MINNETONKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #276
District Service Center
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota

Minutes of August 6, 2026 School Board Meeting

The School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District #276 met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2026 in the Community Room at the District Service Center, 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota. Chairperson Kemerie Foss presided. Other Board members present were: Sally Browne, Karen Jordan, Taunya Kolbinger, Dan Olson, Michael Remucal and Superintendent David Law, ex officio. Absent: Meghan Selinger. The meeting was also livestreamed on the District's YouTube channel.

Chairperson Foss then called the meeting to order and asked that everyone stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1. **AGENDA**

   Olson moved, Remucal seconded, that the School Board approve the agenda, as presented. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

2. **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

   Chairperson Foss noted that this opportunity for comment was available to community members who wished to address the Board on any item on that night's agenda. No one responded to this invitation to speak.

3. **APPROVAL OF NEW AND UPDATED CURRICULAR RESOURCES**

   Pursuant to School Board Policies #603 and #606, Minnetonka Public Schools engages in a comprehensive curriculum review process to ensure instructional programming, resources, and assessments remain aligned with Minnesota standards, district priorities, and current research-based instructional practices. During the June School Board meeting, an overview of the curricular resources recommended for implementation beginning in the 2026–27 school year was provided. These recommendations included updated editions of existing instructional resources, a new K–5 Spanish Immersion Language Arts resource, annual Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) instructional materials, and elementary social-emotional learning resources that support student belonging and well-being. Following the June presentation, the recommended instructional resources were made available for public review throughout the summer in accordance with District policy. At the August 6 Board meeting, Elida Kane, Director of Academic Programs, asked the Board to approve the new and updated curricular resources. She also noted that only one community member had come to the District Service Center over the summer to review the materials.

Browne moved, Kolbinger seconded, that the Board approve the new and updated curricular resources. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

4. UPDATE ON PARENT SURVEY

Each year, Minnetonka Schools surveys parents about their family's educational experience in our district. Our 2026 Parent Survey was administered from late May to early June and captured 1,602 completed responses. All parents were invited to participate, and multiple reminders were sent to increase participation. Although this is not a random sample survey, we are confident in the results. Demographic questions indicated that respondents were consistent with our student population. To ensure best practices in achieving accurate results, we have enlisted assistance to build the annual parent survey from Morris Leatherman, a well-respected firm with 30+ years of experience in working with school districts in Minnesota on developing surveys.

Results of this year's survey revealed parents have high confidence in our programs, schools, teachers and leadership. 96% of respondents rate the education provided by the Minnetonka School District as excellent or good, with 63% of them rating it excellent. 95% of elementary school parents, 93% of middle school parents and 92% of high school parents would recommend their school to friends or neighbors. 91% of elementary parents, 87% of middle school parents and 90% of high school parents say they believe their school principal is accessible to them when they have questions or concerns. 96% of elementary parents, 93% of middle school parents and 93% of high school parents say they believe their child's school provides a safe learning environment. 90% of parents believe our community receives a good value from its investment in our local public schools.

As Executive Director of Communications Dr. JacQui Getty shared, overall, the survey results were positive. Parents expressed satisfaction with district and school leadership, teachers and staff, academic rigor, student opportunities, communication, and safety, to name a few top areas. This year, more parents than in years past expressed their advice to the district regarding their desire for more balance and guidelines regarding student use of technology (including, in particular, student screen time use and iPad use). Some parents also shared their advice on what they see as a need for AI literacy training for students and teachers, reducing homework, strengthening mental health supports and more.

Chairperson Foss thanked Dr. Getty for the report. She asked whether there were multiple notifications to parents to encourage them to respond to the survey. Dr. Getty said yes there were several reminders. Board member Jordan asked how this year's response numbers compare to past years. Dr. Getty said last year there were about 1,680 respondents, so there was not a significant difference year over year.

5. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

For more than a decade, Minnetonka Schools has continuously evaluated and implemented educational technology tools to enhance student learning. As a research-

driven institution proven and promising teaching and learning practices form the basis for educational technology decisions. Educational technology exists for instructional purposes; it is not a replacement for high quality instruction. As new research evolves so, too, do the guidance and practices that are promoted and supported in the classroom.

This year, the School Board set a goal to continue to ensure that instructional use of technology, tools and resources are intentional and enhance instruction and student learning. The following components are part of this goal:

a) *The District will continue to implement best practices around intentionality of technology use.*

b) *The District will examine, assess, and determine whether any adjustments may be considered regarding the uses of screen time for students, particularly for our youngest learners. Teachers will be provided with any guidance and/or tools needed to adapt to adjustments made in this area.*

c) *The District will monitor evidence-based practices in the incorporation of AI technology and student cell phone access at school, making adjustments and communicating with students, parents and staff, as appropriate.*

d) *The District will continue to educate students and families about essential skills for responsible digital citizenship, including technology-related measures required by the State of Minnesota.*

e) *The District will provide updates to the Board regarding this work.*

Associate Superintendent Dr. Amy LaDue, Executive Director of Technology Amanda Fay, and Director of Academic Programs Elida Kane presented an update of the direction and guidance for educational technology use that will be provided to staff as they return to start the new school year. It is important to note that this has been an ongoing process in our District since the initial implementation of technology tools in classrooms. This area continues to evolve at a rapid rate. As with all educational practices, recommendations and practices shift as new evidence and research become available.

Chairperson Foss said the Board appreciates the educator-informed intentionality that has gone into this process, and that the Board understands this is not an overnight change. She said she appreciates our leadership is partnering with our parents and community. Board member Browne asked what the District can do to monitor the actual device usage of students (on school-issued devices). Ms. Fay shared the applications the District uses and how those are used. Board member Browne also asked about tools for parents to see the applications. Ms. Fay shared about that resource, as well. Board member Browne said she feels there is great anticipation and excitement, and she wondered if the impact will be greater in some classes vs. others. She asked what these changes might look like for teachers. Ms. Fay said District leadership is working with technology coaches who work

closely with teachers to help support them and to build out resources they will need. Tech coaches will sit down and help teachers rethink some of their current processes. Ms. Kane said teachers also want to see this shift and when you've been doing something one way for a while it can take some time to make changes, but we'll be supporting teachers throughout this process.

Vice Chairperson Olson said he is happy to see this work progress and looks forward to seeing how implementation goes. Superintendent Law said the next update on this work will likely come at the building and classroom level. Board member Kolbinger said she appreciates the flexible thinking and is pleased that the District is being so thoughtful and intentional on this and is considering the parent impact. She also said change can be hard, and she agrees some aspects might take some time to shift. Board member Jordan asked the presenters to clarify whether there will be a survey about this in the fall. Dr. LaDue confirmed there will be, as that will provide our District with some real-time feedback and guide next steps, as this is a work in progress and we want to be thoughtful and intentional. Board member Remucal asked whether the data we are collecting on student use can be viewed alongside our data about student well-being. The presenters said that's something we can explore.

6. UPDATE ON PARENTING WITH PURPOSE REFRESH

Minnetonka is committed to empowering families in their children's education through trusted, objective, evidence-based insights that connect classroom learning with a child's home life. Minnetonka Schools is refreshing and re-launching Parenting with Purpose, a district-wide family education initiative serving families from Early Childhood through Transition (ages 0–22). Its mission is to provide families with clear, reliable guidance as they navigate the wide range of parenting information available today.

Parenting with Purpose is an intentional speaker series utilizing a layered engagement model that recognizes families have varying amounts of time, energy, and interest. This four-tiered delivery model allows stakeholders to self-select how deep to go with their learning. The program is grounded in four core principles: modeling critical thinking, tailoring content to five developmental bands (Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle School, High School, Transitions Plus), actionable and accessible material and a commitment to reflective, evidence-grounded thinking. Content is rooted in peer-reviewed developmental science and behavioral research.

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Dr. Christine Breen and Executive Director of Community Education Kim Carlson spoke about the team leading this refresh and outlined the upcoming speakers and areas of focus for the 2026–2027 school year. Board Chairperson Foss thanked the presenters and said there is great synergy with what we have going on with instructional technology, so great timing! Board member Jordan said she loves that the District is doing this and is offering in-person as well as virtual options to engage in the content. Board member Browne said she wanted to thank the parents who originally nurtured and supported the Parenting with Purpose program.

7. **RECOGNITION OF EDUCATORS RECEIVING CONTINUING CONTRACT STATUS**

Each year, the administration recommends to the School Board the names of those teachers and administrators who have completed their probationary period, and whom we are recommending receive continuing contract status. To be eligible for this status, a teacher or administrator must have served either a three-year probationary period in the Minnetonka Public Schools, or in cases where the teacher or administrator previously served three consecutive years in a single school district or charter school in Minnesota or another state, the teacher or administrator would serve a one-year probationary period in Minnetonka.

Both Minnesota law and our policies require thorough and regular performance evaluations of all probationary teachers and administrators, and we provide support for them through mentoring and regular staff development training. As Superintendent Law shared, District administration is confident that the educators presented for the School Board's review meet the standards expected of excellence and will serve our community and students well. Board Chairperson Foss congratulated those educators who have received continuing contract status.

8. **APPROVAL OF SALE OF 2026B COP BONDS**

At the School Board Meeting of May 28, 2026, the School Board authorized the sale of $1,995,000 Certificates of Participation Bonds for the purpose of constructing an addition to the East Parking Lot at Minnetonka High School. The bonds were sold on July 8, 2026 at a 4.79% interest rate. The bond sale began at 8:30 a.m. and was completed by 11:00 a.m., with many of the coupons having multiple entities bidding to purchase them. As Executive Director of Finance and Operations Paul Bourgeois shared, this reflects the District's high credit quality due to its Aaa General Obligation Bond Rating.

Jordan moved, Olson seconded, that the Board approve the bond sale resolution as prepared by Dorsey & Whitney. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

9. **APPROVAL OF SALE OF 2026C COP BONDS**

At the School Board Meeting of May 28, 2026, the School Board authorized the sale of $1,995,000 Certificates of Participation Bonds for the purpose of constructing a second student drop off and pick up driveway at Scenic Heights Elementary School. The bonds were sold on July 27, 2026, at a 5.04% interest rate. The bond sale began at 9:30 AM and was completed by 11:00 AM, with many of the coupons having multiple entities bidding to purchase them. As Mr. Bourgeois shared, this reflects the District's high credit quality due to its Aaa General Obligation Bond Rating.

Remucal moved, Jordan seconded, that the Board approve the bond sale resolution as prepared by Dorsey & Whitney. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

10. APPROVAL OF SALE OF SURPLUS TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT

Mr. Bourgeois presented this item to the Board. As part of updating instructional technology in the District, when iPads or laptops are replaced, the District sells the used equipment in a reverse bid process where the District accepts the highest offer to purchase the used equipment.

After the recent lease purchase of 4,800 iPads and 750 MacBooks from Apple Computer for the next three years, the District advertised 2,180 iPads and 55 MacBooks for sale as surplus equipment. Proposers were directed to give guaranteed value for the purchase of the full lot of equipment. Proposals were received on July 8, 2026. Ten proposals meeting the specification of a guaranteed value for the full lot of equipment were received as follows:

Tech Reboot	*$276,940.00*
Teksavers	*$255,798.87*
Betco Sales Corp	*$229,802.00*
Limitless USA	*$228,718.00*
Mac Of All Trades	*$217,297.00*
NextGen ITAD	*$215,500.00*
NextPhase ITAD	*$215,201.00*
Tech Defenders	*$184,664.00*
Electronics Bazaar	*$171,855.00*
GDI Trading	*$154,993.00*

Kolbinger moved, Browne seconded, that the Board approve the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 does hereby accept the high proposal of Tech Reboot in the amount of $276,940.00 for 2,180 surplus iPads and 55 surplus MacBooks.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Olson moved, Remucal seconded, that the Board approve the recommendations included within the following Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of July 2, 2026 special meeting
- Payment of Bills
- Recommended Personnel Items

- Gifts and Donations: $1000.00 from Paul and Claudia Bourgeois and $276.00 from Karen Jordan and Igor Korolev; both to be placed in the Minnetonka Public Schools Perpetual Endowment Trust Fund. $136,150.41 from the Minnetonka Public Schools Foundation to be placed in the Teacher Grant Fund for FY26-27. $60,768.00 from the Minnetonka Public Schools Foundation to be placed in the Endowment Fund for FY26-27. $1,520.00 from Anonymous to be placed in the Clear Springs Elementary Principal's Discretionary Fund. $450.00 from Dr. Dennis Peterson to be placed in the Dr. Dennis Peterson Scholarship Fund for Graduating Seniors. $144.85 from the Blackbaud Giving Fund and $30.00 from Charities Aid Foundation America, both to be placed in the MHS Principal's Discretionary Fund. $500.00 from the Blackbaud Giving Fund to be placed in the MME Principal's Discretionary Fund. $500.00 from the Glen Lake Optimist Club to be placed in the MHS Supermileage Team Fund. $200.00 from Gary & Nancy Peterson, $600.00 from KC & Theresa Williams, $2,500.00 from TEL FSI, Inc., $326.00 from Jeremy & Lindsay Ginter, and $100.00 from Scott & Mandy Burrows, all to be placed in the MHS Robotics Team Fund. $2,000.00 from First Student to be placed in the MHS Scholarship Fund for Graduating Seniors. $7,000.00 from the Minnewashta Elementary School PTO to be placed in the Minnewashta Elementary Principal's Discretionary Fund. $150.00 from the Excelsior Elementary School PTO to be placed in the Sam Chase Excelsior Elementary Kindergarten Programming & Curriculum Fund. $6873.00 from the Excelsior Elementary School PTO for VR headsets. $5,000.00 from the Excelsior Elementary School PTO for Media Center books. $100.18 from the Excelsior Elementary School PTO for "Picnic with the Principal" fundraiser prize. $49.94 from the Excelsior Elementary School PTO for booster classroom prizes. $2,800.00 from the Rotary Club of Lake Minnetonka/Excelsior to be placed in the 2026 English Learner Sponsorship Program Fund. $3,000.00 from the Lions Foundation of Victoria to be placed in the Graduating Seniors (from the Victoria community) Scholarship Fund. $107.92 from BBQ, Inc/Famous Dave's to be placed in the Minnetonka Community Education Project SOAR Fund. $45.00 from Deephaven Elementary School PTA to be used for Deephaven Elementary's 5th Grade Graduation ceremony. Plants from Tonkadale Greenhouse to be donated to the MHS Secret Garden. $371.10 from the American Online Giving Foundation to be placed in the Groveland Elementary Principal's Discretionary Fund. $11.20 from the Blackbaud Giving Fund to be placed in the MMW Principal's Discretionary Fund. Total Gifts and Donations thus far for 2025-2026: $232,573.60.
- Electronic Fund Transfers
- FY26 Non-Public School Transportation Reimbursement

Upon vote being taken on the foregoing Consent Agenda items, the motion carried unanimously.

12. **BOARD REPORTS**

None.

13. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Law commended Executive Director of Community Education Kim Carlson and her team for a very successful Tour de Tonka community bike ride this past Saturday, with more than 2,000 participants. He also noted that the District had held a groundbreaking ceremony earlier today for the new gymnasium/performing arts center at MMW and that ceremony will be repeated in two weeks at MME for their new space. The public is invited to the celebration. Superintendent Law also shared that it is a unique year with such a late Labor Day, so school begins on Tuesday, September 1, which is the Tuesday before Labor Day. There is no school on Monday, August 31.

14. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

Remucal moved, Olson seconded, adjournment at 8:15 p.m. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.



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Michael Remucal, Clerk