

April 8, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on April 8, 2026, in the High School Auditorium. Members present: Directors Polcher, Gabardi, Egan, Galatz, Chair Berklich and Student Director Sam Hardy.

Members Absent: Director McLaughlin

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

Molly Johnsrud - Greenhaven School Closure

Kelle Degnan – Greenhaven Sale

Administrative Reports: None

Directors / Student Director: None

Administrators and Staff: None

Committee Report: None

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the March 18, 2026 Regular Meeting, March 26, 2026 and March 30, 2026 Special Meetings and the following: Approve the 2026 spring coaches list. Approve the hiring of Savanna Mellesmoen to Job #60 Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours per week, Greenhaven Elementary, effective April 9, 2026. Approve the hiring of Sarah Houtkooper as a summer school teacher, grades 9-12, 60 hours, Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. effective June 15 – July 23, 2026, contingent upon summer school numbers. Approve the hiring of Kris Lindstrom as a summer school teacher, grades 9-12, 60 hours, Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. effective June 15 – July 23, 2026, contingent upon summer school numbers. Approve the hiring of Amy Mandt as a head girls' volleyball coach, effective August 17, 2026. Posting and Transfers for the month of March, 2026: None.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT THE RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions.

1.0 FTE	Elementary Principal
1.0 FTE	Special Education
1.0 FTE	English
1.0 FTE	Social Studies
1.0 FTE	Media Technology Instructor
1.0 FTE	School Readiness
.4 FTE	Science
.4 FTE	Community Education Director

Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to adopt the Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teacher Contract of M'Kayla Kessler, a Probationary Teacher at the close of the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to adopt the Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teacher Contract of Elisha Otonichar, a Probationary Teacher at the close of the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Matthew Anderson on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of 1.0 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 3, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Jennifer Hiltner on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of 1.0 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 3, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Ryan Olson on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of 1.0 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 3, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Shannon Rocco on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of .4 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 3, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Megan Zubich on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of 1.0 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 3, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to adopt the Resolution Proposing to place Kirk Lewis on unrequested leave of absence without pay or benefits to the extent of .4 FTE effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year on June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT THE RESOLUTION ELIMINATING POSITIONS AND LAYING OFF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES IN AFSCME BARGAINING UNIT AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the Resolution eliminating positions and laying off certain employees in AFSCME bargaining unit as presented.

- (1) LPN, 30 hours per week, Greenhaven – effective June 2, 2026
- (1) Administrative Assistant, Category A – 11 month, Greenhaven Elementary-effective June 12, 2026
- (1) Fireman Custodian, Day Shift, Greenhaven Elementary-effective June 12, 2026
- (1) Fireman Custodian, Afternoon Shift, Greenhaven Elementary-effective June 12, 2026
- (1) Custodian, Day Shift, 5 a.m.-1:30 p.m. High School-effective May 29, 2026
- (1) Custodian, 16 hours Sat/Sun, Districtwide-effective June 8, 2026
- (1) 0.4 Electrician, Districtwide-effective May 29, 2026
- (1) 0.4 Plumber, Districtwide-effective immediately
- (1) Speech Language Pathologist Asst, 30 hours per week, Districtwide, effective June 2, 2026
- (1) Resource Room Supervisor, 15 hours per week, Lincoln Middle School, effective June 2, 2026

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR PK-12 STUDENTS ON MAY 29, 2026 TO ALLOW TIME FOR STAFF TO MOVE OUT OF CLASSROOMS DUE TO REALIGNMENT.

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher to approve the last day of school for Pk-12 students on May 29, 2026 to allow time for staff to move out of classrooms due to realignment. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE TO ELIMINATE THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFFING COORDINATOR, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2026

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Egan to eliminate the position of executive assistant to the superintendent and staffing coordinator, effective June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

Acting Superintendent McDonald discussed reconfiguration update and end of the year timeline.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK