

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the Board of Education of Independent
School District No. 701 of Hibbing, St. Louis County, Minnesota

July 8, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on July 8, 2026, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Gabardi, Galatz, and Polcher.

Members Absent: Chair Berklich

Director McLaughlin served as Chair Pro-Tem

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

Director Egan-7/8/26 joint meeting with Chisholm School Board

Director McLaughlin-Jr Jacket marching band

Administrators and Staff: None

Committee Report: None

Superintendent Report:

Carrie McDonald-Chisholm joint meeting, MARSS Appeal and MARSS Assessment, School Board election filing period 7/14/26 – 7/28/26, in August she will have a meeting for the candidates running for the School Board. High School project is on schedule to be move in ready on 8/14/26, and Community Ed update.

APPROVE AGENDA WITH THE ADDENDUM

Moved by Director Galatz, supported by Director Polcher to approve the agenda with the Addendum. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the June 17, 2026 and the following: Approve the hiring of Alysha Reinhardt, JV Girls Volleyball Coach, effective August 17, 2026. Approve the resignation of Jadyn Colbaugh, C Team Boys Basketball Coach, effective June 3, 2026. Accept the layoff from Kerry Hutchings, Resource Room Supervisor, Lincoln, effective June 3, 2026. Accept the layoff from Emily Brownell, Speech Language Pathologist Assistant, Districtwide, effective June 3, 2026. Accept the layoff from Steve Conant, Custodian 1, High School, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., effective June 13, 2026. Accept the layoff from Bobbie Buss, Administrative Assistant, 12 months, High School, effective June 13, 2026. Postings and Transfers for the month of June, 2026:

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Approve posting Job #47A District Electrician, 24 hours/week, effective June 9, 2026. Approve posting Job #35 Custodian-Supervisor 1, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., High School, effective June 22, 2026. Approve the transfer of Kyle Winchester to Job #38 Custodian 1, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., High School, effective May 20 2026. Approve the transfer of Roberta Monacelli to Job #2 Administrative Assistant-11 month, Lincoln, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Rebeca Hadrava to Job #69 LPN, 30 hours, Washington, effective June 3, 2026. Approve the transfer of Roslyn Greenwood to Job #29 Custodian Supervisor Engineer, High School, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Benjamin Schmelzer to Job #38 Custodian 1, 11:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m., Lincoln, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Sondra Lowen to Job #2 Administrative Assistant-11 month, Washington, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Jennifer Fossell to Job #60 Pupil Support Assistant, districtwide, effective June 3, 2026. Approve the transfer of Christina Hagen to Job #2 Activities Administrative Assistant-10.5 month, High School, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Sibley Hanegmon to Job #2 Administrative Assistant-12 month, High School, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Patrick Lenzen to Job #38 Custodian 1, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., High School, effective June 13, 2026. Approve the transfer of Cade Roberts to Job #38 Custodian 1, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., Early Learning Center, effective June 13, 2026.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE MINNESOTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION AND POLICY RENEWAL FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO PAY DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,084.00

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve the membership in the Minnesota School Boards Association and policy renewal for the period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 and to authorize the Superintendent to pay dues in the amount of \$8,084.00. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH STERLE AND CO. FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 AUDIT AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Egan to approve the letter of agreement with Sterle and Co. for the Fiscal year 2026 Audit as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 LONG TERM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES PLAN AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve the Fiscal year 2027 long term facilities maintenance revenue and expenditures plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVE THE ELIMINATION OF THE POSITION FOR DIRECTOR OF
TEACHING AND LEARNING EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2026

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the elimination of the position for Director of Teaching and Learning effective June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF MANDY HUUSKO A 48-WEEK
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL TO A 48-WEEK ASSISTANT HIGH
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2026

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher to approve the transfer of Mandy Huusko a 48-week Elementary Principal to a 48-week Assistant High School Principal effective August 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE PAYMENT #1 TO HAWK CONSTRUCTION IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$36,028.75 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE HIBBING
HIGH SCHOOL CTE CLASSROOM RENOVATION PROJECT

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve payment #1 to HAWK Construction in the amount of \$36,028.75 for work completed on the Hibbing High School CTE Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE PAYMENT #2 TO HAWK CONSTRUCTION IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$214,847.30 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE HIBBING
HIGH SCHOOL CTE CLASSROOM RENOVATION PROJECT

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve payment #2 to HAWK Construction in the amount of \$214,847.30 for work completed on the Hibbing High School CTE Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE PAYMENT #1 TO MAX GRAY CONSTRUCTION IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$119,936.44 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE HIBBING
HIGH SCHOOL CTE BOILER BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve payment #1 to Max Gray Construction in the amount of \$119,936.44 for work completed on the Hibbing High School CTE Boiler Building Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING OF POLICY #409 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Superintendent McDonald presented the First Reading of Policy #409 Family and Medical Leave.

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FIRST READING OF POLICY #717 PROCUREMENT POLICY

Superintendent McDonald presented the First Reading of Policy #717 Procurement Policy.

CANCEL THE OPTIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING FOR JULY 22, 2026

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to cancel the optional school board meeting for July 22, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ISD 701 AND THE HIBBING ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT FOR THE
PERIOD JULY 1, 2025 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Egan to approve the collective bargaining agreement between ISD 701 and The Hibbing Administrative Unit for the period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ISD 701 AND THE HIBBING NON-ALIGNED UNIT FOR THE PERIOD
JULY 1, 2025 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Polcher to approve the collective bargaining agreement between ISD 701 and The Hibbing Non-Aligned Unit for the period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE 10 DAY INTERNAL POSTING FOR A PERMANENT
SUPERINTENDENT

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to post 10 days internally for a permanent Superintendent. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

VCA Cooperative Agreement

Chisholm Tennis Cooperative Agreement

APPROVE THE CHISHOLM TENNIS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Egan to approve the Chisholm Tennis Cooperative Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Naming Policy

Graduation date 2026-2027 school year

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APPROVE TO KEEP THE GRADUATION DATE ON JUNE 4, 2026

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Galatz to keep the graduation date on June 4, 2026. Motion did not pass.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

KIM MCLAUGHLIN, CLERK PRO-TEM