

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 196

This is a summary of the Oct. 7, 2024 Regular School Board meeting. The full text is available for public inspection at www.district196.org, at the District Office, or by standard or electronic mail.

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. at Dakota Ridge School. Present: Gardner, Johnson (chair), Magnuson, Mohamed, and Superintendent Bolsoni. Absent: Isaacs.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Stephanie Compton, Rosemount Middle School staff member.

Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Williams and carried with a 4-0 vote, to approve the agenda.

Board members and the superintendent recognized students and staff.

Five speakers advocated for a Spanish Language Immersion program. Four speakers recognized Cultural Family Advocates.

Motion by Mohamed, seconded by Gardner, and carried with a 4-0 vote to approve the following items: Minutes of the September 23, 2024, School Board meeting; Treasurer's Report for August 2024; Summary of Claims for August 2024; August 2024 Schedule of Investments, Revenues, and Expenditures; Personnel recommendations; Agreements for student teaching with Hamline and North Central Universities; Assurance of Compliance; Purchase of buses and related items; New Rosemount Middle School Bid Pack #1; 2024-25 Snow Removal Services; Various MSHSL Constitutional Amendments and Cooperative Sponsorship for Nordic Ski; Proclamations for Nutrition Services and Transportation Employees Appreciation Weeks.

Sorenson provided updates on plans to adjust elementary school attendance areas, including a transition proposal for current 3rd and 4th graders to remain at their current schools for up to two years.

Hughes reported on the district's use of FastBridge assessments to measure student learning progress, noting the tool's benefits in identifying students' needs.

DuChene reported official district enrollment at 29,049 students as of October 1, 2024, an increase of 88 students from the previous year.

Coyle presented proposed revisions to Policy 101 (Mission and Beliefs) and Policy 201 (General Organization), which were approved. Motion by Williams, seconded by Gardner and carried, with four members voting in favor and no member voting in opposition, to approve changes to Policy 101 and Policy 201.

The timeline for filling two board vacancies was outlined, one for Director Coulson (effective August 31, 2024) and one for Vice Chair Isaacs (effective October 31, 2024). Motion by Gardner, seconded by Williams and carried, with four members voting in favor and no member voting in opposition, to approve the proposed process and timeline for filling the vacancies as presented.

The School Board and superintendent shared updates.

Motion by Williams, seconded by Gardner and carried with a 4-0 vote, to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

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