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

October 21, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on October 21, 2026, in the High School Board Room. Members present: Directors McLaughlin, Polcher, Galatz, Egan and Chair Berklich

Members Absent: Director Gabardi
Student Director Sam Hardy

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

Steve Rahkola and Nicholas Mathiowetz from North Ridge Community Credit Union talked about the School Spirit Program and thanked the board for joining the program.

Administrative Reports:

Directors / Student Director:

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.

Administrators and Staff:

Mr. Snider and Mr. Bestul talked about staff team building, 5th grade Starbase trip to Duluth, school wide initiative "Bluejackets Staying Steady" and reminded the public about the Boys & Girls Club fundraiser, the lip sync battle, on October 21st at 6 p.m. at the High School.

Committee Report: None

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent McDonald gave a recap on the start of the first quarterly budget meetings, Auditors and Assessment results.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the Minutes from the October 7, 2026 Regular Meeting and the following for the month of September, 2026: Consideration of Claims in the amount of $3,534,822.30. Electronic Fund Transfers in the amount of $477,330.50. Treasurer's and Investment Reports and Payrolls in the amount of $1,677,335.65. Approve the

hiring of Sabrina Felten, Assistant Fall Cheer Advisor, effective August 17, 2026. Approve the hiring of Michele Manner, Varsity Alpine Ski Coach, effective November 9, 2026. Approve the hiring of Robb Bigelow, C Team Boys Basketball Coach, effective November 16, 2026. Approve the hiring of Kayla Hintz, 6-8 grade Yearbook Advisor, effective August 31, 2026. Approve the resignation for purposes of retirement from Frank Sikich, Custodian 1, Lincoln, effective December 3, 2026.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR DONATIONS

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

APPROVE THE PAYMENT APPLICATION #5 TO HAWK CONSTRUCTION, INC IN THE AMOUNT OF $86,194.83 FOR WORK DONE ON THE HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL CTE CLASSROOMS.

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz to approve the payment application #5 to HAWK Construction, Inc in the amount of $86,194.83 for work done on the Hibbing High School CTE classrooms. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE GROUP MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL RATES WITH BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD FROM JANURARY 1, 2027 – DECEMBER 31, 2027 AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director McLauglin, supported by Chair Berklich to approve the Group Medicare Supplemental Rates with Blue Cross Blue Shield from January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DISTRICT APPLICATION TO MSHSL FOUNDATION FOR THE HS ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT TO USE THE MSHSL FORM A GRANT FUNDING TO OFFSET FINANCIAL REDUCTIONS THAT ARE PROVIDED FOR THE FREE & REDUCED LUNCH STUDENTS AT HHS

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Galatz to approve the resolution supporting district application to MSHSL Foundation for the HS Activities Department to use the MSHSL form A grant funding to offset financial reductions that are provided for the free & reduced lunch students at HHS. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DISTRICT APPLICATION TO MSHSL FOUNDATION FOR THE HS ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT TO USE THE MSHSL FORM B GRANT FUNDING TO OFFSET THE COST OF TRAINNG THE HEAD COACHES IN FIRST AID/CPR

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve the resolution supporting district application to MSHSL Foundation

for the HS Activities Department to use the MSHSL form B grant funding to offset the cost of training the head coaches in First Aid/CPR. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE FACILITY AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to approve the Facility Agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE COMMUNITY ED INSTRUCTOR AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED

Moved by Director Egan, supported by Director Galatz to approve the Community Ed Instructor Agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS AN OFFER ON THE GREENHAVEN BUILDING

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Polcher to go into closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D04, Subdivision 3(b)(3) to consider an offer on the Greenhaven building, located at 323 E 37th St in Hibbing at 4:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Chair Berklich returned to open session at 5:04 p.m.

Discussion Items: None

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

_____

JOHN BERKLICH, CHAIR

ATTEST:

_____

JEFF POLCHER, CLERK