

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenny Frenzel, Jack Aakhus, Anna Manecke, Ann Long Voelkner, Todd Haugen Dave Wall and Superintendent Jeremy Olson

Mckenzie Edevold – Student Representative
Jacobi Burmeister Pater – Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Todd Haugan, seconded by Anna Manecke, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda with the addition of information from Representative Duran in informational items.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CT Marhula – Board Etiquette

REQUEST TO REMOVE TOPIC(S) FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Jenny Frenzel, seconded by Jack Aakhus, and carried by all in attendance to approve the following items:

- A. Minutes from the September 15, 2025 School Board Meetings
- B. Current Bills Totaling: \$4,889,497.21
- C. Certified Staff Appointments
- D. Non-Certified Staff Resignations
- E. Lane Advancements
- F. Request to Accept Grant: JW Smith
- G. Request to Accept Grant: Gene Dillon
- H. Request to Accept Grant: Lumberjack High School
- I. Assurance of Compliance

SPECIAL TOPICS

Spotlight Presentation “Indian Education Program”

Sonia Wadena spoke about the staff of the Indian Education Program. Bemidji Area Schools has 24% Native American students. There are academic advisors to help with math and reading scores in the high school and middle school. Jamie Copenace spoke about the culture and curriculum integration and the staff development that is available to teachers.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Mckenzie Edevold and Jacobi Burmeister Pater reported about not having enough passing time during classes, guitar cases needing replacement, class sizes and classroom budgets.

LISTENING SESSION REVIEW

Jenny Frenzel and Ann Long Voelkner had participants speak about the lack of library teachers, PSEO, cell phone policy, and federal title IX compliance.

DONATIONS

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Todd Haugen, and carried by all in attendance to accept the following donations, \$6,000 from the Region 2 Arts Council to the BHS Fall Musical.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Class Size Report

Superintendent Olson reported that there are currently 16 classes at the high school that are above Board target.

Representative Duran Update

There was information given by Representative Duran about a survey that was sent out to teachers.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution Relating to General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2026A

Member Ann Long Voelkner introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member Jenny Frenzel :

RESOLUTION RELATING TO GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026A; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OR DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES AND ANY BOARD OFFICER TO AWARD THE SALE THEREOF AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAID AWARD AND SALE; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE THEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 31

(Bemidji), Minnesota (the District), as follows:

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION. It is hereby determined to be in the best interests of the District to issue its General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2026A, in a principal amount not to exceed \$24,575,000 (the Bonds). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used, together with any additional funds of the District which might be required, to refund (the Refunding) in advance of maturity and prepay, on April 1, 2026 (the Redemption Date), all or a portion of the 2027 through 2036 maturities of the District's outstanding \$36,280,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2015A, dated originally as of December 17, 2015 (the Refunded Bonds). The purpose of the Refunding is to achieve debt service savings.

SECTION 2. SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS; APPROVAL OF THE SALE OF THE BONDS. The District has retained PMA Securities, LLC, in Albertville, Minnesota (PMA), as its independent municipal advisor with respect to the sale of the Bonds. PMA is authorized to solicit proposals for the Bonds on behalf of the District on a competitive basis without requirement of published notice, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.60, Subdivision 2, paragraph (9). In consultation with PMA, the Superintendent or Director of Business Services and any Board officer are hereby authorized to approve the sale of the Bonds and execute a bond purchase agreement for the Bonds with the purchaser, provided that the par amount of the Bonds does not exceed \$24,575,000, the Refunding results in a positive present value savings, and the true interest cost does not exceed 5.0%.

SECTION 3. BOARD RATIFICATION OF SALE. Upon approval of the sale of the Bonds by the Superintendent or Director of Business Services and any Board officer, this Board shall meet at its next regularly scheduled or special meeting to adopt a bond resolution prepared by the District's bond counsel ratifying the sale of the Bonds and incorporating the terms and conditions with respect thereto.

SECTION 4. STATE CREDIT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM. (a) The District hereby covenants and obligates itself to notify the Commissioner of Education of a potential default in the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds and to use the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to guarantee payment of the principal and interest on the Bonds when due. The District further covenants to deposit with the registrar for the Bonds or any successor paying agent three (3) days prior to the date on which a payment is due an amount sufficient to make that payment or to notify the Commissioner of Education that it will be unable to make all or a portion of that payment. The registrar for the Bonds is authorized and directed to notify the Commissioner of Education if it becomes aware of a potential default in the payment of principal or interest on the Bonds or if, on the day two (2) business days prior to the date a payment is due on the Bonds, there are insufficient funds to make that payment on deposit with the registrar. The District understands that as a result of its covenant to be bound by the provision of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, the provisions of that section shall be binding as long as any Bonds of this issue remain outstanding.

(b) The District further covenants to comply with all procedures now and hereafter established by the Departments of Management and Budget and Education of the State of Minnesota pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, subdivision 2(c) and otherwise to take such actions as necessary to comply with that section. The chair, clerk, Superintendent or Director of Business Services is authorized to execute any applicable Minnesota Department of Education forms.

SECTION 5. OFFICIAL STATEMENT. PMA is authorized to prepare and distribute, for the District, a preliminary Official Statement and an Official Statement relating to the sale of the Bonds, and PMA and the underwriter are each hereby authorized to use a final Official Statement substantially in the form of said Preliminary Official Statement but with such changes therein as are required to conform the same to the terms of the Bonds, and the Superintendent or Director of Business Services and any Board officer, in consultation with and upon the advice of representatives of PMA and bond counsel, are hereby authorized and directed to finalize and approve such Official Statement and execute and deliver such certifications and to take such steps as are necessary to comply with SEC Rule 15c2-12.

SECTION 6. APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTS. The Superintendent or Director of Business Services and any Board officer, in consultation with and upon the advice of representatives of PMA and bond counsel, are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate, finalize and execute the necessary documents in connection with issuance of the Bonds, including but not limited to a bond purchase agreement and related closing documents and certificates.

SECTION 7. EXPIRATION. The authorization provided in Section 2 hereof shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Jenny Frenzel, Todd Haugen, Jack Aakhus, Ann Long Voelkner, Anna Manecke and Dave Wall and the following voted against the same: None

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Resolution of School Board Supporting Form A Application to Minnesota State High School League Foundation

Jenny Frenzel offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF SCHOOL BOARD SUPPORTING FORM A APPLICATION TO MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation was formed to provide support for Minnesota's high school youth to participate in athletics and fine arts;

WHEREAS, the Bemidji Area Schools School Board recognizes the value of student participation in extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation is offering grants and funding to assist schools in recognizing, promoting, and funding extracurricular participation by high school students in athletic and fine arts programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bemidji Area Schools School Board supports the school's application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation for a FORM A grant to offset student activity fees.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Todd Haugen, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Jenny Frenzel, Todd Haugen, Jack Aakhus, Ann Long Voelkner, Anna Manecke and Dave Wall.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Resolution of School Board Supporting Form B Application to Minnesota State High School League Foundation

Jenny Frenzel offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF SCHOOL BOARD SUPPORTING FORM B APPLICATION TO MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation was formed to provide support for Minnesota's high school youth to participate in athletics and fine arts;

WHEREAS, the Bemidji Area Schools School Board recognizes the value of student participation in extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation is offering grants and funding to assist schools to provide seminars/training opportunities or support for specific school functions for students/faculty members/officials and others who are involved in athletic and fine arts programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of Bemidji Area Schools supports the district's application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation for a FORM B grant.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Jenny Frenzel, Todd Haugen, Jack Aakhus, Ann Long Voelkner, Anna Manecke and Dave Wall.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 700-60-1:Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records MSBA 515

The motion was offered by Jack Aakhus, seconded by Anna Manecke, and carried by all in attendance to approve the second reading and adoption of revised policy SBR 700-60-1:Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records MSBA 515.

First Reading of SBR 300-90-2:Uniform Grant Guidance Policy MSBA 721

The motion was offered by Todd Haugen, seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and carried by all in attendance to approve the first reading of revised policy SBR 300-90-2:Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources MSBA 721.

First Reading of SBR 100-10-5:Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies MSBA 208

The motion was offered by Jenny Frenzel, seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and carried by all in attendance to approve the first reading of revised policy SBR 100-10-5:Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies MSBA 208.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Regular School Board Meeting, November 17, 2025, 6:30 PM, District Office Board Room

Truth in Taxation Meeting, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, District Office Board Room

OTHER

Superintendent's Report

There was no Superintendent's report.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Jenny Frenzel, seconded by Anna Manecke, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn the meeting. Time: 7:53 p.m.

Jenny Frenzel, Clerk

Date Approved

Dave Wall, Chair

Date Approved