

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove School District Board of Education, held Monday, May 12, 2026 at the Cottage Grove Village Hall

Open Session to begin no earlier than 6:00pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Janice Stone, Philip Haven, Elizabeth Cook,, Rachelle Miller, Susan Manning, Stephanie Lehmann, Eric Hartz

ADMINISTRATORS & STAFF PRESENT: Tanya Fredrich, Katy Byrnes Kaiser, Rob Meyer, Kristin Sobocinski

A. Call to Order – Rachelle Miller called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

B. Declaration of Public Notice – acknowledged

C. Order of Business

D. Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes
2. Staff Hirings

Ethan Stange - 1.0 FTE 6th grade Social Studies Teacher at Glacial Drumlin School, replacing Ian Theissen. For the 26-27 school year.

Jackson Moran - 1.0 FTE 8th grade Social Studies Teacher at Glacial Drumlin School, new FTE. For the 26-27 school year.

Mackenzie Breunig - 1.0 FTE 6th grade Social Studies at Glacial Drumlin School, new FTE. For the 26-27 school year.

Robin Jones - 1.0 FTE Math Support / Intervention at Winnequah School, new FTE. For the 26-27 school year.

Jennifer Currie - 1.0 FTE Math Support / Intervention at CGS/GRS, new FTE. For the 26-27 school year.

Krista Gerszewski - 1.0 FTE 8th grade ELA Teacher at GDS, replacing Clarissa Hitter. For the 26-27 school year.

Rebecca Ross - 1.0 FTE 2nd grade Teacher at WINN, replacing Robin Jones. For the 26-27 school year.

Mariah Peterson - 1.0 FTE 7th grade Teacher at GDS, replacing Heather Kroll. For the 26-27 school year.

Zachary Peachey - 1.0 FTE Special Education Cross-Categorical Teacher at GDS, new FTE. For the 26-27 school year.

Mesa Haugen - 1.0 FTE 1st Grade Teacher at WINN, replacing Kayla Repinski for the 26-27 school year.

Jodi Brandsma - 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at CGS, replacing Peggy Riley for the 26-27 school year.

Layne Hazzard - 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at CGS, replacing Jodi Brandsma for the 26-27 school year.

Allie Nordskog - 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at WINN, replacing Taylor Cota for the 26-27 school year.

Isabella Bamlett - 1.0 FTE Special Education-Cross Categorical Teacher at GRS, replacing Tina Douglas for the 26-27 school year.

Logan Rynes - 1.0 FTE 4th grade Teacher at WINN, new FTE for the 26-27 school year.

Mahri Lawton - 1.0 FTE 5th grade Teacher at GRS, replacing Courtney Van Hoof for the 26-27 school year.

John Ploeser - 1.0 FTE French Teacher at GDS, replacing Ibrahima Doumbya for the 26-27 school year.

Tara Korotka - 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher at WINN, replacing current LTE contact for the 26-27 school year.

Ana Verhagen - 1.0 FTE 1st grade Teacher at CGS, replacing Anne Hudkins for the 26-27 school year.

3. Staff Resignations/Retirements

Resignations

Clarissa Hitter - 1.0 FTE 8th grade Teacher at GDS, effective 6/12/2026. Resignation received 4/14/2026.

Sara Ehlers - 1.0 FTE Music Teacher at WINN, effective 6/12/2026. Resignation received 5/6/2026.

4. Vouchers Payable

5. 2026-2027 Certified Staff Contracts

6. School Safety Drills

7. 2026-2027 Fee Schedule

E. Celebration of Excellence

1. State Champion Powerlifters Kaliea Knothe and Nick Gallagher were recognized for their accomplishments.

2. SRO Luke Wunsch introduced Recon the Service Dog

3. The Jerry Awards - Monona Grove High School's production of The Little Mermaid has been awarded Outstanding Musical through the Jerry Awards. In addition, Leena Rathgeber is the recipient of the Outstanding Lead Award and Conor Jacklin recognized as Outstanding Dance Performance. Blake Ziegler and Leena Rathgeber are also recognized as Spirit Award recipients.

F. Student Board Report

Elsa Beuthling, the 2025-2026 Student Representative to the Board shared a report with the Board.

G. Public Appearances

1. Chelsey Pepper - Not in attendance Public Comment was read on Ms. Pepper's behalf.

2. Nicole Schoenbeck Claas

3. Caitlin Roa

H. Action Items

1. 2027 Health & Dental Insurance Renewal

Motion: Rachelle Miller moved approval of the 2027 Health & Dental Insurance Renewal, as presented. Philip Haven seconded. Roll call vote: Manning - aye, Haven - aye, Hartz - aye, Stone - aye, Lehmann - aye, Miller - aye, Cook - aye. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Certified Staff Handbook

Motion: Rachelle Miller moved approval of the Certified Staff Handbook, as presented. Janice Stone seconded. Roll call vote: Manning - aye, Haven - aye, Hartz - aye, Stone - aye, Lehmann - aye, Miller - aye, Cook - aye. The motion passed 7-0.

3. 2026-27 Certified Staff Salary Compensation Plan

Motion: Janice Stone moved approval of the 2026-27 Certified Staff Salary Compensation Plan, as presented. Philip Haven seconded. Roll call vote: Manning -

aye, Haven - aye, Hartz - ABSTAIN, Stone - aye, Lehmann - aye, Miller - aye, Cook - aye. The motion passed 6 ayes - 1 abstain - 0 nays.

4. 2026-27 MGEA Certified Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement

Motion: Philip Haven moved approval of the 2026-27 Certified Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement, as presented. Janice Stone seconded. Roll call vote: Manning - aye, Haven - aye, Hartz - ABSTAIN, Stone - aye, Lehmann - aye, Miller - aye, Cook - aye. The motion passed 6 ayes - 1 abstain - 0 nays.

5. Human Growth & Development Recommendation

Motion: Rachelle Miller moved approval of the proposed update to Human Growth & Development scope and sequence, as presented. Stephanie Lehmann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Policy Update - Second Read - Finance & Operations Committee

Motion: Rachelle Miller moved approval of Finance & Operations Policy Update, as presented. Philip Haven seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Revised 2026-2027 Schedule of Regular Board Meetings, Dates and Locations

Motion: Philip Haven moved approval of the Revised 2026-2027 Schedule of Regular Board Meetings, Dates and Locations, as presented. Janice Stone seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Discussion Items

1. District Real Estate and Utilization

The Board discussed the District Real Estate and Utilization strategy. There was consensus among the Board to focus on Maywood. No action was taken.

2. 2026-2027 Preliminary Budget

Kristin Sobocinski shared the 2026-2027 Preliminary Budget. No action was taken.

J. Informational Items

1. Teaching, Learning & Equity Committee – Rachelle Miller shared a brief report.

2. Finance & Operations Committee - Philip Haven shared a brief report.

3. Personnel Committee – Janice Stone shared a brief report.

4. Policy & Legislative Engagement Committee - Janice Stone shared a brief report.

5. Monona Grove Education Foundation – Susan Manning shared a brief report.

K. Superintendent Report

Dr. Fredrich shared a report with the Board.

L. Future Meeting Dates

Policy & Legislative Engagement Committee - Tuesday May 19, 2026 at 8:00am - District Office

Teaching, Learning and Equity Committee - TBD

Finance & Operations Committee - Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 4:00pm, virtually, via Zoom

Personnel Committee - Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 4:00pm, virtually, via Zoom

Board of Education - Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 6:00pm - District Office

M. Adjournment

Motion: Philip Haven moved to adjourn at 9:11pm. Stephanie Lehmann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: Monona Grove Board of Education
June 9, 2026