

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

October 7, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on October 7, 2026, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Gabardi, Galatz, Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich

Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

Director Gabardi gave an update on an MDE zoom meeting she attended that focused on PSEO. There are 3 more upcoming zoom meetings from MDE and she shared those dates with the board.

Sam Hardy said the start of the year has been successful, last home football game is October 9th and the fall ball is October 24th.

Administrators and Staff:

Mr. Berg gave a recap on the start of the school year, fastbridge testing, preschool screenings, morning messages from staff, themes every month focusing on Anchor Yourself, and multiple dates with upcoming activities.

Mr. Anderson gave an update on technology and thanked his staff.

Committee Report:

Director McLaughlin reminded the public when they go vote on November 3rd to vote on the Permanent School Trust Fund that is on the ballot.

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent McDonald reminded the board to let her know if they are attending the RAMS dinner on December 3rd. She talked about the multiple staffing requests she is getting daily, MCA test scores and there will be a closed session to discuss the Greenhaven Building at the next board meeting.

APPROVE AGENDA WITH ITEM A UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE
BUSINESS AS AMENDED

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve the agenda with item A under Administrative Business as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Polcher and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the September 23, 2026 and the following: Approve the hiring of

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

Courtney Worlie, Occupational Therapist, Districtwide, effective November 2, 2026. Approve the hiring of Michele Skalsky, Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours a week, effective October 8, 2026. Approve the hiring of Leah Sikich, Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours a week, Lincoln Elementary, effective October 8, 2026. Approve the hiring of Hailey Brant, Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours a week, Lincoln Elementary, effective October 8, 2026. Approve the hiring of Katelyn Theisen, Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours a week, High School, effective October 8, 2026. Approve the hiring of Sarah Zimmerman, Pupil Support Assistant, 30 hours a week, Washington Elementary, effective October 19, 2026. Accept the resignation from Savanna Mellesmoen, Pupil Support Assistant, Washington Elementary, effective October 5, 2026. Postings and Transfers for the month of September, 2026: Approve the posting of Job #38 Custodian 1, High School, Monday – Friday, 3:00 P.M. – 11:30 P.M., effective September 11, 2026.

Administrative Business:

ADOPT THE RESOLUTION REGARDING MSHSL DESIGNEES AND BOARD EXPECTATIONS FOR PROPOSED MSHSL BYLAW AND CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adopt the Resolution Regarding MSHSL Designees and Board Expectations for Proposed MSHSL Bylaw and Constitution Amendments. Being a resolution a rollcall vote carried as follows:

For: Directors Polcher, Egan, Gabardi, Galatz, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

The hereby Resolution is adopted and passed this 7th day of October, 2026.

APPROVE THE ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION REPORT PROVIDED BY MINNESOTA STATUTES AND RULES

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Assurance of Compliance with State and Federal Law Prohibiting Discrimination Report provided by Minnesota Statutes and Rules. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN I.S.D. NO. 701 AND FACTS EDUCATION SOLUTIONS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 15, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz to approve the purchase of services agreement between I.S.D. No. 701 and FACTS Education Solutions effective October 15, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Discussion Items:

Facility use agreement & Community Ed Instructor agreement

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn
the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK