SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD
7362 East Point Douglas Rd S.
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

DATE: May 21, 2026
TOPIC: #8.3 - Tentative Agreement with Bus Mechanics
PRESENTER: Abby Baker, Executive Director of Human Resources & Operations
REFERENCE TO POLICY/STATUTE: Policy 701

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Negotiations toward a new collective bargaining agreement between South Washington County Schools and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 70 – Bus Mechanics have resulted in a tentative agreement effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028. Members of the bargaining unit approved the tentative agreement on May 14, 2026. The economic costing of the tentative agreement includes the following:

Wages:

- Bus Mechanic wage increase from $38.48 to $40.00 effective July 1, 2026 and $41.50 effective July 1, 2027
- Head Mechanic wage increase from $42.33 to $43.83 effective July 1, 2026 and $45.33 effective July 1, 2027

Health Insurance

- January 1, 2027: 12% increase to district contribution for high-deductible medical plans
- January 1, 2028: 12% increase to district contribution for high-deductible medical plans

B. RECOMMENDATION

Administration recommends approval of the contract.

C. CONNECTION TO STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Operations, Staffing, and Finance