

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

August 19, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on August 19, 2026, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Polcher, Gabardi, Egan, and Chair Berklich

Members Absent: Director Galatz

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

Director McLaughlin thanked all that helped with fill the bus and all that donated school supplies.

Administrators and Staff: None

Committee Report: None

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent McDonald and the Administrative team attended a Databased Decision Making seminar at NESC, Heather Matvey has multiple new program ideas for Community Ed that are we are excited about, they are finalizing the inservice schedule and the School Board Members were invited to tour the third floor.

APPROVE AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA WITH ADDENDUM

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda with the Addendum which consists of the Minutes from the August 5, 2026 Regular Meeting and the following for the month of July, 2026: Consideration of Claims in the amount of \$1,180,379.84. Electronic Fund Transfers in the amount of \$481,165.50. Treasurer's and Investment Reports and Payrolls in the amount of \$350,662.30. Accept the resignation from Ann Demoski-Roberts, Special Education Teacher, Washington, effective August 7, 2026. Accept the resignation from Heather Matvey, .6 FTE Title I Teacher, Lincoln, effective

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August 7, 2026. Accept the resignation from Brynn Rhodes, Pupil Support Assistant, effective August 6, 2026. Accept the resignation from Kaitlyn Fosso, Fall Assistant Cheer Advisor, effective August 3, 2026. Accept the resignation from Trevor Howard, Technology Technician, District Wide, effective August 11, 2026.
Approve the hiring of Wynona Butler, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Early Learning Center, effective August 31, 2026.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR DONATIONS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Egan to approve the resolution for donations. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE CONTRACT AMENDMENT BETWEEN I.S.D. NO. 701, HIBBING, AND CARRIE MCDONALD

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the contract amendment between I.S.D. No. 701, Hibbing, and Carrie McDonald. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN I.S.D. NO. 701, HIBBING, AND INAC, INC. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Food Service Management Contract between I.S.D. No. 701, Hibbing, and INAC, Inc effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR VENDED MEALS WITH KIDDY KAROUSEL FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED

Moved by Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the renewal of the contract for vended meals with Kiddy Karousel for the 2026-2027 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR VENDED MEALS WITH CHILDREN OF GRACE FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED

Moved by McLaughlin, supported by Director Gabardi to approve the renewal of the contract for vended meals with Children of Grace for the 2026-2027 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR VENDED MEALS WITH DREAM WEAVER FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED

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Moved by Gabardi, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the renewal of the contract for vended meals with Dream Weavers for the 2026-2027 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM RENEWAL
BETWEEN HIBBING PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND VICTORY CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the School Nutrition Program renewal between Hibbing Public Schools and Victory Christian Academy effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM RENEWAL
BETWEEN HIBBING PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND ASSUMPTION
CATHOLIC SCHOOL EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Berklich to approve the School Nutrition Program renewal between Hibbing Public Schools and Assumption Catholic School effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE “POST SECONDARY OPTIONS” PROGRAM SERVICE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN MINNESOTA NORTH COLLEGE AND I.S.D.
NO. 701, HIBBING, FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director Polcher to approve the “Post Secondary Options” program service agreement between Minnesota North College and I.S.D. No. 701, Hibbing, for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried 3-1 with Director McLaughlin abstaining.

APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN I.S.D. NO.
701, HIBBING, AND CHARLES WAGNER AS THE INDIAN
HOMESCHOOL LIAISON, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 31, 2026 – AUGUST
31, 2027

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the employment agreement between I.S.D. No. 701, Hibbing, and Charles Wagner as the Indian Homeschool Liaison, effective August 31, 2026 – August 31, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE SPORTS
BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARDS OF I.S.D. NO. 701, HIBBING, AND
I.S.D. NO. 695, CHISHOLM

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the agreement for cooperative sports between the school boards of I.S.D. No. 701, Hibbing, and I.S.D. No. 695, Chisholm. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION TO THE
MSBA FOR CONSIDERATION, ALLOWING THE USE OF FOOD
SERVICES FUND BALANCE FOR UNCOLLECTIBLE FOOD SERVICE
ACCOUNTS WHILE MAINTAINING COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL
REQUIREMENTS

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve the submission of a draft resolution to the MSBA for consideration, allowing the use of food services fund balance for uncollectible food service accounts while maintaining compliance with Federal requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE WASHINGTON/EARLY LEARNING CENTER
STUDENT / PARENT HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Washington /Early Learning Center Student / Parent Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT /
PARENT HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR AS
AMENDED

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Lincoln Elementary School Student / Parent Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT / PARENT
HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve the Hibbing High School Student / Parent Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE BLUEJACKET VIRTUAL SCHOOL STUDENT
HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Bluejacket Virtual School Student Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE DISTRICT TEACHER'S HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-
2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Chair Berklich to approve the District Teacher's Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

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SECOND READING OF IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Superintendent McDonald presented the Second Reading of Policy 531 Immunization Requirements.

APPROVE POLICY 408 HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Gabardi to approve Policy 408 Harassment and Violence. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 409 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve Policy 409 Family and Medical Leave. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 503 STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Gabardi to approve Policy 503 Student Attendance. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 505 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve Policy 505 Student Discipline. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 518 TITLE IX SEX NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY, GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND PROCESS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve Policy 518 Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 607 INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve Policy 607 Internet and Technology Acceptable Use and Safety. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 614 STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND MENTORING

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve Policy 614 Staff Development and Mentoring. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 619 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher to approve Policy 619 Graduation Requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVE POLICY 717 PROCUREMENT

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher to approve Policy 717 Procurement. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 804 CRISIS MANAGEMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL
AND LINCOLN

Moved by Director Gabardi, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve Policy 804 Crisis Management for High School and Lincoln. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE POLICY 805 CRISIS MANAGEMENT FOR WASHINGTON
AND EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve Policy 805 Crisis Management for Washington and Early Learning Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

Substitute Employee Compensation Schedule: will be brought to the next board meeting for approval.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK