

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

AGENDA
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, July 28, 2025
6:00pm – BAHS Community Room
Greeter - Connie Gelle

1. Regular meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Adopt Agenda.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve the minutes of the June 16th Regular Board Meeting.
 - b. Approve the July bills.
 - c. Review and accept the July Treasurer’s report.
 - d. Enrollment Analysis.
 - e. Personnel.
4. Open Forum.
5. Expenditure / Revenue Fund Summary Report.
6. Reviewed Technology 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. ~ *No report in summer months.*
14. School Board members’ reports/updates.
15. Consider approval of 2025/2026 Co-Curricular Fine Arts & Coaching positions.
16. Consider approval of changes to Activities, HS & Elem. Student, Preschool, Employee handbooks.
17. Consider approval of Boys Hockey Cooperative Agreement.
18. Consider approval of BEA MOU.
19. Consider approval of Long-Term Facilities Maintenance 10-Year Expenditure & Revenue plan.
20. Consider cycle review of district policies for adoption.
21. Reminder of Upcoming Meetings.
22. 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, June 16, 2025
6:00 pm BAHS B100
Greeter: Michael Eklund

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, R. Dahlquist, M. Eklund, and Supt. Gagner, Absent: D. Shockman

Motion by J. Swanson, second by C. Gelle to adopt the agenda. Carried.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by R. Dahlquist to approve the minutes of the May 19th Regular Board Mtg. Approve the June bills of \$533,452.66 The Board approved the following: 1) **Jacob Carlson** has for the Phy. Ed. teacher position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. He will be paid BA, Step 5. 2) **Dan DeVires** for the part time van driver position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. He will be paid per his at will agreement. 3) **Audra Carter** for the ECFE Family Advocate position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid her current lane & step. 4) **Lori Auers** for the ECFE Coordinator position. Start date will be August 25, 2025. She will be paid her yearly lane & step. 5) **Sam Olson and Shandell Harvey** for Bomber Boost Teachers. Start date was June 10, 2025 for 10 days, 3hrs per day + 5 hours planning time. Pay will be \$35 per hour. 6) **Kendall Olson** for the ESY para position. Working two days June 10th & 11th for 4.75hrs/ day. Pay will be \$23.17/hr. 7) **Kristi Teich** for the ESY para position. Start date was June 10, 2025, for 10 days, 4.75 hrs/day. Pay will be hourly rate +2.00. 8) **Judy Bendickson** for the LTS Nurse position. Position is August 25, 2025 - December 23, 2025; student contact days plus up to five additional. 9) **Jana Garmaker** for the Food Service position. Start date will be August 22, 2025. She will be paid level 1 per the Food Service pay scale at 3.5hrs/day. 10) **Karen Boehlert** for the ESY teacher position. Start date was June 10, 2025 for 10 days, 4.75 hrs/day. She will be paid \$45/hr, plus mileage reimbursement to and from Braham. 11) **Staci Kuhnke** lane request for BA to BA+10. The advance will take effect in the first semester of the 2025/26 School year. The board accepted resignation from Jay Sparling, Asst. Baseball coach effective May 27, 2025. Carried.

Open Forum: None.

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

Motion by J. Swanson, second by C. Gelle to acknowledge the June 2025 Donations: \$100 from Kanabec -Isanti Co. Farm Bureau for 3rd gr. Field trip bussing. \$1,600 to Summer Reading program, \$1,985 to 5th gr Science for portable sink, \$550 to HS SpEd cooking class, \$1,500 to The Presence project, all from B.A.E.F. \$75 value in snowpants from Grandy Northern Lites Snowmobile Club, \$8.20 from Casey's General Store. \$1,000 to Boys Basketball for uniforms. \$100 from Allianz. \$592.43 anonymous donation to Softball Team for team meal at State Tournament. \$1,000 from Isanti Co. Sportsmens Club to Boys Basketball Team. Carried.

Principal Eklund's written report was reviewed. Summer Reading program will have a Summer Splash party on July 13th, 2-4 pm.

Principal/AD Kuhnke's written report was reviewed. Many camps, leagues, practices and summer workouts/training are keeping our Braham Athletes engaged this summer.

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: Shandell Harvey, Jeff Eklund, Val Ling, Kendall Olson, Megan Karolevitz, Shawn Kuhnke, Becky Swanson, Aitor Leniz, Chris Kiesz, Marlyns Carlson, Jim Sward, Nickie Nelson, Jenna Burmaster, Lauren Kiesz, Amy Maltrud, Dan Downing, Marc Johnson, Dave & Katie Blomdahl Family, Karl & Tracy Fix Family, Bryan Johnson, Shannon Wood, Matt Heidelberger, Emily Ludwig, Tammi Johnson, Shawn Kuhnke, Joe Duvernay, Nick Gehrke, Andres, Jake; Schusted, Colton; Kipka, Margaret; Cottrell, Cody; Olson, Dawn; Grote, Chris; Shaw, Danae; Cease, Edmund; Blomdahl, David; DeRushia, Andrea Top Five Paras: Teich, Kristi; Bankers, Ashley; Stull, Kristine; Sundermeyer, Crystal; Oquist, Michelle, Julie Johnson, John Swanson, Mike Eklund, Bryan Johnson, Shandell Harvey, Jonelle Klemz, Ashley Bankers, Alyssa Thom, Jan Strohkirch, Kendall Olson, Becky Swanson, Becky Swanson, Chris Grote, Addy White, Alex Rysdam, Kori Olson, Ayla Anderson, Hannah Sward, Jenna Beck, Morgan Rysdam, Lauren Leniz, Grace Kuhnke, Ava Kuhnke, Olivia Kiesz, Avery Johnson, Sam Hansen, Izzy Shockman, Sierra Lilly, Bristol Lakeberg, Dakota Ward, Taylin Kendall, Kathy's Kitchen & Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church. Carried.

School board members attended various events and meetings including; Showcase ngt., Graduation, Staff Appreciation Breakfast, Braham Appreciation Days, negotiations, field trips, SAFF mtg., monthly finance mtg., and summer sporting events.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by K. Hagfors to approve FY26 Budget. Carried.

First of two readings of changes to Activities, HS & Elem. Student, Preschool, and Employee Handbooks.

Motion by C. Gelle, second by M. Eklund to approve Local Literacy Plan for 2025-26 school year.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by M. Eklund to approve membership in Schools Advocating for Fair Funding (SAFF) for the 25/26 school year.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by K. Hagfors to approve the MSBA membership for the 2025/26 school year.

Motion by M. Eklund, second by K. Hagfors to approve the Payroll/MARSS Coordinator to have view only access to the Frandsen Bank & Trust of Braham account.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by C. Gelle to approve the at will agreements for the following seven employees: 25-26 Business Manager, 25-27 for the Payroll/MARSS Coordinator, Building & Grounds Director, Technology Coordinator, Food Service Director, Van Drivers. Carried

Motion by M. Eklund, second by R. Dahlquist to approve the 5th grade extended trip to Long Lake Conservation School/Nature Center on September 25, 2025 ~ September 26, 2025.

Motion by J. Swanson, second by K. Hagfors to adopt the following reviewed policies: #203.6, #806, #901, #903. Carried.

Reminder of upcoming meetings: June 23 BEA Negotiations 5:30 p.m., July 9 Local 284 Negotiations 5:30 p.m., and July 28 Regular School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Motion by C. Gelle, second by M. Eklund, to adjourn the Regular School Board meeting. Chair Londgren adjourned the meeting at 6:21 pm.

Attest: _____
Connie Gelle, Clerk

Attest: _____
Allison Londgren, Chair

- b. Approve the July bills.
- c. Review and accept the July Treasurer’s report.
- d. Enrollment Analysis ~ *Not in summer months*

e. Personnel

RECOMMENDATIONS

Sheila Seibert has been recommended by Principal Eklund for the ESY para position. Start date was June 17, 2025 for 8 days/ 4.75 hrs/day. Pay will be hourly wage + \$2.00.

Rose Kessler has been recommended by AD/ Principal Kuhnke for the High School Secretary position. Start date will be August 4, 2025, with some training hours in July 2025. She will be paid step 4 of the secretary pay scale within the Local 284 contract.

Jana Garmaker has been recommended by Food Service Director Donna Bryant to increase hours to 5.75 hrs/day.

Lindsey Delvo has been recommended by AD/ Principal Kuhnke for the 7th & 8th ADSIS Math position. Start date will be August 25, 2026. She will be paid BA+10, step 4.

Rebecca Aadalen has been recommended by AD/ Principal Kuhnke for the HS SpEd teacher position. Start date will be August 25, 2026. She will be paid MA+40, step 11.

RESIGNATION

Chelsea Johnson, Food Service asst. submitted her resignation effective July 9, 2026.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Brittany Lindgren has requested maternity leave from approximately October 12, 2025 through January 12, 2026.

Christina Horton has requested medical leave from approximately August 25, 2025 through September 20, 2025.

LANE CHANGE

Emily Giffrow has submitted a lane request for BA to MA. She has completed all requirements for the lane advancement. The advance will take effect in the first semester of the 2025/26 School year.

4. **Open Forum.**

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

6. Reviewed Technology Report. *Report scanned in addendums.*

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
Isanti Co. Sportsmens Club	5th Gr. Long Lake Camp	\$2,000	Field Trip Expenses

7. **Elementary Principal's report.**

Braham Area Elementary
July 2025 Board Report

1. Bomber Boost & ESY

- Finished up 7/25.

2. Staffing

- Hired:
 - 2nd grade
 - 6th grade
 - Music
 - 1 SpEd teacher
 - Elementary Phy Ed. Teacher
- Posted:
 - We have some strong candidates. We are working through enrolling them in a program or completing a portfolio for licensure.

3. Reading Curriculum

- Teachers completed Wonders Training on June 25th. They have 20 paid hours of training to get up to work through the new curriculum.

4. Splash Into Summer Reading

- Students completed a Reading Bingo card.
- The splash party was held Sunday, July 13th.

- Students were also able to get a free book this summer by mentioning “Book Bingo” at Tusen Tack.
- Thanks to Shandell Harvey and Aitor Leniz for planning this event.

5. United Principals Conference

- Attended the United Principals Conference July 10-13.
- Some of the sessions attended covered:
 - AI
 - Instructional Leadership
 - Conflict resolution
 - Reading Intervention
 - Setting goals for students & staff
 - Growth vs proficiency

6. TEAM Award

- Thank you to Shandell Harvey and Aitor Leniz for organizing and running our summer “Splash Into Reading” Program! Your efforts to promote a lifelong love of reading for our kids is AWESOME! Thank you!
-

8. High School Principal/ Activities Director report.

HS Principal / Activities Director
School Board Report
July 28, 2025

1. I attended the Braham Area Schools Safety Review Meeting on Tuesday, July 15.
2. Several camps, lessons, and leagues are taking place this summer. Those currently running, coming up, or have been completed include Volleyball, Football (Team & UMD), Cross Country, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Softball, Baseball, and Track and Field. Also, summer weight training has been operating for any interested students in grades 7-12 every Monday through Thursday.
3. We have the official start of the Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball season set for Monday, August 11. JH Football and JH Volleyball will start on Monday, August 25. Information on the upcoming seasons were sent out via school messenger on Thursday, July 24 and shared through our school facebook page.
4. Our 2025-2026 schedules are ready to view. They can be found by going to the following website: www.greatriverconference.org. Note: All schedules are subject to change.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shawn Kuhnke

9. Flight 707 Principal’s Update

10. **Superintendent's report.**

Braham Area Schools #314
Superintendent Report
July 28, 2025

1. ECMECC Operating Committee meeting highlights - June 17, 2025:
 - a. The board agreed to terms & conditions with all five members of the ECMECC staff for '25-'27.
2. Tusen Tack board meeting highlights - June 24, 2025:
 - a. Thrift Store received an \$8,000+ grant to improve the store's parking lot area.
 - b. Food Shelf served 111 families in May - an all time high.
 - c. Discussions regarding the hiring of an Executive Director continue with a decision to be made in August.
 - d. Interviews occurring soon for a new Event Coordinator.
 - e. The next meeting is July 22, 2025.
3. Grandy Lions meeting update - July 7, 2025:
 - a. Routine grant requests - none impacting Braham Area Schools.
 - b. Pancake feed is scheduled for Sunday, October 26.
 - c. The next meeting is Monday, August 4 @ 6:00 p.m.
4. RRSEC Executive Council meeting update - July 15, 2025:
 - a. Council recommended approval of three resolutions related to the RRN Building project. The resolutions regarded purchase of the land, a construction management agreement with NEXUS, and a reimbursement resolution making all expenditures part of the municipal bond.
5. School Safety meeting update - July 15, 2025:
 - a. Sixteen individuals attended this meeting dedicated to review of our school safety protocols. Members included representatives from the Braham Police Department, Isanti County Sheriff's Department, Isanti County Emergency Response Team, and Braham School Board, Administration, Teachers, & Department Leaders.
 - b. In addition to reviewing current protocols the team decided to explore the 'I Love U Guys' safety protocol program and consider a reunification exercise for the summer of 2026. The 'I Love U Guys' program is free, focuses on common language/best practices, and is utilized by many area school districts. The "I Love U Guys" Foundation was started in 2006 by Ellen and John-Michael Keyes following a school shooting that took the life of their daughter, Emily.
6. Tusen Tack board meeting highlights - July 22, 2025:
 - a. Finances continue to show a significant loss of overall revenue due to fewer bookings of the Event Center and the decrease in traffic at the Thrift Store (due to road construction).
 - b. The board is still looking for a new event coordinator and is also posting for a part time executive director position.

- c. The marketing committee is working on a new logo as part of renewed branding efforts.
 - d. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 26 @ 9:00 a.m.
7. Negotiations update:
- a. Local 284 (SEIU): Four meetings held. 5th meeting not scheduled - waiting on Local 284 response.
 - b. BEA: Two meetings held. Third meeting scheduled for August 4 @ 4:45 p.m.
 - c. RRSEC: (SEIU): Four meetings held. **Tentative agreement reached.**
 - d. ECMECC: June 10 & June 13. **Tentative agreement reached.**
8. Other:
- a. The district received insurance (liability, property, equipment, auto, crime, cyber, workers compensation, & umbrella) renewal rates for July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026. There were increases across the board EXCEPT for **workers compensation** which dropped 19%. As a result the total renewal package cost dropped by 1.47% compared to FY '25.
 - b. Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families email updates:
 - i. *With the passage of the 2026 education budget, this is the official confirmation that the Pathway II scholarship allocation for BRAHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT is \$37,500.00 for state fiscal year 2026 and \$37,500.00 for state fiscal year 2027. This is a total award of \$75,000.00.*
 - ii. *The application for a voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) site was not selected for funding for fiscal year (FY) 2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026).*
 - c. Two budgetary items impacting next school year (2026-2027) to keep on the horizon:
 - i. The state funded Compensatory Aid for this fiscal year. They are setting up a task force to make a recommendation for FY '27 and beyond. Based on original recommendations for this school year, it is possible ISD #314 will lose funds (possibly significant) from this bucket. How much remains a question.
 - ii. The state is mandated to cut special education funding by \$250,000,000 for FY '27.
 - d. MN State Senator Mark Koran and Representative Jimmy Gordon were gracious enough to meet with me on July 9. While we discussed several education related issues, the focus was on spending and efficiency in use of tax payer funds.

11. Acknowledge Braham “HONORS” Recipients.

Amie Shockman, Alyssa Thom, Colton Schusted, Mara Koolmo, Kristi Lee, Marissa Stolan	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your role in securing full compliance with the 2024-2025 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. You are commended for your commitment to providing compliant services to children and students with disabilities and their families!
Jessica Olson, Stephanie White, Aaron Christensen	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your extra support with our 2025 Payroll/MARSS office transition. Your actions are a clear example of SERVICE to the community and are greatly appreciated.
Aitor Leniz, Ray Abraham, Shandell Harvey	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.

Julie Johnson

Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your extra support in training our new HS Principal's Secretary. Your actions are a clear example of SERVICE to the community and are greatly appreciated.

12. **Student Council Representative’s report.** ~ No report in summer months.

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

14. **Consider approval of 2025/2026 Co-Curricular Fine Arts & Coaching positions.**

~ Spreadsheet shared in board addendums.

15. **Consider the second of 2 readings of changes to Activities, HS & Elem. Student, Preschool, and Employee Handbooks.** *Action can be taken.*

- The preschool handbook removed the teacher's request language to match Elem. handbook.
- Two new sections added to the ALL EMPLOYEES HANDBOOK; Paid Family Leave Act & District Property

16. **Consider joining a cooperative with Mora and Milaca school districts for Boy's Hockey.**

Per Braham School District policy, Braham will pay up to \$1,000 per participating student who chooses to join. No other costs or responsibilities remain with the district. ISD #314 currently has a similar agreement with Pine City and Mora for girl's hockey. *Resolution & Agreement scanned into addendums.*

1. **Consider action to approve a RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A BOYS’ HOCKEY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT with the Mora & Milaca school districts.**

2. **Consider action to approve an AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF BOYS HOCKEY with the Mora & Milaca school districts.**

17. **Consider approval of BEA MOU.** *MOU scanned in addendums.*

18. **Consider approval of Long-Term Facilities Maintenance 10-Year Expenditure & Revenue plan.**
Documents scanned in addendums.

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

- #210 CONFLICT OF INTEREST – SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
- #215 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO SCHOOL BOARD
- #904 DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY BY
NON-SCHOOL PERSONS
- #905 ADVERTISING
- #906 COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION OF PREDATORY OFFENDERS

20. **Reminder of Upcoming meetings:**
Regular School Board Meeting August 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm

21. **Adjourn.**
