

ISD #314
Isanti, Pine, Chisago,
& Kanabec Counties
Braham, MN 55006

AGENDA
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 15, 2025
6:00pm – BAHS Community Room
Greeter - John Swanson

1. Regular meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Adopt Agenda.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve the minutes of the November 17th Regular Board Meeting.
 - b. Approve the November/ December bills.
 - c. Review and accept the November Treasurer’s report.
 - d. Enrollment Analysis.
 - e. Personnel.
4. Open Forum.
5. Consider the proposed Final 2025 Payable 2026 District 314 Property Tax Levy, Truth-in-Taxation.
6. Expenditure / Revenue Fund Summary Report..
7. Acknowledgement of Donations, Contributions & Fundraising.
8. Elementary Principal’s report.
9. High School Principal - Activities Director report.
10. Flight 707 Principal’s Update
11. Superintendent’s Report.
12. Acknowledge Braham “HONORS” Recipients.
13. Student Council Representative’s report.
14. School Board members’ reports/updates.
15. Review Buildings & Grounds Report.
16. Consider approval of the 26/27 School Calendar.
17. Consider RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR.
18. Consider approval of Flight 707 BEA MOA.
19. Consider approval of Flight 707 SEIU MOU.
20. Consider approval of PFML information.
21. Consider cycle review of district policies for adoption.
22. Reminder of Upcoming Meetings.
23. Adjourn.

1. **Meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Roll Call.

2. **Adopt agenda.**

3. **Consent Agenda:**

Ind. School District No. 314
Isanti, Pine, Chisago & Kanabec Counties
Braham, MN 55006

Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2025
6:00 pm BAHS B100
Greeter: David Shockman

The regular school board meeting was called to order by Chair Allison Londgren at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: - A. Londgren, J. Swanson, K. Hagfors, C. Gelle, M. Eklund, D. Shockman, R. Dahlquist and Supt. Gagner, Absent: None.

Motion by C. Gelle, second by M. Eklund to adopt the agenda. Carried.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by K. Hagfors to approve the minutes of the October 20th Regular Board Mtg., and October 27th Working board mtg. Approve the October/November 2025 bills of \$286,426.20. The Board approved the following: 1) **Lauren Kiesz, Sam Olson, and Lori Auers** for the Bomber Boost teacher positions. Start date was November 4, 2025 through February 26, 2026. They will be paid \$35/hr., working Tuesdays & Thursdays for 2.5 hrs/day with 2 hours planning before class starts. 2) **Sara Neitzel** for the ECSE para position. Start date was November 4, 2025. She will be paid step 4 per the para scale. 3) **Megan Karolevitz** for the Math Masters advisor position. Start date will be Fall 2025. She will be paid the \$1,000 stipend. 4) **Tom Kingsland** as a volunteer girls basketball coach for the 25/26 season. 5) **Nicole Sheridan** leave from October 27, 2025 through approximately November 10, 2025. 6) **Sam Olson** lane request for BA+10 to BA+20. The advance will take effect in the first semester of the 2025/26 School year. 7) **Brooke Hohn** lane request for MA+10 to MA+20. The advance will take effect in the second semester of the 2025/26 School year. The board accepted resignation from **Brittany Lindgren** effective November 13, 2025. Carried.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by K. Hagfors to accept the FY 2025 School District Audit Report as presented by District Auditors Burkhardt & Burkhardt.

Open Forum: None.

Motion by K. Hagfors, second by C. Gelle to approve the Expenditure/Revenue Fund summary report. Carried.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by M. Eklund to acknowledge the November 2025 Donations: \$185.97 for teacher conference meals, \$500 to HS guidance office for new family welcome bags, \$11,500 for softball & baseball field edging, and \$2,317 for rubber mats under swings all from BACK. \$250 to NHS, Track team, and Phy. Ed. dept. from Grandy Lions. \$196 from Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church for school supplies. \$5,000 from MSC CTE Consortium for vertical belt sander in the wood shop. Carried.

Principal Eklund’s written report was reviewed. November conferences were well attended.

Principal/AD Kuhnke’s written report was reviewed. MSHSL ExCEL award winner: Congratulations to Lauren Leniz. MSHSL Triple A Award Winners: Congratulations to Carter Beckman and Makenzie Golly.

Flight 707 Principal report was given. MCA data presentation to teachers which will help better understand where students may need additional support to increase their MCA scores.

Supt. Gagner’s written report was reviewed. Reports given from various community meetings.

Supt. Gagner congratulated the following staff, students, and community members for their accomplishments as “Braham HONORS” recipients. They are: Val Ling, Staci Kuhnke, Jonelle Klemz, Maria Rebella, Jim Sward, Marlys Carlson, Doug Lind, Lauren Leniz, Kelley Bujak, Dana Williams, Crystal Sundermeyer, Jacob Carlson, Jacob Andres, Sarah Lang, Tom Kingsland, Dana Williams, Jana Garmaker, Crystal Sundermeyer, Judy Bendickson, Barb Johnson, Aaron Christensen, Olivia Lindquist, Ella Kuhnke, Katrina Oliver, Nickie Nelson, Sharon Danson, Michelle Oquist, Kendall Olson & Tammy Carlson, Tom Kingsland, Staci Kuhnke, Tracy Fix, Rick Riccio, Bryan Johnson, Donna Bryant, Bryan Johnson, Tracy Fix, Karl Fix, Nancy Vander Heyden, Andrea Downing, Darwin Nelson, Dan Downing, Susan Severson, Julie Anderson, Roberta Kopel, Jon Dunbar, Bryanna Wiebe, Judy Bendickson, Kate Tran, Chloe Long, Zach Anderson, Makenzie Golly, Carter Beckman. Carried.

Student Council report was reviewed. Three blood drives this year in November, January, and March.

School board members attended various events and meetings including; negotiations, CTE, finance, and RRSEC. The board also attended the fall musical and sporting events.

Information shared with regards to the Braham Area School Wetland Project, more discussion will take place at the working board meeting.

Motion by M. Eklund, second by C. Gelle to approve the 2024/25 CA & CR progress report. Carried

Motion by R. Dahlquist, second by M. Eklund to approve the 2025/26 CA & CR plan. Carried.

Reviewed the 26/27 School Calendar Options.

Reviewed the November 2025 Food Service Report.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by D. Shockman to adopt the following reviewed policies: #501, #502, #515, #516, #721. Carried.

Motion by K. Hagfors, second by C. Gelle to go into a closed session for Supt. Evaluation. The board wishes for continued growth in the area of building strong employee relationships while commending Supt. Gagner in the areas of financial management and meeting district academic and student support goals as identified in the Comprehensive Achievement & Civic Readiness plan. Carried.

Motion by John Swanson, seconded by Mike Eklund to reopen the regular board meeting.

Reminder of upcoming meetings: Nov. 24 Meet & Confer @ 5:30 p.m., Dec. 15 Regular School Board Meeting, to include Truth in Taxation @ 6:00 p.m. in B100 at 4-12 Bldg.

Motion by M. Eklund, second by K. Hagfors, to adjourn the Regular School Board meeting. Chair Londgren adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Attest: _____
Connie Gelle, Clerk

Attest: _____
Allison Londgren, Chair

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- b. Approve the November/December bills.
 - c. Review and accept the November Treasurer’s report.

d. Enrollment Analysis

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	10	13	12	10
K	53	54	53	54
1	58	59	61	61
2	61	61	61	62
3	63	63	63	63
4	64	65	65	65
5	58	57	58	60
6	61	63	63	63
7	70	70	69	69
8	59	59	61	62
9	64	63	65	64
10	70	69	69	68
11	49	47	48	47
12	61	60	60	59
Total K - 12	791	790	796	797
ECSE	12	13	14	14
Total K-12 Plus ECSE	803	803	810	811
ADM		768	774	781

e. Personnel

RECOMMENDATIONS

Julia Mann has been recommended by Principal Eklund for an Elem. para position. Start date was December 8, 2025. She will be paid step 2 per the para contract.

Emily Hartog has been recommended by Principal Eklund for an Elem. para position. Start date was December 5, 2025. She will be paid step 4 per the para contract.

Kayla Lind has been recommended by Principal Eklund for an Elem. para position. Start date was December 11, 2025. She will be paid step 2 per the para contract.

Jacob Carlson has been recommended by AD Kuhnke for a volunteer boys basketball coach for the 25/26 season.

Skylar Clark, has been recommended by Principal Eklund for an Elem. para position. Start date was January 5, 2026. She will be paid step 3 per the para contract.

RESIGNATION

Ella Kuhnke, Elem. SpEd para submitted her resignation effective November 14, 2025.

Amanda Arntson, Elem. SpEd para submitted her resignation effective December 31, 2025.

Rebecca Aadalen, HS Special Ed. Teacher, submitted her resignation effective December 26, 2025.

4. **Open Forum.**

5. **Consider the proposed Final 2025 Payable 2026 District 314 Property Tax Levy, Truth-in-Taxation.**

Public schools are funded by the federal & state governments, local fees, and local taxpayers through property taxes with the state of Minnesota being the largest of those funding sources. Amounts levied can adjust from year to year for a variety of factors including changes in property value along with changes in state funding formulas and aid programs, voter-approved referendums and various other factors. The 2026 levy is set for an increase of 1.38%.

6. **Expenditure / Revenue Fund Summary Report.**

7. **Acknowledgement of Donations, Contributions & Fundraising.**

Minnesota Statute 123B.02 permits school boards to "...receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, and for the benefit of pupils thereof."

Therefore, the Superintendent recommends the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.314 that the School Board accepts with appreciation the following contributions and permits their use as designated by the donors."

Donation from	Donation to	Amount	Use
Don & Kathy Fiedler	Theater Dept.	\$100	Theater dept. needs.
MIDCO Foundation	FFA	\$500	FFA group needs
Annonymous	Angel Fund	\$200	Student needs
Eric & Angie Rysdam	Athletics - In memory of Richard Rysdam	\$100	Athletic Dept. needs
Kim Londgren	Athletics - In memory of Richard Rysdam	\$50	Athletic Dept. needs
BACK	Athletic Dept.	\$10,000	HUDL Subscription
BACK	30 grade levels & departments	\$500 ea./ \$15,000	Classroom & Dept. needs
BACK	Class of 2026	\$1,000	class needs
BACK	BACK Scholarship fund	\$10,000	Scholarships
BAEF	PAES Lab - Mara Koolmo	\$1,500	PAES Program
BAEF	Speech Dept. - Krisit Lee & Brittni Versailles	\$553	Communikit for Speech/Language Therapy
BAEF	Media Productions - Tom Kingsland	\$4,000	Media Productions Studio Proposal
BAEF	EL Dept. - Kingsland	\$4,500	Language Interpretation Devices for English Learners

8. **Elementary Principal's report.**
Braham Area Elementary
December 2025 Board Report

1. Elementary Concerts

- December 3, 5th & 6th Band
- December 10, 5th grade Choir
- December 17, 4th grade Choir
- December 18, 3rd grade Choir

2. Staffing

- In the process of interviewing and hiring several Special Education paras.
- We are very fortunate to have so many qualified candidates.

3. Special Thanks!

- Thanks to BEPO for funding our 4th graders to go to Tusen Tack for Christmas shopping!

4. ESS Banquet

- November 19, I attended the ESS Banquet honoring Tammy Carlson and Kendall Olson.

6. TEAM Award

- Our team award this week goes to our AWESOME members of BEPO! BEPO helps provide numerous opportunities for our students and staff. This month they are helping our 4th graders go Christmas shopping at Tusen Tack. Thank you!
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9. **High School Principal/ Activities Director report.**

HS Principal / Activities Director
School Board Report
December 15, 2025

1. We have already reached mid-quarter #2 on Friday, December 5.
2. We had a 7-12 Band Concert on Monday, November 24, and a 7-12 Choir and Jazz Band Concert on Monday, December 1. A big thank you to Bryan Johnson and all of our students for the wonderful performances.

3. Winter Participation Numbers:

Activity	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025-2026
9-12 Boys Basketball	25	27	29	20	19	22	17	18	16	23	32
7-8 Boys Basketball	26	23	18	22	17	11	20	20	19	15	TBD
9-12 Girls Basketball	17	20	22	18	15	19	19	16	19	17	19
7- 8 Girls Basketball	18	18	21	26	18	21	21	13	12	14	17
9-12 Wrestling - Boys	8	9	7	7	8	8	12	9	13	13	10
Girls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
7-8 Wrestling - Boys	4	4	9	8	9	10	8	7	9	10	3
Girls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	2
Total # of Participants	98	101	106	101	86	91	97	87	90	94	TBD

* Indicates a Covid year - Winter season did not start until January 2021.

4. All winter sporting activities are up and running smoothly, with the exception of JH BBB, which will start on Monday, January 5, 2026.
5. The All-Conference Band/Choir will practice in Mora on Wednesday, January 7 for their upcoming event on Saturday, January 10, also in Mora. This will be a wonderful opportunity to listen to some great local talent.
6. On Tuesday, November 18, MinnCo Credit Union came to our High School and conducted a real life budgeting simulation with our seniors.

I wish you all the best this holiday season!

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Kuhnke

10. **Flight 707 Principal's Update**

11. **Superintendent's report.**

Braham Area Schools #314
Superintendent Report
December 15, 2025

1. Tusen Tack Board Meeting summary 11/25/2025:
 - a. The financial report shows an approximate current profit of \$16,400 (down \$120,000).
 - b. Currently fully staffed & working on 2026 programming. The new parking lot is open.
 - c. The Food Shelf served 113 households in Oct., serving 8,767 lbs of food.
 - d. Second review of draft budget for 2026.
2. Grandy Lions Meeting summary - December 1, 2025:
 - a. \$15,000 was given out in donations (none related to ISD #314).
 - b. The Facebook site will now become public. Trying to recruit new members.
 - c. Next meeting is Monday, January 5 @ 6:00 p.m. Pancake Breakfast will be held Sunday, May 3, 2026.
3. ECMECC Security Summit summary - December 3, 2025:
 - a. Alexa Denney-Fields and I (.5 day) attended. The primary focus was on cyber security - something in the background - but CRITICALLY important for district operations. A few interesting notes:
 - i. We OVER COLLECT data (do we need SS #'s?) and then leave it exposed.
 - ii. No auto response on email, e. g. "I'm out of the district and ..." (bad actors watching).
4. ECMECC Operating Committee meeting summary 12/5/25:
 - a. Discussion was held on upgrading the virtual server center. Expect \$250-\$350K total cost.
 - b. 145 people attended the 8th annual Security Summit on 12/3/25. Feedback was positive.
 - c. Still waiting on 1.2 million in Erate funding. We do expect it to arrive but it is late.
 - d. The next meeting is January 30, 2026 (virtual).
5. Braham Area Chamber of Commerce meeting summary - December 9, 2025:
 - a. Conversations regarding setting up a new website and host company.
 - b. Holiday Lights Contest and Turkey & Ham giveaway winners were announced.
 - c. The 2026 budget was approved - similar to past budgets. Dues will NOT increase and payments made by 2/1/26 result in a \$15.00 savings.
 - d. Five new businesses were welcomed: Braham Country Floral & Coffee, Northern Lights Event Rental, The Peekaboo Chicken, Ostrom Storage Solutions LLC, & ZenBusiness.
 - e. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 13 @ 5:00 p.m.
6. Negotiations update:
 - a. A virtual meeting was held with Jessica Mabin (BMS), Local 284, and the district on 12/4. The district offered minor modifications to its Last Best Offer and shared those with Local 284 on 12/5. Local 284 responded on December 8 with additional requests and the district countered later that same evening.
7. Other:
 - a. The district's long term auditing firm of Burkhardt & Burkhardt will be merging with CarlsonSV effective January 1, 2026. CarlsonSV is a regional accounting firm with a strong government practice. This merger aims to offer increased long-term stability, more extensive resources, and enhanced backup support for our audit and related services.

- b. The Meet & Confer committee met with the BEA on November 24th (John Swanson, Mike Eklund, Kayla Hagfors, Ken Gagner, Becky Swanson, Brooke Hohn, David Blomdahl, Eddie Cease). Discussions took place regarding HR, Flight 707, building conditions, district communications, bag lunches, school climate, ADSIS programs, and in celebration of several staff support members.

12. **Acknowledge Braham “HONORS” Recipients.**

Sam Olson, Emiy Lindquist, Maggie Kipka, Mara Koolmo, Kristi Lee, Tom Kingsland	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering your time and effort in securing funding for the school district. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action and makes a significant impact on student learning.
Kroy Kappelhoff	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering your time on 12/3/25 in support of district operations. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action!
Tammi Johnson	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering to organize both the Secret Santa and employee holiday celebration. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action and builds community spirit. Your work is appreciated!
Mell Construction Inc.	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your excellent service regarding snow removal efforts during early winter 2025/2026. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action and increases safety for all!
Braham Knights of Columbus	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your generosity (\$400) in supporting students in need. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action and strengthens chances for student success. You are appreciated!

13. **Student Council Representative’s report.**

BAHS Student Council
 School Board Report
 December 2025

Mentor Program: We continue to mentor 7th and 8th grade students who are struggling with school work, staying organized, and/or just needing a friend. We were each assigned a student who we can meet with multiple times a week and guide/help them throughout the school year.

Blood Drive Recap: Our blood drive went well. However, we did not meet our goal of total blood collected. We have another blood drive coming up in January, so we will be working harder to recruit more donors for this one.

Dress Up Days: Before winter break, we have set dress up days for the 15th-19th and the 22nd-23rd. We want students to have fun going into winter break and spread holiday joy!

Santa Day: Our group has volunteered to help run Santa Day again. It will be on December 13th at the Braham Event Center and goes from 9-12pm.

Recycling and Announcements:

We will continue picking up recycling throughout the school and reading morning announcements and the Pledge of Allegiance on Fridays.

Respectfully submitted by,
Emily Davis, BAHS Student Council Executive Council Member

14. **School Board members' reports/updates.**

15. **Review Buildings & Grounds Report.
December 2025 Report**

- Irrigation blowout by Peterson companies performed. Ran late with a favorable fall season.
- Summer equipment squirreled away for the winter.
- Insurance boiler inspection completed. Three repairs at each school were made, including the changing of pressure relief valves (three boilers per building).
- Annual fire marshal visit was performed at each building, minor corrections are being made.
- Tremco was out for roof inspections at each building. Special attention given to the Prek3 building with sections out of warranty. Some small repairs were made, and we continue to monitor.
- Air handler filters changed at both buildings for winter.
- For fun or curiosity sake:
 - A student at the Prek3 building activated the pull station in the hall by the gym, which usually sends everybody to panic mode, including myself. It's been awhile since that's happened, but it does from time to time. Jan got the fire department stopped in time, hopefully a life lesson was made that day.
- I'll do another useless fact:
 - If you were to print the internet, it would require 136 billion sheets of A4 paper (which is basically the same size as copy paper, just the international standard). The stack would extend beyond the atmosphere. Kind of got 2 facts in one on this.

Will try to keep up the best we can as a group, and perform at our highest level.

Have a safe and happy holiday season-

Jim Sward ~ Director of Buildings & Grounds

16. **Consider approval of the 26/27 School Calendar. *Calendar scanned in addendums.**

17. **Consider RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR.**

** scanned in addendums.*

18. **Consider approval of Flight 707 BEA MOA.** *MOA scanned in addendums.*

19. **Consider approval of Flight 707 SEIU MOU.** *MOU scanned in addendums.*

20. **Consider approval of PFML information.** **Info. scanned in addendums.*

Paid Family Medical Leave information will be added to the All Employee Handbook.

21. **Consider cycle review of district policies for adoption.**

- #521 STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION
- #531 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- #532 USE OF PEACE OFFICERS AND CRISIS TEAMS TO REMOVE STUDENTS WITH IEPs FROM SCHOOL GROUNDS
- #714 FUND BALANCES

22. **Reminder of Upcoming meetings:**

- Monday, Jan. 5 Organizational Board Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m.
- Thurs./Friday, Jan. 15-16 MSBA Leadership Conference.
- Monday, Jan. 26 Regular School Board Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m.

23. **Adjourn.**
