relate to said bonds; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body at the time and place and was attended throughout by the members indicated above, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer on this 19th day of February, 2026.

School District Deputy Clerk

Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member _____:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026B; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS AND ANY BOARD OFFICER TO AWARD THE SALE THEREOF AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAID AWARD AND SALE

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 276 (Minnetonka), Minnesota (the District), as follows:

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION. This Board hereby authorizes the issuance and sale of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2026B (the Bonds) in an amount not to exceed \$15,165,000 (the Bonds). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used, together with any funds of the District which might be required, to current refund: (i) the 2028 through 2034 maturities aggregating \$1,460,000 in principal amount of the District's General Obligation Alternative Facilities Refunding Bonds, Series 2015B, issued in the original principal amount of \$1,765,000 and dated as of January 6, 2015, (ii) the 2027 through 2038 maturities, aggregating \$9,660,000 in principal amount of the District's General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017B, issued in the original principal amount of \$14,415,000 and dated as of November 3, 2017, (iii) the 2027 through 2039 maturities, aggregating \$4,045,000 in principal amount of the District's General Obligation Alternative Facilities Refunding Bonds, Series 2019C, issued in the original principal amount of \$5,370,000 and dated as of April 2, 2019; and to pay costs associated with the issuance of the Bonds. The refunding is being undertaken to achieve debt service savings.

SECTION 2. APPROVAL OF SALE OF THE BONDS. The Board desires to proceed with the sale of Bonds by direct negotiation to Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Baird). The Superintendent or Executive Director of Finance and Operations and any Board officer are hereby authorized to approve the sale of the Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$15,165,000 and to execute a bond purchase agreement for the purchase of the Bonds with Baird, provided that the true interest cost does not exceed 3.60%.

SECTION 3. ADOPTION OF APPROVING RESOLUTIONS. Upon approval of the sale of the Bonds by the Superintendent or Executive Director of Finance and Operations and any Board officer, the Board will take action at an upcoming regularly scheduled or special meeting to adopt the necessary approving resolutions as prepared by the District's bond counsel.

SECTION 4. STATE CREDIT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM. (a) The District hereby covenants and obligates itself to notify the Commissioner of Education of the State of Minnesota (the Commissioner) of a potential default in the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds and to use the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to guarantee payment of the principal and interest on the Bonds when due. The District further covenants to deposit with the Registrar or any successor paying agent three (3) days prior to the date on which a payment is due an amount sufficient to make that payment or to notify the Commissioner that it will be unable to make all or a portion of that payment. The Registrar for the Bonds is authorized and directed to notify the Commissioner if it becomes aware of a potential default in the payment of principal or interest on the Bonds or if, on the day two (2) business days prior to the date a payment is due on the Bonds, there are insufficient funds to make that payment on deposit with the Registrar.

The District understands that as a result of its covenant to be bound by the provision of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, the provisions of that section shall be binding as long as any Bonds of this issue remain outstanding.

(b) The District further covenants to comply with all procedures now and hereafter established by the Departments of Management and Budget and Education of the State of Minnesota pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, subdivision 2(c) and otherwise to take such actions as necessary to comply with that section. The Chair, Vice Chair, Deputy Clerk, Superintendent or Executive Director of Finance and Operations is authorized to execute any applicable Minnesota Department of Education forms.

SECTION 5. OFFICIAL STATEMENT. Baird is authorized to prepare and distribute an Official Statement related to the sale of the Bonds.

SECTION 6. EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY. If the Superintendent or Executive Director of Finance and Operations and any Board officer have not approved the sale of the Bonds to Baird and executed the related bond purchase agreement by December 31, 2026, this resolution shall expire.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**SCHOOL BOARD
Minnetonka I.S.D. 276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

Board Agenda Item V.

**Title: Authorization to Sell 2026C Certificates of Participation
Refunding Bonds**

February 19, 2026

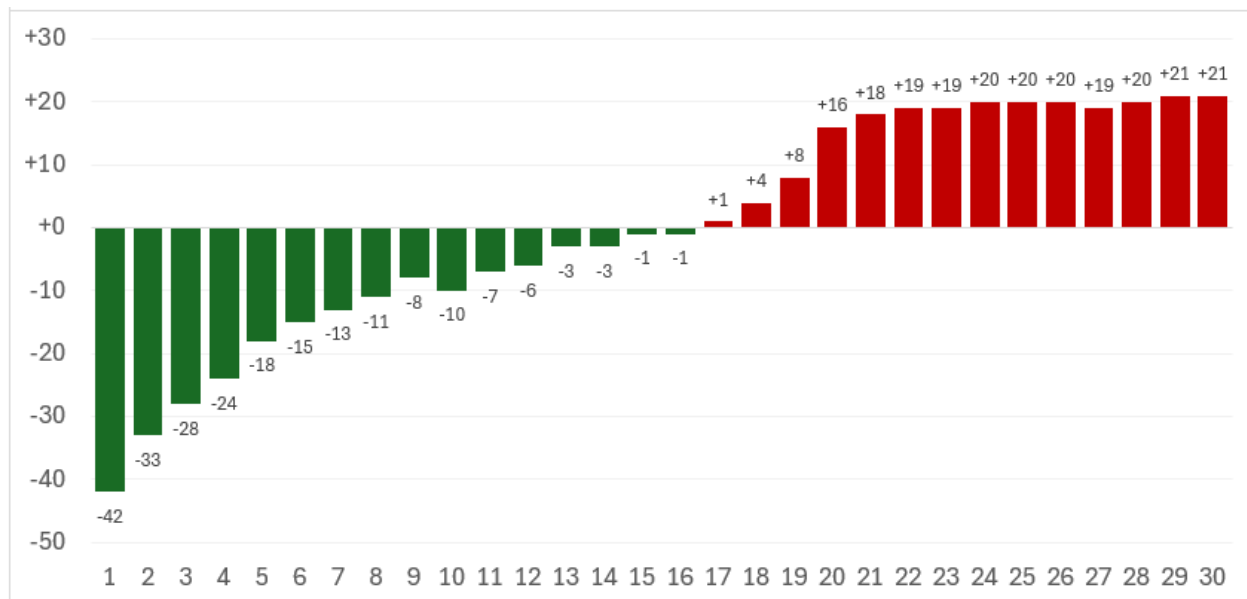
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Minnetonka Independent School District 276 has a practice of constantly monitoring its existing portfolio of General Obligation bonds and Certificates of Participation Bonds for opportunities to refund them and lower outstanding principal, lower interest rates, and lower the annual payments as appropriate.

Since 2008, the District has undertaken 50 refunding transactions that has saved taxpayers a cumulative \$26,799,556. In 2021, just as inflation was starting and it looked like interest rates would be rising, the District refunded 15 of its outstanding GO Bond and COP Bond issues utilizing 10 refunding transactions while interest rates were still low, saving taxpayers \$2,322,896.

For the past several years interest rates have remained elevated so refunding opportunities have been fewer than in prior years, but we have continued to monitor all of our bonds so that we are ready to strike when the iron is hot, as they say in the blacksmith trade.

The bond interest rate curve has declined significantly on the near term or “short” end of the interest rate curve as noted in the following graphic showing recent basis point declines in green or increases in red.



At this point in time, the 2017A, 2017C, 2018B and 2018D Certificates of Participation Bonds are “in the green” for refunding. Of note, the 2017C Certificates of Participation Bonds are themselves refunding of 2010E Certificates of Participation Bonds for construction of Secure Entries, so we are in fact “getting a second bite of the apple” to lower costs even further from those original 2010 bonds.

The resolution authorizes us to bundle the remaining coupons from the 2017A, 2017C, 2018B and 2018D Certificates of Participation Bonds totaling \$5,580,000 and refund them with one 2026C Certificates of Participation Bond of \$5,140,000.

The estimated benefits of the transaction include lowering of the outstanding bond principal by \$440,000, dropping the interest rate from an average of 4.62% on the existing coupons to 3.66% on the 2026C coupons, and lowering the annual payments by a total of \$311,295.91 from FY27 through FY42, or \$19,016 annually.

The attached resolution to authorize the sale of \$5,140,000 in 2026C General Obligation Refunding Bonds was prepared by the District’s bond counsel Dorsey & Whitney.

ATTACHMENTS

RESOLUTION RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE REFINANCING THEREOF; SETTING PARAMETERS FOR THE AWARD OF A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND THE SALE OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION THEREIN

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

It is recommended that the School Board approve the Authorizing Resolution as prepared by Dorsey & Whitney.

Submitted by: 
Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance & Operations

Concurrence: 
David Law, Superintendent

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND
CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION

Issuer: Independent School District No. 276 (Minnetonka), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

Kind, date, time and place of meeting: A special meeting held February 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the school district offices located at 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota, or by electronic means, as authorized by law.

Members present:

Members absent:

Documents Attached: Excerpt of minutes of the above-described meeting relating to the resolution described below.

RESOLUTION RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY AND
IMPROVEMENTS AND THE REFINANCING THEREOF; SETTING
PARAMETERS FOR THE AWARD OF A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT
AND THE SALE OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION THEREIN

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation issuing the obligations referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto have been carefully compared with the original records of said public corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the portion of the minutes of a meeting of the governing body of said public corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting, so far as they relate to said obligations; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body of the public corporation at the time and place indicated above and attended throughout by the members of the governing body in a number sufficient to legally transact business, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer on February ____, 2026.

Deputy Clerk

EXCERPT OF MINUTES

Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member _____:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE REFINANCING THEREOF; SETTING PARAMETERS FOR THE AWARD OF A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND THE SALE OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION THEREIN

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the "Board") of the Independent School District No. 276 (Minnetonka), Minnesota (the "District"), as follows:

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY; PURPOSE. The District is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 465.71, to execute lease-purchase agreements for the purpose of financing or refinancing real and personal property. This Board hereby finds it in the best interest of the District to enter into a Lease-Purchase Agreement (the "Lease") and issue certificates of participation therein (the "Certificates") for the purpose of (i) prepaying those certain Lease-Purchase Agreements dated as of July 1, 2017; November 1, 2017; July 1, 2018; and October 1, 2018, between the District and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as successor to Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee, and refinancing the District's outstanding Certificates of Participation, Series 2017A; Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2017C; Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2018B; and Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2018D (collectively, the "Refunded Certificates") issued to finance and refinance the improvement and equipping of District properties (the "Project"), and (ii) financing costs of issuing the Lease and Certificates. The Refunded Certificates were issued for the purpose of financing the construction of a gymnasium at Groveland Elementary School in the District, and refinancing the District's then outstanding Certificates of Participation, Series 2010E; Certificates of Participation, Series 2008H; and Certificates of Participation, Series 2011B.

SECTION 2. AWARD AUTHORIZATION; AWARD PARAMETERS; FINAL APPROVAL; NOT BINDING. In order to accomplish the purposes set forth above, the Board desires to proceed with the marketing and sale of the Certificates in the Lease by negotiated public offering to Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Baird"). The Superintendent or Executive Director of Finance and Operations of the District, and a Board officer (together, the "Award Committee"), are hereby authorized to approve the award of the Lease and sale of the Certificates in the Lease in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5,580,000, provided that the true interest cost of the Lease and Certificates to the District is less than or equal to 4.26% per annum. Any member of the Award Committee is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Baird for the sale of Certificates provided the foregoing parameters are satisfied. *An award by the Award Committee will be binding upon the District;* however, after receipt of proposals satisfying the parameters set forth in the preceding sentence and award by the Award Committee, the Board will take action at its next regularly scheduled meeting or a special meeting to adopt an approving resolution as prepared by counsel to the District, Dorsey & Whitney LLP ("Dorsey"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the adoption of this resolution alone shall not be deemed to establish any obligation on the part of the District to approve the award of the Lease or the sale of the Certificates or to enter into the Lease or to cause the Certificates to be issued therein.

SECTION 3. PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT; LEGAL DOCUMENTS; ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY. Baird, on behalf of the District, and employees and officers of the District, are hereby authorized to prepare and distribute a preliminary official statement (the

"Preliminary Official Statement") related to the Project, the Lease and the sale of the Certificates therein. Any member of the Award Committee shall deem the Preliminary Official Statement substantially final in accordance with applicable federal securities laws. The Award Committee is hereby further authorized to review and approve the distribution of any addenda or supplements to the Preliminary Official Statement which are useful or necessary in connection with the marketing and sale of the Certificates. Dorsey is hereby authorized to prepare forms of the Lease and the Certificates and other related legal agreements, documents, instruments and certificates as may be necessary or appropriate. Baird, Dorsey and employees and officers of the District are hereby authorized to take any additional actions, including, but not limited to, the negotiation and execution of documents or the engagement of other third-parties, as may be useful or necessary in connection with the Project, the Lease or the Certificates.

SECTION 4. NATURE OF DISTRICT'S OBLIGATIONS. The Lease and the obligations of the District thereunder will be special, limited obligations of the District, subject to termination at the end of each fiscal year in the event the Board does not appropriate funds sufficient to continue the same for the following fiscal year. The full faith and credit and ability of the District to levy ad valorem taxes without limitation as to rate or amount are not pledged to the payment of the Lease or any obligation of the District thereunder or under the documents relating thereto.

SECTION 5. EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY. If an agreement with Baird for the sale of Certificates has not been entered into by December 31, 2026, this resolution and all approvals hereunder shall expire.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.