Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 23, 2026
Time: 6:00PM-8:00PM
Location: In person & Online: C. E. C. at J. J. Hill

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1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairperson Erik Skold.

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2. Roll Call / Attendance

Members Present:

- Erik Skold (Chair)
- Tony Walker
- Katy Mommaerts
- Renada Rutmanis
- Stephanie Berwald
- Rob Lindberg
- Chue Xiong
- Matt Severns
- Katherine Young
- Chelsey Smith
- Nikol Gordon
- Doug Grave
- Lizzie Earnest
- Wendy Flinner
- Colin McKiernan
- Mulu Kebede
- Robert Harri
- Online- Tiffany Scott-Knox

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3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December 2025)

6:36PM

Motion to approve minutes by Colin McKiernan, seconded by Chelsey Smith.
Motion carried.

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4. New Business

6:38-7:00PM

Topic of meeting introduced by Anthony Walker

- Levy approved last November $37.2 million
- Less students mean less revenue
- Staffing Levels need to be adjusted
- The District cannot draw down the fund balance any longer

6:42

Board FY27 Budget Perimeters:
Maintain Full day Pre-K as a priority
Retain 95% staff
Revenue compared to Expenses

- 85% is personal • $14.47 Million reduction

7:00PM

Community Education Budget Presentation

- J.J. Hill Building Programming
- Build up Nature Pre-k, DC, Youth & Adult Enrichment
- Support ABE and Stabilize ECFE
- CE will operate Print, Copy, Mail

Full Budget Breakdown

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Saint Paul Public Schools

5. Program Updates

7:23PM

ABE Budget Presented by Renada Rutmanis

- Hard to predict anything for funding
- Very few refugees coming into the country and very few second refugees
- Federal funding unpredictable

7:30PM

Enrichment Presented by Katy Mommaerts

- State Fair Parking Lot brings in $85K and that all goes to transportation
- Adult Enrichment must cover its expenses per legal statutes

7:40PM

Discovery Club Presented by Rob Lindberg

- Needs to grow J. J. Hill and Bruce Vento
- $1.50 a day cost increase
- 20 hour or more Child Care Worker positions are now eligible for benefits

7:50PM

ECFE Presented by Stephanie Berwald

- Budget based on birthrates going down
- Are going to provide older school age care for siblings
- More community outreach

7:58PM

- Admin Budget
- Flipside Grant still pending
- Overall Staff reductions are very small
- We want to stabilize programming because we have no idea what is to come based on community need and government funding

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8:07PM

Motion to Approve Budget

- Robert Harri motion to approve
- Passed

Adjournment

8:15PM