

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

August 5, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on August 5, 2026, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Polcher, Gabardi, Egan, Galatz and Chair Berklich

Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

Director Gabardi gave kudos to Lance for the business office procedures and discussed School Board Agenda Policy.

Director McLaughlin discussed having the Board submit a Resolution to MSBA to expand food service fund expense uses.

Administrators and Staff:

Derek Gabardi provided an update on upcoming High School events.

Committee Report: None

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent McDonald discussed "Anchor Yourself" MTSS Behavior, MARSS Assessment kick off, Administrators and Administrative Assistants meeting and our presence at local community events.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the July 8, 2026 Regular Meeting and the following: Consideration of Claims in the amount of \$2,938,541.70. Electronic Fund Transfers in the amount of \$869,564.02. Treasurer's and Investment Reports and Payrolls in the amount of \$4,314,286.39. Accept the resignation from Tim Entgelmeier, Grounds Person, Districtwide, effective July 31, 2026. Accept the resignation from Rally Hess as Alpine Ski coach, effective June

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30, 2026. Approve the hiring of Heather Matvey, Community Ed Coordinator, effective August 7, 2026. Approve the hiring of M'kayla Kessler, Title 1, Lincoln, effective August 31, 2026. Approve the hiring of Shannon Rocco, .4 FTE Reading Academic Interventionist, High School, effective August 31, 2026. Approve the hiring of Jerzie Gustafson, C Team girls volleyball coach, effective August 17, 2026. Approve the hiring of Shane Holman, JV boys' hockey coach, effective November 16, 2026. Approve the hiring of Russell Schmaltz, JV boys' soccer coach, effective August 17, 2026. Approve the hiring of Lyndsey Ziemer, Asst Varsity boys' soccer coach, effective August 17, 2026. Postings and Transfers for the month of July, 2026: Approve posting Job #41 Grounds Person, Districtwide, effective July 23, 2026. Approve the transfer of Cadence Roberts to Job #35 Custodian-Supervisor 1, High School, 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., effective July 29, 2026.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH ARCC FOR SPECIFIC SERVICES
FROM JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 3, 2027

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve the contract with ARCC for specific services from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATIONS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the resolution to accept donations. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT THE RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND TO CALL FOR THE SCHOOL
DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz to adopt the resolution relating to the election of the school board members and to call for the school district general election. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ST
LOUIS COUNTY AND ISD NO. 701 FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF
CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT FOR THE
PERIOD JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2028

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the purchase of service agreement between St Louis County and ISD No. 701 for the transportation of children and youth in foster care placement for the period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028. Motion amended to period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE MOU BETWEEN ISD NO. 701 AND AEOA FOR THE
PURPOSE OF COORDINATING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL
ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO PROVIDE BETTER
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVED FROM JULY 1,
2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

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Moved by Director Galatz, supported by Chair Berklich to approve the MOU between ISD No. 701 and AEOA for the purpose of coordinating mutually beneficial activities of the parties involved to provide better services for children and families served from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE MOA BETWEEN UMD AND ISD NO. 701 TO PARTNER
IN THE DELIVERY OF UMD APPROVED COURSEWORK TO
QUALIFIED STUDENTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the MOA between UMD and ISD No. 701 to partner in the delivery of UMD approved coursework to qualified students for the academic year 2026-2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE AND ISD NO. 701 FOR THE
2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the concurrent enrollment agreement between Central Lakes College and ISD No. 701 for the 2026-2027 academic year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN PEDIATECH
NURSING AND ISD NO. 701 FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the Agreement between Peditach Nursing and ISD No. 701 for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISD
NO. 701 AND KYINTERP, INC. FOR INTERVENER SERVICES FOR
THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between ISD No. 701 and Kyinterp, Inc. for Intervener Services for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ISD NO. 701 AND KYINTERP, INC. FOR INTERPRETER SERVICES
FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Galatz to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between ISD. No. 701 and Kyinterp, Inc. for Interpreter Services for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVE PAY APPLICATION 002 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,626.14
FROM MAX GRAY CONSTRUCTION FOR WORK COMPLETED ON
THE HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL CTE BOILER BUILDING RENOVATION
PROJECT.

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve pay application 002 in the amount of \$142,626.14 from Max Gray Construction for work completed on the Hibbing High School CTE Boiler Building Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE PAY APPLICATION 003 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$609,618.94
FROM HAWK CONSTRUCTION, INC FOR WORK COMPLETED ON
THE HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL CTE CLASSROOM RENOVATION
PROJECT.

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve pay application 003 in the amount of \$609,618.94 from HAWK Construction, Inc for work completed on the High School CTE Classroom Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING OF POLICY #531 IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Superintendent McDonald presented the First Reading of Policy #531 Immunization Requirements.

SECOND READING OF POLICY # 409 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

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

SECOND READING OF POLICY #717 PROCUREMENT

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

APPROVE POLICIES

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Galatz to approve the following Policies.

- 208 Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies
- 402 Disability Nondiscrimination
- 423 Employee-Student Relationships
- 506.5 School Resource Officers
- 510 Enrollment of Nonresident Students
- 517 Student Disability Nondiscrimination
- 618 Literacy and The Read Act
- 716 Public Data and Data Subject Requests

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CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to approve the closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05 subd 3(a) to evaluate the performance of Interim Superintendent Carrie McDonald at 4:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to go into open session at 4:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

Permanent Superintendent Position:

Director Polcher made a motion to amend the current contract to remove Interim, supported by Director Galatz. Directors Polcher and McLaughlin will work with the attorney to complete negotiations for a long-term contract to begin in December. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Education Director Licensure:

Director Polcher made a motion to cover the cost for Carrie McDonald to obtain the Community Education Director Licensure, supported by Chair Berklich. Motion carried unanimously.

Graduation:

Derek Gabardi & James Plese requested to move 2026-2027 Graduation to Sunday, June 6 at 2 p.m.

Director McLaughlin made a motion to move 2026-2027 Graduation to Sunday, June 6 at 2 p.m., supported by Director Polcher. A roll call vote was taken.

For: Directors Polcher, Egan, McLaughlin

Against: Chair Berklich and Directors Gabardi and Galatz

Motion failed

Director Gabardi made a motion to hold 2026-2027 Graduation on Friday, June 4 at 7 p.m., supported by Director Galatz. A roll call vote was taken.

For: Directors Galatz, Gabardi, Polcher and Chair Berklich

Against: Director McLaughlin

Abstain: Director Egan

Motion carried 4-1 with 1 abstaining

Naming Policy: Discussion about not having a policy.

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ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn
the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK