

WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA SCHOOL BOARD NOTES CONTINUED

closely aligns with the meals program created by the Minnesota Department of Education. The Literacy and Read Act policy will now include screening guidelines for children in the dual immersion program as well as hiring and training guidelines for dual immersion staff. The Student Transportation Safety policy will no longer require bus safety training deadlines for late enrollment students. The Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material policy will now allow surplus or obsolete books to be donated to local families or students. Other changes are largely being made for grammatical or clerical reasons.

- The board approved their Graduation Requirements

policy. Due to White Bear Lake Area High School's switch to trimesters this fall, the policy committee revised the number of requirements necessary from each field of instruction for a student to graduate. According to Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jennifer Babiash, the requirements are in line with state standards for a trimester schedule. Additionally, high-school students will now have to take one credit of personal finance in either grade 10, 11 or 12. All school district policies may be viewed at www.isd624.org/about/district-policies.

- The board is paying its proportional share of \$55,400 to the Northeast Metropolitan Intermediate

School District 916 for its 2026-2027 long-term facilities maintenance plan.

- The board will renew its membership in the Minnesota State High School League for the 2025-2026 school year.

During July, the White Bear Lake Area School Board does not meet for monthly work sessions. Therefore, the board will next convene for its monthly regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at the new District Service Center at Sunrise Park, 2399 Cedar Ave., White Bear Lake.

Logan Gion



PRIMARY VOTERS' GUIDE 2025

WHITE BEAR LAKE MAYOR (TOP 2 MAKE NOVEMBER BALLOT)

Steve Laliberte

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Q. Why do you want to be mayor of White Bear Lake?

A. I would like to be your captain. In many ways a city is like a ship. We all live in the same geography. Instead of walking corridors we travel down our streets. We all eat and drink and yes go to the bathroom. All these things happen on a ship. They all happen in our town. It is our city government that keeps them all running. The city provides our water, sewer and our trash collection. The city paves our streets and plows the snow.

Most people get on a ship to travel the world. The draw is the activities, the pool, the games, the dancing and the drinking. Our town is our own little world. And what a world we have in White Bear Lake. We have the lake. We boat, we swim, we walk. For many it is the lake that brought us here and kept us here. Our city cares for the beaches, the parks, the ball fields and they even plow our walking trails.

Finally, a captain needs to keep the passengers safe. Our city provides for public safety.

We are all cruising through life in our town called White Bear Lake.

What is my goal? As my name suggests: Four more years of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness!

I would like your vote to captain the ship of our wonderful city for the next four years.

Mary Nicklawske

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Q. Why do you want to be mayor of White Bear Lake?

A. Like many of you, I have a deep appreciation for our city. After dedicating years of my career and personal life to public service, I want to use my skills to serve our community as the Mayor of White Bear Lake.

When I listen to the community, I hear a longing for leaders who are honest, transparent and hardworking. As someone who founded a successful business for the visually impaired, served on nonprofit boards, led fundraisers for St. Mary of the Lake School/Frassati, and coached varsity basketball, I understand what it means to "work for the people." Through measures such as budget strategies, guiding clients through challenging times in their lives, or motivating athletes to succeed, I understand how to connect, organize, and inspire people.

To be an effective mayor, first, being responsible with money is a priority. I'll ask the hard questions to ensure that taxes are well spent. Second, there is a need for a central source of communication from City Hall. I will ensure there is a communication hub that serves our multi-generational needs. Third, with a large aging population, I will establish a senior task force to develop solutions addressing the needs of our seniors.

White Bear Lake needs a mayor who will lead by example, recognize all our unique neighborhoods and be accessible to constituents. I will protect and honor our small-town feel, while ensuring our city is prepared for the future. I would be honored to be Mayor of White Bear Lake.

Matthew Schoenthaler

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Q. Why do you want to be mayor of White Bear Lake?

A. I am running for mayor of White Bear Lake because I deeply believe in the strength of our community, the value of transparency in leadership, and the importance of preserving the character that makes White Bear Lake a city people are proud to call home. As a lifelong resident and public-school employee, I've had the privilege of serving our youth and families daily — listening to their concerns, celebrating their milestones and understanding the challenges they face.

White Bear Lake is at a pivotal moment, balancing growth with preservation, safety with inclusion, and tradition with innovation. I want to ensure every decision made at City Hall reflects the needs and values of our residents. I'm committed to accessible leadership, protecting our neighborhoods, supporting responsible development and making sure families, seniors and small business owners all have a voice in our future.

My campaign isn't about politics — it's about people. I want to serve as a mayor who shows up, listens, and acts. Together, we can protect what we love about White Bear Lake and move forward — thoughtfully and united.

How to vote

The primary election will be Aug. 12. In-person absentee voting is available now from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Ramsey County Elections Office, located at 90 Plato Blvd. W., St. Paul.

Those who want to vote early can also request an absentee ballot and mail it in/drop it off to the Ramsey County Elections Office. Absentee voting is available through Aug. 11. Those who want to vote the day of the primary should visit their regular polling place between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. For more information, visit ramseycounty.us/elections.

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- Transitional Care Unit

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