

March 18, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on March 18, 2026 in the High School Auditorium. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Polcher, Gabardi, Galatz, Chair Berklich and Student Director Sam Hardy.

Members Absent: Director Egan

Chair Berklich added the addendum to go into closed session and to adopt the Resolution regarding final offer for settlement between I.S.D. No. 701 and AFSCME Local 480 for the 2025-2027 collective bargaining agreement.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to go into closed session at 3:31 p.m. to discuss AFSCME Negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

#### OPEN SESSION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to go into open session at 3:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

#### ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Chair Berklich, supported by Director Polcher to adopt the Resolution regarding final offer to settlement between I.S.D. No. 701 and AFSCME Local 480 for the 2025-2027 collective bargaining agreement. A roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Gabardi, Polcher, Chair Berklich, Directors McLaughlin, Galatz

Against: None

Absent: Director Egan

Whereupon this Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted on March 18, 2026.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

Student Director Sam Hardy gave an update on teams going to state, Band received superior rating, Key Club, choir concert on March 19, talent show March 23 and Prom on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Administrators and Staff:

Mr. Robert Bestul, Greenhaven Elementary Principal gave an update on the Greenhaven Action Plan.

Mr. Derek Gabardi, High School Principal and Ms. Jen Toewe, Assistant High School Principal gave an update on Personal Learning Plans, Naviance CCLR and 25-26 school year recap.

Committee Report: None

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the March 3, 2026 Special Meeting, March 4, 2026 Regular Meeting and the following for the month of February, 2026: Consideration of Claims in the amount of \$2,106,009.06. Electronic Fund Transfers in the amount of \$1,244,967.26. Treasurer's and Investment Reports and Payrolls in the amount of \$1,928,368.58. Accept the resignation from Lisa Aldrich, data specialist, effective March 7, 2026. Approve the hiring of Thomas Bittmann as an assistant golf co-coach, effective March 16, 2026. Approve the hiring of Darrell Zieske as an assistant golf co-coach, effective March 16, 2026. Approve the hiring of Terri Frider to Job #60 pupil support assistant, 30 hours per week, Washington Elementary, effective March 19, 2026. Approve the internal transfer of Pam Reini from Business Manager's Secretary to Superintendent's Secretary within the Confidential Unit, effective April 27, 2026. Approve the internal transfer of Jamee Waters from Office Assistant/Student Enrollment to Business Manager's Secretary within the Confidential Unit, effective April 27, 2026. Approve the hiring of Stephanie Wesley as a 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' head track and field coach, effective March 16, 2026.

**Administrative Business:**

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR DONATIONS

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

APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN I.S.D. NO. 701 AND RANGE CENTER FOR DAPE CLASSES, EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chari Berklich to approve the contract between I.S.D. No. 701 and Range Center for DAPE Classes, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT A PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT FOR THE CTE BOILER BUILDING RENOVATION AT THE HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Superintendent to execute on behalf of the District a Project Labor Agreement for the CTE Boiler Building Renovation at the Hibbing High School. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

Acting Superintendent McDonald provide a financial update and building reconfiguration.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

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JEFF POLCHER, CLERK