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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

DATE:	May 21, 2026
TOPIC:	6.6-April 23, 2026 School Board Meeting Minutes
PRESENTER:	Dayna Pottratz, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & School Board
REFERENCE TO POLICY/STATUTE:	Policy 204

A. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**
   a. Review School Board Meeting Minutes.
B. **RECOMMENDATION**
   a. Approval
C. **CONNECTION TO STRATEGIC PRIORITY**
   a. Operations, Staffing, and Finance

April 23, 2026

1.0 ***Call to Order: Roll Call:*** *Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 833, South Washington County, was held on Thursday, March 26, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Chair Katie Schwartz, at 6:00pm at the District Service Center, 7362 East Point Douglas Road South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016. School Board Members present: Elizabeth Bockman Eckberg, Ryan Clarke, Melinda Dols, Louise Hinz, Simi Patnaik, Katie Schwartz, and Sharon Van Leer. Superintendent Julie Nielsen was present.*

2.0 ***Pledge of Allegiance***

3.0 ***Approval of Agenda:*** *It was moved by Sharon Van Leer, seconded by Melinda Dols to approve the agenda. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.*

4.0 ***District Highlights:***

- *National Merit Scholarships & Presidential Scholars and Perfect ACT Scores*
- *National Association of School Psychologists Award*
- *Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Award*

5.0 ***Comments to the Board:*** *None.*

6.0 ***Consent Items****: It was moved by Sharon Van Leer, seconded by Elizabeth Bockman Eckberg. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.*
6.1 Retirements, Resignations and Terminations
6.2 Leaves of Absence
6.3 New Employees/Change of Status
6.4 Electronic Fund Transfers
6.5 Resolution to Accept Gifts
6.6 March 26, 2026 School Board Business Meeting Minutes
6.7 April 9, 2026 School Board Workshop Meeting Minutes
6.8 Cash Disbursements
6.9 Extended Field Trips
6.10 Apple Lease
6.11 Radon Testing
6.12 Adjustment to 2026-27 School Calendar
6.13 Bids on Red Rock Elementary Renovations
6.14 Adjustment to 2025-26 School Calendar for Next Step and Pathways Program

7.0 ***Information Items:***
7.1 Planning for the Next Five Years presented by Ms. Julie Nielsen, Superintendent, Ms. Kelly Jansen, Assistant Superintendent and Ms. Kris Blackburn shared the district's current financial state and projections. They noted the need for $13M in adjustments as enrollment declines. They highlighted construction projects are funded by bond money that cannot be used for operating costs to resolve the deficit spending, noting 78% of the budget is for salaries and benefits.

8.0 ***Action Items:***
8.1 Proposed Policy Changes presented by Ms. Julie Nielsen, Superintendent. It was moved by Sharon Van Leer, seconded by Louise Hinz to approve the changes. All in favor, none

opposed, motion carried.

8.2 Transition Program Name, presented by Dr. Meghan Hickey, Executive Director of Student Support Services. It was moved by Melinda Dols, seconded by Ryan Clarke to approve the SoWashCo Headwaters Life Skills Program name. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

9.0 ***Superintendent Report:*** *Ms. Nielsen reported on the celebration events at this time of year and the Cottage Grove Expo on Saturday.*

10.0 ***Future Meeting Dates****:*
May 7, 2026 - School Board Workshop Meeting (DSC/6:00p.m.)
May 21, 2026 - School Board Business Meeting (DSC/6:00p.m.)

11.0 ***Adjournment:*** *The meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.*