

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

Minutes of May 4, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

The School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District #276 met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2023 in the Community Room at the District Service Center, 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota. Chairperson Lisa Wagner presided. Other Board members present were: Mark Ambrosen, Katie Becker, Patrick Lee-O'Halloran, Michael Remucal, Meghan Selinger, Chris Vitale and Superintendent David Law, ex officio. The meeting was also livestreamed on the District's YouTube channel.

Prior to the meeting, Board members recognized, via a video, the following groups and individuals: DSC Honored Artists (Elementary); Boys Hockey State Champions; Boys Basketball State Qualifiers; Debate State Qualifiers; Speech State Qualifier; Middle School Knowledge Bowl Regional and State Award Winners; Minnesota Aspirations in Computing Award Winners; State Science and Engineering Fair Qualifiers (Middle School and High School); Statewide "Escape the Vape" Video PSA Contest – Third Place; Minnesota/U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Junior Duck Stamp Contest Winner; and the 2023 GiGi's Playhouse Hero's Award honoree.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FEES FOR FY24

Chairperson Wagner said that at this time, the Board would hold a Public Hearing on various proposed FY24 fees for courses, activities, clubs and other miscellaneous items.

Superintendent Law explained that by law, the District was required to hold a Public Hearing on proposed fees to accept public comment. He then asked Executive Director of Finance and Operations Paul Bourgeois to come forward and explain the proposed revisions to the fee schedule.

Mr. Bourgeois began by saying that at the high school level, there is one fee increase proposed by Principal Erickson and the Art Department to cover material costs and one fee increase for online ticketing due to the ticketing vendor increasing the fee:

Painting	\$25	\$5 increase
Online ticketing	\$0.75	\$0.50 increase

At the middle school level, there are three new enrichment club fees and three enrichment club fee increases proposed by the Activities Department:

Book Club	\$20	New fee
Crochet Club	\$5	New fee
Newspaper Club	\$10	New fee

Anime Club	\$15	\$5 increase
Baking Club	\$35	\$10 increase
Cooking Club	\$40	\$5 increase

At the elementary school level, there is one recommended change:

Field Trips	\$50 per year	\$5 increase
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Mr. Bourgeois also noted that Tonka Dome fees are recommended to increase by \$5 for each category.

Chairperson Wagner then invited members of the public to come forward and address the Board regarding the proposed changes to the fees. When no one came forward, she then closed the Public Hearing, called the meeting to order and asked that everyone stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

1. **AGENDA**

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

2. **SCHOOL REPORT: MHS**

MHS Principal Jeff Erickson shared work around student innovation. The presentation was led by MHS Teacher Mr. Breen and several students who were members of the Student Innovation Team. Principal Erickson also shared information about a new class entitled Disability Studies offered at MHS this year. That presentation was led by MHS Teacher Mr. Mulvaney and several students who were a part of the new course and who spoke about how important and valuable the course experience has been for them. Chairperson Wagner thanked Principal Erickson, the teachers and the students for the presentation, as it is powerful and important work. Board member Remucal added his thanks, saying it resonated for him and his family and he hopes the course and the students continue to flourish.

3. **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Chairperson Wagner 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. District resident Stacey Klein addressed the Board, expressing her concerns regarding disability and literacy awareness in the district.

4. **APPROVAL OF PROPOSED FEES FOR FY24**

Superintendent Law explained that by law, the District was required to hold a Public Hearing on proposed fees to accept public comment, and that Hearing had taken place earlier this evening. He then asked Executive Director of Finance and Operations Paul Bourgeois to

come forward and explain the proposed revisions to the fee schedule, for the benefit of the viewing public.

Mr. Bourgeois began by saying that at the high school level, there is one fee increase proposed by Principal Erickson and the Art Department to cover material costs and one fee increase for online ticketing due to the ticketing vendor increasing the fee:

Painting	\$25	\$5 increase
Online ticketing	\$0.75	\$0.50 increase

At the middle school level, there are three new enrichment club fees and three enrichment club fee increases proposed by the Activities Department:

Book Club	\$20	New fee
Crochet Club	\$5	New fee
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Mr. Bourgeois also noted that Tonka Dome fees are recommended to increase by \$5 for each category.

Becker moved, Lee-O'Halloran seconded, that the Board approve the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District 276 does hereby approve the fee changes for the high school, middle school and elementary levels, and Tonka Dome fees as listed in the proposed fee schedules for Fiscal Year 2024 and hereby adds them to the comprehensive list of class and activity fees maintained by Minnetonka Independent School District 276.

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

5. PREVIEW OF CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Minnetonka's annual Celebration of Excellence is Thursday, May 11, 2023. The event honors adults who represent the many excellent child-centered teachers, employees and volunteers serving our children every day. As Executive Director of Communications JacQui Getty shared, the public is invited to join this celebration at the Arts Center at MHS and via livestream. The program begins at 7PM, after a 6PM reception in the lobby of the Arts Center.

In addition to years of service and teacher and employee awards, the evening includes announcements of the Bradley G. Board Award for Excellence in Elementary Education, the Joyce Gustafson Memorial Award, the Judy Erdahl Memorial Award and several Spinnaker Awards for community volunteers. There are also Gold Partner Awards for outstanding contributors to the District's VANTAGE and MOMENTUM programs and a special tribute in honor of longtime district supporter Ron Kamps, who passed away earlier this year. The event concludes with the District's selection of an elementary teacher and a secondary teacher who will serve as Minnetonka's nominees for the 2024 Minnesota Teacher of the Year program. Dr. Getty thanked the Minnetonka Public Schools Foundation, Brad Board, the Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Rotary and the Friends of Judy Erdahl group for their generous sponsorship of the named awards and the people who all work so hard to make the event possible. She then aired a video preview of the event. Chairperson Wagner thanked Dr. Getty and her team for all of the work that goes into putting on this event.

6. ADOPTION OF 24-25 CALENDAR

Minnesota State Law requires the School Board to adopt a calendar prior to April 1 of the school year preceding the year the calendar will be in effect. As is the district's practice, the calendar is set a full year in advance of its due date. The calendar committee included teachers, paras, administrators, parents and students. The committee followed the School Board and state law parameters in developing their recommendations. Executive Director of Human Resources Anjie Flowers led the committee's work and presented the committee's recommendations to the School Board. She thanked the committee for its efforts and asked for the Board's support of the calendar committee's recommendations.

Selinger moved, Becker seconded, that the Board approve the 2024-25 calendar as presented. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

7. APPROVAL OF NON-RENEWALS

Superintendent Law presented this item to the Board. He explained that Minnesota law provides that "during the probationary period any annual contract with any teacher may or may not be renewed provided, however, that the School Board shall give any such teacher whose contract it declines to renew for the following school year written notice to that effect before July 1." This law applies to all teachers and administrators who are required to have a license as a requirement of their position. The reasons for termination of probationary staff are varied.

Chairperson Wagner then read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 276, that pursuant to Minnesota Stat. §122A.40, that the teacher contracts of the probationary teachers named in the provided document in Independent School District No. 276, are hereby recommended for termination and non-renewal by school district administration and the School Board has received and approves that recommendation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that written notice be sent to said teachers regarding the termination and non-renewal of said contract as provided by law.

Becker moved, Ambrosen seconded, that the Board approve the resolution as presented. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Vitale moved, Becker seconded, that the School Board approve the following recommendations included within the following Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of April 13 Regular Meeting
- Study Session Summary of April 27, 2023
- Payment of Bills – in the sum of \$9,103,868.11
- Recommended Personnel Items
- Gifts and Donations for April 2023: \$50.86 from the Rickenbach Family and \$37.50 from Kurt Hoddinot, both to be placed in the Scenic Heights Elementary School Principal Discretionary Fund. \$33.32 from FrontStream to be placed in the Groveland Elementary School Principal Discretionary Fund. \$11.20 from the Blackbaud Giving Fund to be placed in the MMW Principal Discretionary Fund. \$576.30 from the Groveland Elementary PTO to be placed in the Groveland Elementary School Classroom Music Supply Fund. \$1,500.00 from Adriane Brown & Jessica Spears, \$2,000.00 from Banner Engineering, \$1,000.00 from Robert & Jorie Malk, and \$50.00 from Jeffrey & Sheila Wyatt; all to be placed in the MHS Robotics Team Fund. \$10,413.02 from MHS Hockey to be placed in the MHS Girls Hockey Fund. \$3,000.00 from Crown Automotive to be placed in the MHS Girls Golf Team Fund. \$250.00 from the MHS Skippers Booster Club to be given to the MHS Earth Club. \$440.00 from the Excelsior Elementary PTO to be placed in the Excelsior Elementary Field Trip Fund for Young Authors Conference. \$273.00 from the Deephaven Elementary PTA to be placed in the Deephaven Elementary School Field Trip Fund for Young Authors Conference. \$195.20 from the Groveland Elementary PTO to be placed in the Groveland Elementary School Enrichment Fund (Grade 3 scissors for Ms. Zweber's class). \$660.00 from the Blackbaud Giving Fund/Eco-Lab to be placed in the MHS Student Research Fund. \$422.00 from the Minneapolis Jewish Federation to be placed in the MMW Holocaust Education Program Fund. \$15,760.00 from the Groveland Elementary PTO to be placed in the Groveland Elementary School Field Trip Fund. Total Gifts and Donations thus far for 2022-23: \$541,558.57.
- Electronic Fund Transfers

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

9. **BOARD REPORTS**

Board member Becker said that she and Board member Ambrosen had visited the Scenic Heights PTA to talk with the group about the School Board, the goals it has set for the district and how to communicate with the Board. This is the first in a series of visits the School Board members will make to the PTA and PTO groups this spring and next fall.

Vice Chair Selinger said the Minnetonka Preschool ECCE PTO will hold its spring fair on May 12 from 5-7:30PM. Community Ed is looking for community partners for fundraising for the fair and on an ongoing basis.

Board member Remucal, the Board representative on the District's Mental Health Advisory Committee, said that Health Services Director Annie Lumbar Bendson, who leads the work of the committee, has created and distributed to staff and principals a calendar of activities that can be completed to support mental health.

10. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

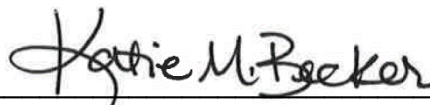
Superintendent Law said that he and the School Board had recently held a listening session with about 20 high school students to hear about their experiences at MHS, how they were feeling and what suggestions they had for school and district leadership. Listening sessions at MME and MMW will follow in the coming weeks.

11. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Wagner said this is an exciting time in the district with lots of recognitions and celebrations coming up, including the Celebration of Excellence (May 11) and Graduation (MHS Class of 2023 Graduation is June 8 and SAIL Graduation is June 6).

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Katie M. Becker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Katie Becker, Clerk