Park Rapids Area School Board
Regular Meeting Agenda
Monday, August 24th, 2026
6:00 PM
Park Rapids School Board Room

Chairperson Safratowich called the meeting to order. Members present and order to vote were Morgan, Diekman, Hoyt, Pike, Kocka & Safratowich. Principals Jeff Johnson and Mike LeMier were present as were Business Manger Kent Fritze, Superintendent Lance Bagstad along with staff and community members.

RECITED the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVED Agenda as presented: **Morgan / Kocka**

PRESENTATION:

a. Sue Leopold – presented concerns regarding actions of the Detroit Lakes school board. She felt they were discriminating against LGBQ students and did not want that to happen in Park Rapids. She wanted all students to feel included and safe in their school.

APPROVED Consent Items as follows: **Pike / Morgan**

b. Approve payments Presented for August 2026
c. Approve Minutes of August 10th, 2026 Working Board Meeting
d. Approve donations made to the Park Rapids School District
e. Approve First Reading – Student Rights and Responsibilities, Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy 2026-2027 School Year
f. Approve Second Reading- Employee Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
g. Approve Second Reading- Substitute Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
h. Approve Second Reading – Elementary School Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
i. Approve Second Reading – High School Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
j. Approve Second Reading- Park Rapids Area Virtual Academy (PRAVA) Handbook 2026-2027 School year
k. Approve Second Reading – Activities Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
l. Approve Second Reading - Coaches Manual 2026-2027 School Year
m. Approve Second Reading – Technology Implementation Handbook 2026-2027 School Year
n. Approve Distance and E-Learning Days Plan (Inclement Weather)
o. Approve Fundraisers for 2026-2027 School Year
p. Approve PAWN Purchase of Service Agreements for 2026-2027 School Year
q. Approve FTE Increase for Vocal Music – Brian Bass, HS Choir, from 0.5 to 0.7 FTE
r. Approve Resignation - Gabriella DeBlieck, Paraprofessional
s. Approve Resignation - Victoria Schneider, Paraprofessional
t. Approve Resignation – Kendra Scholz, Paraprofessional
u. Approve Reinstating – Title I Para position for 26-27 school year
v. Approve New Hire – Hope Kern, Custodian I
w. Approve New Hire - Joseph Onsurez, Cooks Helper
x. Approve New Hire - Melinda Bergeron – HS Paraprofessional
y. Approve New Hire - Amanda Person – HS Paraprofessional
z. Approve New Hire – Ashley Blanchard – HS Paraprofessional
aa. Approve Volunteer Coach – Brian Rusche, Tennis Coach
bb. Approve Volunteer Coach – Ashley Hensel, Tennis Coach

Leadership Reports:

HEARD Monthly Superintendent Report – Lance Bagstad - Looking at the timelines for elections with three questions on the ballot concerning the school: Permanent School Fund, School Board members, and the Operating Referendum for Season Rec Properties. School district workshops begin next week with back to school right around the corner. We are exploring ways to collaborate with the neighboring school districts in some areas.

HEARD Monthly Business Manager Report – The auditors will be on site starting tomorrow for field work on the 2025-26 financials.

HEARD Monthly Principals' Report

- Jeff Johnson – We are cleaning up schedules and getting ready for workshops with staff. We have a new fine arts offerings with Brian Bass in the music area. Cell phones will be put away for the day. We will be eliminating energy drinks on campus.
- Mike LeMier – We are working with the Freshwater Staff on the transition and staffing requirements, Getting ready for Kindercamp and staff workshops.

HEARD Monthly Community Education Report – Jill Dickinson – Fall brochure is out, Store will be open during the open houses, reported on upcoming trips

HEARD Monthly Facilities Director Report – Mike Ridlon - Cleaning is complete and they are finishing maintenance requests. Currently spreading mulch at Century and outdoor spaces.

HEARD Monthly Activities Directors Report – Jeremy Nordick – Fall sports are rolling. The first tennis tournament was this week and we have many upcoming events. Reported changes in BOUND,

HEARD Monthly Special Education Directors Report – Jamie Wolthe - staffing is going well and filling positions, para professional ongoing learning, Staff Training occurring this next week, Looking for consistent support for our staff.

HEARD Monthly Transportation Directors Report – Mike Arvik – working at keeping sports moving, Will be at kindercamp and open houses, emailing out the routes for the year,

HEARD New Business:

Grade Level Enrollment Capacities 2026-2027 – resolution was read by Chairperson Safratowich for recommended caps at each grade level. **Kocka / Diekman.**

DISCUSSION:

Calendar Adjustments 2026-2027:

HS, 7-12, Parent/Teacher Conferences from Oct. 28 to Oct. 21 – **Kocka / Morgan**

Staff Development Day, K-12, from Jan. 18 to Jan 22 – **Morgan / Diekman**

Discussion on January, February, and March board meetings. Proposal of moving the first meeting of the month to the 2nd Monday and the second meeting of the month to the 4th Monday. **Kocka / Morgan**

DONATIONS Received and Appreciated

TO	FROM	AMOUNT/ITEM
Century Schools – Anderson	Sons of American Legion	$300.00
Century Schools	Essentia Health	$100.00

REVIEWED Other Items:

Monthly Board Committee Report – Bagstad reported on meeting with the marketing committee

Next Board Meeting Date – Tuesday, September 8th at 6:00 PM

ADJOURN at 6:34 pm – Pike / Morgan