

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

AGENDA
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, Sept. 15, 2025
6:00pm – BAHS Community Room
Greeter - Allison Londgren

1. Regular meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Adopt Agenda.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve the minutes of the August 18th Regular Board Meeting.
 - b. Approve the September bills.
 - c. Review and accept the September Treasurer’s report.
 - d. Enrollment Analysis.
 - e. Personnel.
4. Open Forum.
5. Expenditure / Revenue Fund Summary Report..
6. Acknowledgement of Donations, Contributions & Fundraising.
7. Elementary Principal’s report.
8. High School Principal - Activities Director report.
9. Flight 707 Principal’s Update
10. Superintendent’s Report.
11. Acknowledge Braham “HONORS” Recipients.
12. Student Council Representative’s report.
13. School Board members’ reports/updates.
14. Consider proposed property tax levy for 2025 Payable 2026.
15. Presentation of certificates honoring school board members in recognition of their service.
16. Consider cycle review of district policies for adoption.
17. Announcement of Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing.
18. Reminder of Upcoming Meetings.
19. 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, August 18, 2025
6:00 pm BAHS B100
Greeter: Connie Gelle

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 R. Dahlquist to approve the minutes of the July 28th Regular Board Mtg. Approve the July bills of \$173,980.31. The Board approved the following: 1) **Olivia Knowlton** for the SpEd teacher position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid BA, step 1. 2) **Jaymi Meyer** for the SpEd teacher position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid BA, step 2. 3) **Amanda Arntson** for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid step 4 of the para contract. 4) **Hannah Sward & Hailey Bruce** for the BASK helper positions. Their start date will be September 2, 2025. They will be paid step 1 per the para scale. 5) **Kathryn Bien** for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid step 4 of the para contract. 6) **Sarah Brandt** for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid step 1 of the para contract. 7) **Andrea DeRushia** lane request for MA+10 to MA+20. The advance will take effect in the first semester of the 2025/26 School year. The board accepted resignations from **Nick Hohn & Sue Sperl**. Carried.

Open Forum: None.

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

Motion by J. Swanson, second by M. Eklund to acknowledge the August 2025 Donations: \$500 from Grandy Lions to Boys Basketball team. \$900 to BASK for cabinet, toys & activities, \$2,250 to Ag/CTE program for woodworking projects- \$50 per student, \$450 to Ag/CTE program for ice fishing rod building supplies, \$1,260 for sports concession "Meal Deal" coupons, \$150 for Open House decorations all from BACK. Carried.

Principal Eklund's written report was reviewed. Wednesday, September 17 we will have an author, Erin Soderberg Downing, visit our 4, 5, 6 grade students.

Principal/AD Kuhnke's written report was reviewed. Presented the new 7&8 Math ADSIS program.

Flight 707 Principal report was given. Planning for the 25/26 School Year continues.

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: Jeff Eklund, Doug Lind, Brooke Hohn, Tina Heidelberger, Shawn Kuhnke, Jim Sward, Chris Grote, Connie Gelle, Kevin Stahl, Wayne Seiberlich, Nick Hohn, Clinton Maxson, Tammi Johnson, Jonelle Klemz, Aaron Christensen, John Swanson, Abby Halseth, Randi Smith, Ava Davis, Jim Sward, Marlys Carlson, Andy Olson, Jodi Splittstoser, Nick Gehrke, Joe Duvernay, Jay Sparling, Aitor Leniz, Nickie Nelson, Julie Johnson, Aaron Christensen, Jan Strohkirch, Jeff Eklund, Shawn Kuhnke, Donna Bryant. Carried.

School board members attended various events and meetings including; negotiations & fall sporting events.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by R. Dahlquist to approve the 2025 - 2027 Master Agreement between the Braham Education Association and Independent School District #314. This is contingent upon successful ratification by the Braham Education Association.

Motion by S. Shockman, second by C. Gelle to adopt the following reviewed policies: #413, #414, #415, #416 Carried.

Reminder of upcoming meetings: September 15th Regular School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Motion by M. Eklund, second by K. Hagfors, to adjourn the Regular School Board meeting. Chair Londgren adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Attest: _____
Connie Gelle, Clerk

Attest: _____
Allison Londgren, Chair

- b. Approve the September bills.
- c. Review and accept the September Treasurer’s report.
- d. Enrollment Analysis

Last Day		Sept. 10
May 28		2025
2025		
54	K	53
58	1	58
64	2	61
66	3	63
54	4	64
63	5	58
66	6	61
57	7	70
65	8	59
70	9	64
49	10	70
61	11	49
47	12	61
774	Total K - 12	791
22	ECSE	12
796	Total K-12 Plus ECSE	803
771	ADM	

e. Personnel

RECOMMENDATIONS

Joe VanAlstine has been recommended by AD/ Principal Kuhnke for the JH Football coach position. Start date was August 25, 2025. He will be paid lane 5, step 1.

Alexa Oliver has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date was August 25, 2025. She will be paid step 3 per the para pay scale.

Jen Chell has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date was September 4, 2025. She will be paid step 4 per the para pay scale.

Olivia Lindquist has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date was September 8, 2025. She will be paid step 1 per the para pay scale.

Haley Rodenborg has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the Elem. SpEd para position. Start date was September 8, 2025. She will be paid step 1 per the para pay scale.

Alexa Denney has been recommended by Supt. Gagner for the Technology Coordinator position. Start date was September 3, 2025. She will be paid per her “At Will” contract.

Tom Kingsland has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the .10 EL teacher position. Start date was August 25, 2025. He will be paid overload based on the BEA contract.

RESIGNATION

Christina Nelson, Elem. SpEd para submitted her resignation effective August 22, 2025.

Kathryn Bien, Elem. SpEd para submitted her resignation effective August 29, 2025.

Sarah Brandt, Elem. SpEd para submitted her resignation effective August 25, 2025.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Christina Horton, extended medical leave through September 30, 2025.

4. **Open Forum.**

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

6. **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
Cambridge Medical Center	Braham Schools	Bin Full	Schools supplies
ECE	Braham Schools	Multiple bin fulls	Schools supplies
Anonymous	Braham Schools	\$200	Back pack supplies
St. Stephen's Women's Missionary League	Angel Fund	\$50	Student needs
Isanti Co. Victim Services	Braham Schools	\$250 value	Back pack & supplies
Peter R. Marsh Foundation	Music department	\$1,750	Music dept. needs
Eric Jones	Braham Schools	Bin Full	Schools supplies
BEPO	First Gr. Classrooms	\$239.94	Pink Cat game subscription
BACK	Athletics	\$200	"Meal deal" Concession coupons additional costs

7. **Elementary Principal’s report.**

Braham Area Elementary
September 2025 Board Report

1. Conferences

- Fall conferences are October 1 & 8.

2. Staffing

- As of September 8, 2025 we are fully staffed!!!

3. Teacher Totes

- On 8/26 East Central presented teaching supplies to our staff.
- A HUGE thank you to ECE for this!

4. Author Visit

- On Wednesday, September 17 we will have an author, Erin Soderberg Downing, visit our 4, 5, 6 grade students
- Thanks to BEPO for funding this visit!

5. NAFEPA

- Traveling to Washington D.C. on Sept. 20 to meet with the NAFEPA board to discuss how we can continue to support educators that work with federally funded programming (Title I).

6. TEAM Award

- Thank you to Rose Keller, our new 4-12 secretary for all the hard work she has put into making sure our year is off to a great start! Thanks Rose, we are lucky to have you!

8. High School Principal/ Activities Director report.

HS Principal
 Activities Director
 School Board Report
 September 15, 2025

1. Open House was a huge success! We had a great turnout of parents, students, and families. 7th grade and new student orientation was held in C100 and was very well attended.
2. The first week of school has started smoothly. Students have had a positive attitude and the staff has done a great job welcoming them back! I conducted grade-level meetings with all students in grades 7-12 on the first day of school.
3. All fall activities are up and running smoothly. [Schedules](#)
4. Fall Participation numbers over the last 10 years:

Activity	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Football	Grades 7 & 8:	30	30	30	35	32	30	29	37	35	32
	Grades 9 - 12:	39	41	34	33	36	34	37	37	35	48
Volleyball	Grades 7 & 8:	21	24	29	28	25	26	28	35	33	40
	Grades 9 - 12:	30	38	27	28	32	34	28	31	38	35
Cross Country	Grades 7 & 8:	9	6	4	2	4	0	2	12	10	10
	Grades 9 - 12:	8	13	18	18	17	4	6	2	8	15
Equestrian	7 - 12:	4	5	2	5	1	2	0	0	0	2
Fall Musical	7 - 12:	48	55	55	50	35	32	32	30	25	36
Jazz Band	7 - 12:	15	18	25	28	23	20	17	12	13	15
TOTAL:		204	230	224	227	205	182	179	196	197	220

Homecoming is set for the week of September 21-26.

- We have a home volleyball game on Thursday, September 25 vs. Mille Lacs.
- We have a home football game on Friday, September 26 vs. Cherry.

6. Fall Musical tryouts have been held, and they are now finalizing the cast and crew. They will be performing *The Little Mermaid* on November 14, 15, and 16.
7. Randi Smith from the Braham Police Department will be providing our students in grades 7-12 age appropriate Internet Safety Training this week.
 - Tuesday, September 16 - Grades 7 & 8
 - Wednesday, September 17 - Grades 9 & 10
 - Thursday, September 18 - Grades 11 & 12
8. I will be attending the annual MSHSL Fall Area Meeting in Brooklyn Park on Wednesday, September 24.
9. I have been selected by the Region 5A Activities Directors to serve on the MSHSL Region 5A Committee for the next 4 years. Our first meeting is on Wednesday, September 10.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shawn Kuhnke

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

10. **Superintendent's report.**

Braham Area Schools #314
Superintendent Report
September 15, 2025

1. 59Tusen Tack Personnel Committee meeting update - Tuesday, August 12, 2025:
 - a. Two new positions were offered & both candidates accepted:
 - i. Vivian Sjoselius will start as the new event coordinator on August 25
 - ii. Jackie Moen will start as the new Executive Director on September 2
2. Braham Chamber of Commerce meeting update - Tuesday, August 19, 2025:
 - a. Back-to-Business Social held at Braham Brewing with food, networking, games, and prizes.
 - b. North 65 & Braham Chamber will co-host a progressive networking luncheon on 9/15/25 @ 11:30 a.m.
3. Braham Area Education Foundation meeting update - Wednesday, August 20, 2025:
 - a. Current total assets: \$530,900.00
 - b. \$250 each was awarded to the Jazz Band and Student Council for their assistance at the Spring Gala.
 - c. Upcoming events:
 - i. Aug. 25 Tim Nelson will present to all employees
 - ii. Aug. 26 Serve cookies at Open House
 - iii. Sept. 5 Tailgating at Varsity FB game @ 6:00 p.m.
 - d. The next grant cycle applications are due November 5, 2025.
 - e. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 17 @ 5:00 p.m.

4. ECMECC Operating Committee meeting update - August 22, 2025:
 - a. Election of officers:
 - i. Chair David Wedin Milaca
 - ii. Vice Chair K. Gagner Braham
 - iii. Supervising Supt. K. Gagner Braham
 - b. 185 people attended Lake ECMECC (professional development day).
 - c. Director Evaluation approved.
 - d. The next meeting is October 10 @ 10:30 a.m. (virtual)

5. Grandy Lions Meeting update - September 8, 2025:
 - a. Donations impacting Braham Area Schools
 - i. Mr. Gagner's Neighborhood \$160 (paid directly to businesses)
 - b. Pancake Feed (Grandy Community Center) is Sunday, Oct. 26 from 8 - Noon.
 - c. Next meeting is Monday, October 6 @ 6:00 p.m.

6. Braham Chamber of Commerce meeting update - Sept. 9, 2025:
 - a. Appreciation Day report - served about 600 meals, overall successful experience
 - b. Upcoming Events:
 - i. Fall/Halloween Decorating Contest
 - ii. Fall Festival - Oct. 29
 - c. Next meeting is Tuesday, October 14, 2025

7. **Negotiations update:**
 - a. The Braham Education Association (BEA) ratified the new 2025-2027 agreement on Sept. 4, 2025.
 - b. Local 284 (SEIU): Four meetings held. *Still waiting for SEIU to respond with a meeting date...*

8. Other:
 - a. 640 hotdogs were served (650 in 2024, 680 in 2023) during Open House (Aug. 26) and it was a very well organized event - a tribute to all those participating.
 - b. A hiring committee of five interviewed FIVE applicants for the position of Technology Coordinator on August 15. The position was offered to Alexa Denney. Alexa is a graduate of St. Francis HS and resides in Harris, MN. Alexa has been working the past three years for NATCOMM and has a strong technology background along with a solid customer service focus. She began working in the district on September 3.
 - c. On August 18, 2025 the district submitted a \$50,000 grant request as part of MN's Building and Cyber Security Grant Program. The three qualifying submission categories are: reimbursement for purchased cyber liability insurance, an assessment and approved software and hardware to become qualified for cyber liability insurance, and security equipment under Minnesota statutes 126c.44, Subd. 4 (7).
 - d. The district was notified on Aug. 25 that we were awarded \$2,000 per the SFM Safety Grant. The funds will be used (along with \$3,463 district funds) to purchase nine new floor mats.

1.

Year	K-12 Enrollment	PreK-12 Teachers FTE's****	Bus routes	K-6 avg. class size**	K-6 Range***	7-12 avg. class size*	7-12 Range***
2015 - 2016	774	62.4	11	18.6	14-22	21.0	7-33 (54 band)
2016 - 2017	719	53.4	11	21.0	18-24	20.1	8-34 (48 band)
2017 - 2018	736	50.3	11	23.3	18-33	20.5	8-36 (58 band)
2018 - 2019	728	49.7	11	23.0	16-35	19.3	5-37 (55 band)
2019 - 2020	754 (435/319)	51.0	11	22.0	19-34	22.8	5-33 (57 band)
2020-2021 {Covid} *Dist. Learning Students (94) NOT included	648 (303/345)	52.2	11	16.4	13-23	20.2	3-36 (42 band) (56 JH choir)
2021 - 2022	748 (424/324)	52.3	11	19.4	15-23	19.6	5-33 (45-51 Band) (65 JH Choir)
2022 - 2023	788 (436/352)	53.4	11	20.7	16-23	26.0	9-37 (39-44 Band) (25-37 JH Choir)
2023 - 2024	791 427/364	54.4	11	20.3	18-23	26.0	15-33 (42-51 Band) (34-38 JH Choir)
2024 - 2025	783 423/360	56.9	11	20.1	16-24	22.6	10-31 (44-55 Band) (23-40 Choir)
2025-2026	788 415/373	57.9	11	19.8	17-22	22.5	13-32 (46-58 Band) (21 Choir) <i>only one 7-12 choir</i>

*Average HS class size does NOT take into account students in Sp. Ed. or ECMECC.

**Average K-6 class size does not include Sp. Ed. or Music & PE (music and PE average in the mid 30's).

***Range does not include Music or PE classes in K-6 or band/choir in 7-12, but the information is shared.

****Does not include a school nurse who, starting in 25-26, is a licensed school nurse & part of the teacher's union.

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

Bryan Johnson, Kyrah Albers, Megan Karolevitz, Eddie Cease	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.
Marc Johnson, Jeremy Mikla, Nicole Pruden, Samantha Bobowski, Jenny Gilman	Braham Area School District #314 would like to thank you for supporting our district during our technology leadership transition. Your work is a true example of SERVICE, one of the two foundational 'rocks' at Braham Area Schools.
Nicole Pruden, Jeff Eklund, Aaron Christensen, Tammi Johnson	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering your time to assist in the hiring process for our new technology coordinator. Bringing in great talent is critical to the success of our district and we sincerely appreciate your efforts in making this happen. Thanks!
Donna Bryant, Kyle Olson, Dawn Olson, Jim Sward, Nick Gehrke, Nickie Nelson, Mike Eklund, Allison Londgren, Shawn Kuhnke, Peter Hesselroth, Julie Johnson, Jeff Eklund, Jen Eklund, Kendall Olson, Tammy Carlson, Erica Gould, Terri Stone, Jana Garmaker, Courtney Robinson, Molly Trytten, Tina Heidelberger, Jan Strohkirch	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your extra efforts to assist the district in preparing for our 2025-2026 Open House. Your work is appreciated!
Braham Elementary Parents Organization, Braham Area Education Foundation, Braham Area Committee for Kids, Grandy Lions, Braham Moose Lodge	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your continued and generous support of the Braham Area School District. Your efforts to promote the district and strengthen opportunities for our students and staff DO make a difference and are greatly appreciated!
Frandsen Bank & Trust, Friendship Assembly of God	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your support in providing breakfast during our 2025 Back-to-School Events. Your actions are appreciated and helped us kick off the new school year in style!
Braham Fire Department, Peter Hesselroth	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize the Braham Fire Department for your willingness to lend out the picnic tables for use at the 2025 Open House and football tailgating event. Your support allowed us to better showcase our district for the community of Braham. You are appreciated!
BEPO	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for coordinating the 2025, 'Meet the Teacher' feature. This is a great example of a SERVICE attitude in action!
Jim & Heather Sward, Peter Hesselroth, Dan & Jonelle Klemz, Shawn Kuhnke, Tim & Kelly Nelson, Aitor Leniz, Terry Turnquist	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering to assist at the 2025 BAEF Tailgating Event. Your support is appreciated!

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

BAHS Student Council
School Board Report
September 2025

Executive Committee: This school year, we decided to have an executive board overseeing the Student Council, rather than naming specific officers. The following seniors will distribute duties and responsibilities amongst themselves. The student leaders are: Carter Beckman, Eric Duvernay, Addy Forslin-Ruppert, Emily Davis, Bridget Golly, Hannah Sward, Avery Shockman, Makenzie Golly, and Katherine Heidelberger. Each of these students will be taking turns attending school board meetings.

Homecoming 2025: We are busy preparing for Homecoming Week 2025. The schedule will look similar to previous years. We will host Coronation on Sunday, September 21 at 2:00 p.m. in C100. We will conclude the week with activities such as powderpuff football, ironman volleyball, and a pep fest on Friday, September 26.

ECFE Carnival: Over half of our group will once again be volunteering at the ECFE Carnival at the Elementary on September 22.

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,
Tammi Johnson, BAHS Student Council Advisor

13. **School Board members’ reports/updates.**

14. **Consider proposed property tax levy for 2025 Payable 2026.** *Will be scanned in addendums.*

The school district Proposed Property Tax Levy for 2025 Payable 2026 MUST be certified by the school board and submitted to the county auditor by September 30, 2025. The school board is asked to authorize the district to levy the maximum allowable.

15. **Presentation of certificates honoring school board members in recognition of their service.**

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

- #102 EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
 - #214 OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
 - #402 DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY
 - #720 VENDING MACHINES
-
-

17. **Announcement of Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing.**

Braham ISD #314’s Truth in Taxation Public Hearing will be held as a part of the Regular December School Board meeting scheduled for Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 pm, in the 4-12 Bldg, Community Room.

18. **Reminder of Upcoming meetings:**

Regular School Board Meeting, Oct. 20th @ 6pm in B100 at 4-12 Bldg.

19. **Adjourn.**
