

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
St. Cloud Area School District 742  
St. Cloud, Minnesota  
June 17, 2026**

A meeting of the Board of Education of St. Cloud Area School District 742 was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at the District Administration Office, 1201 South 2nd Street, Waite Park, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Shannon Haws with the following Board Members present: Gina Acevedo, Scott Andreasen, Natalie Copeland (Ringsmuth), Zach Dorholt, Diana Fenton, Shannon Haws, Heather Weems.

**I. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Copeland to approve the Board Meeting agenda.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Board member Copeland to remove Item D - Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations from the Consent Agenda and she will recuse herself from the vote.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Fenton to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C and E-H.

Approve Board Meeting minutes from May 6, 2026 and May 20, 2026.

Approve Bills and other Financial Transactions in the grand total amount of \$2,749,542.27

Approve the following personnel changes pursuant to relevant laws and appropriate provisions of negotiated agreements between the Board of Education and exclusive representatives. For new hires, the indicated rates are consistent with current negotiated agreements and Board approved rates of pay. All rates/salaries listed do not include fringe benefits.

**LICENSED STAFF**

**NEW ADMINISTRATIVE HIRES OR ASSIGNMENTS**

Erica Boettcher, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Quarryview Education Center, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$105,000, for 220 days.

Carl Burks, Principal, Oak Hill Community School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$123,375, for 225 days.

Barika Davis, Director of Early Childhood, Quarryview Education Center, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$120,000, for 230 days.

Raunn Finley, Assistant Principal, South Junior High School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$112,900, for 225 days.

Laura Freese, Assistant Principal, Central Minnesota Virtual Academy, effective July 1, 2026.

Emily Miller, Principal, Kennedy Community School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$126,450, for 230 days.

Ayan Omar, Executive Director of Engagement, Equity and Strategic Communications, District Administration Office, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$135,000 for 230 days.

Jack Peterson, Special Education Supervisor, District Wide, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$103,800 for 220 days.

Shara Stone, Assistant Principal, Apollo High School, effective July 1, 2026, with an annual salary of \$118,975, for 235 days.

### **Rehire**

Jeffrey Olson, Tier 4 Physical Education Teacher, Oak Hill Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year, Lane MA+40, Pay Level 11 (185 days of a full-time contract) with a salary of \$93,552.

### **Rescind Position**

Jozie Aelits, Grade 4 Teacher, Discovery Community School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. Rescind Board action of May 20, 2026. Ms. Aelits declined the position.

### **Leave of Absence**

Kristin Schmanski, Grade 1 Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, effective August 24, 2026 through November 15, 2026.

Katelyn Souba, SPED Early Childhood Teacher, Quarryview Education Center, effective September 9, 2026 through January 26, 2027.

### **Resignation**

Caroline Linden, Assistant Principal, Tech High School, effective June 30, 2026.

Mikayla Omann, Mathematics Teacher, Kennedy Community School, effective June 1, 2026.

Amy Dvorak, Elementary Grade Level Lead, Lincoln Elementary School, effective June 1, 2026.

Kara Lund, Counselor, McKinley-ALC, effective June 5, 2026.

### **NON-LICENSED STAFF**

#### **Rehire**

Mason Brill, Summer Groundskeeper, District Wide, effective June 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

Tyson Newville-Larson, Summer Groundskeeper, District Wide, effective June 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

#### **Leave of Absence**

Garrett Brannan, Head Custodian, Apollo High School, effective June 2, 2026 through July 5, 2026.

Salat Hassan, Assistant Mechanic, District Services Building, effective May 29, 2026 through July 5, 2026.

Leah Westerhoff, Clerical Class II (12-Month), District Administration Office, effective July 9, 2026, through November 29, 2026.

Jalal Al Hatamleh, District Support Technician, Media Services, effective July 1, 2026 through August 30, 2026.

Abdo Lugo, Custodian, Westwood Elementary School, effective June 22, 2026 through September 20, 2026.

#### **Position Eliminated**

Mary Tomsche, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator, District Administration Office, effective June 30, 2026.

#### **Resignation**

Sire Traore, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective June 30, 2026.

Stefani Burns, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Tech High School, effective June 5, 2026.

Tanya Vossberg, Dean of Students, Tech High School, effective June 3, 2026.

Hali Muse, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Madison Elementary School, effective May 27, 2026.

Samuel Russell, Kitchen Helper, Madison Elementary School, effective May 29, 2026.

### **Termination**

Raha Abdullahi, Student Support Paraeducator, Talahi Community School, effective May 29, 2026.

Ashley Emslander, Student Support Paraeducator, Kennedy Community School, effective May 29, 2026.

Halla Omar, SPED Instructional Paraeducator, Quarryview Education Center, effective May 19, 2026.

### **Correction**

Megan Raygor, Clerical Class I (10-Month), Talahi Community School, termination effective May 15, 2026. This is a correction to the June 3, 2026 Board action on the consent agenda where this item was listed with a last day of service of May 14, 2026.

Award the bid for the Apollo Renovations and Additions Bid Package 2, Contract 3C to Quality Cleaning Inc. in the amount of \$75,750, based on low bids received meeting specifications.

Approve the Monthly Financial Report for April 2026.

Approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report for April 2026.

Approve the Resolution to Update the Population Base for Community Education Funding.

On roll call, the following voted "aye": Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded Fenton to approve Consent Agenda Item D (Acceptance of Grant Awards and Donations).

Board member Copeland recused herself from this agenda item.

1. Donations to Apollo High School:

- \$1,000 from Jeff and Erika Boike on behalf of the Charlie Boike 2026 Senior Class Memorial Scholarship Fund
- \$1,500 from Ron and Debbie Topinka on behalf of the Karla Rae Topinka Memorial Scholarship Fund
- \$2,000 from St. Cloud Rotary Foundation, Inc. on behalf of the St. Cloud Interact Scholarship Fund
- \$250 from Michael and Rachel Stapleton on behalf of the Jill Stapleton Memorial Scholarship Fund

2. Donations to Madison Elementary School:

- \$15,000 from Jeffrey and Melina Gau for the Ready Set School Program
- \$17,000 anonymous donation for the playground resurfacing project

3. Donations to Talahi Community School:

- \$8.60 from General Mills Box Tops for Education
- \$250 e-gift card from Target for snack supply for students
- 15 cases of bottled water from Bernick's for the Spring Picnic

4. Donations to Tech High School:

- \$500 from Next Grad LLC on behalf of the Next Grad Scholarship Fund
- \$1,000 from St. Cloud Rotary on behalf of the St. Cloud Rotary Interact Scholarship Fund
- \$1,000 from Jeff and Erika Boike on behalf of the Charlie Boike 2026 Senior Class Memorial Scholarship Fund
- \$200 from Ayan Omar for additional coaches for the Speech Program
- \$2,000 from St. Cloud Area Youth Basketball Association (SCAYBA) on behalf of the SCAYBA Scholarship Fund
- \$2,000 from Ajay Prakash on behalf of the Prakash Family Scholarship Fund

5. Donations to District 742:

- \$5,000 from Resource Training and Solutions for the PBIS Program at the following schools at \$500 each – Katherine Johnson Education Center, Lincoln, Discovery, Talahi, North, Tech, Apollo, Clearview, South, and Westwood
- \$20,000 from Janet and Thomas Grones for the Ready Set School Program
- \$2,500 from Al Dahlgren and Once Upon a Child for the Ready Set School Program
- 120 winter hats from Al Dahlgren and Once Upon a Child for the Transitional Services Program
- \$3,000 from District 742 LEAF for the Spanish Immersion Program

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Abstained: Copeland. Motion carried.

### **III. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **A. Ready Set School Update**

Superintendent Laurie Putnam and guest Clare Richards, CEO of Impacks, provided an update on the Ready Set School program in the district. The goal of this project is Success on Day 1 of the new school year for students, families and teachers in the classrooms.

The Challenge - While District 742 keeps school supply lists intentionally small, many families – especially low-income households – still struggle with the cost. Our teachers regularly step up and buy supplies out of their own pockets, and the district doesn't have excess funding to assist in a meaningful way.

The Solution – Ready, Set School ensures that every PK-5 student in District 742 is equipped with the tools they need for Success from Day 1 of the new school year. By providing free school supplies, we are empowering families, alleviating financial burdens, and promoting a love of learning.

The Process - (1) Supply Lists Collected, (2) Bulk Purchasing, (3) Community Kitting Event, and (4) Delivered to Classrooms.

Our 2025 pilot at Talahi Community School was a proven success, covering 1,200 students and a vision for 2026 to expand to cover every PK through Grade 5 student in District 742 for over 5,000 students.

We are seeking 3-5-year commitments to ensure program sustainability and longevity with sponsorship tiers which include (1) School Champion \$15,000 with 8 spots available, (2) Supply Superhero \$5,000 with unlimited spots, and Learning Leader \$2,500 with unlimited spots.

Our Kitting Event will occur on Thursday, July 30 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Apollo High School for a community-wide celebration where sponsors and volunteer groups come together to pack teacher totes with supplies for every PK-5 classroom.

Our partners include (1) District 742 as the program lead coordinating supply lists and classroom needs across all PK-5 schools, (2) Impacks as the supply partner sourcing all products at wholesale prices (with some donated in-kind) maximizing the impact of every dollar donated, and (3) District 742 LEAF as the fiscal host to manage donations, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Together we can build a brighter future where every child is ready to engage, explore, and excel. Your sponsorship will directly impact thousands of PK-5 students and their families in St. Cloud. Every dollar goes toward equipping classrooms and

removing barriers to learning. Join us to make a difference. Contact Superintendent Laurie Putnam for more information.

B. Early Childhood Opportunities

Nikki Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of E-5 Learning, provided an overview of four new early learning opportunities.

1. Preschool 4's programming is available at ALL elementary sites.
2. Additional PK 4's section.
3. Expanding PK 3's Friday Opportunity.
4. ClubKids Full Day PK learning partnership.

C. Ten-Year Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, presented an overview of the Ten-Year Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan. This will come back for approval on the consent agenda at the July 22, 2026 Board Meeting.

The funding for the long-term facilities maintenance program (LTFM) comes primarily from levy revenue along with a small portion received as state aid. The levy portion will be part of the total levy that the Board will approve in December. This program was effective on July 1, 2016, and replaced the previous alternative facilities/deferred maintenance and health and safety levies.

Long term facilities maintenance funds can be used for expenditures for increasing accessibility of school facilities (ADA), approved health and safety expenditures in accordance with Minnesota Statute 123B.57, and eligible projects necessary to prevent further erosion of facilities. In accordance with MDE guidelines an eligible project must be work performed on an existing district-owned facility and LTFM funds cannot be used to modify or remodel existing spaces with the exception of remodeling for gender-neutral single user restrooms. LTFM funds also cannot be used to increase space or for new construction.

MDE requires that the Board annually approve a ten-year long-term facilities maintenance plan which must be submitted to MDE by July 31. The 2027-2028 annual LTFM project budget is proposed to be set at \$7,750,000. In addition, the district receives \$5,269,761 in LTFM revenue that is allocated to the debt service fund to cover the annual principal and interest payments on the district's 2015A Alternative Facilities Bonds, 2022B Facilities Maintenance Bonds, and 2023A Facilities Maintenance Bonds. These bonds were issued to fund HVAC projects throughout the district as well as recent improvements at Apollo High School. In total, this brings the proposed LTFM revenue for 2027-2028 to \$13,019,761.

IV. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of 2025-2026 Revised Budget

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, presented the 2025-2026 Revised Budget with revised revenues and expenditures for each of the funds outlined.

Moved by Fenton, seconded by Andreasen to approve the 2025-2026 Revised Budget.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

B. (ACTION ITEM) – Approval of 2026-2027 Budget

Amy Skaalerud, Executive Director of Finance and Business Services, presented an overview of the budgeted revenues and expenditures for each fund as outlined for the 2026-2027 Budget that was shared in detail at the June 3, 2026 Board Meeting.

Moved by Andreasen, seconded by Fenton to approve the 2026-2027 Budget.

On roll call, the following voted “aye”: Acevedo, Andreasen, Copeland, Dorholt, Fenton, Haws, Weems. Motion carried.

C. (DISCUSSION ITEM) – Proposed Revised Board Policy 414 – Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse (*Second Reading*)

Katie Herrboldt, Executive Director of Innovation and Technology Services, reviewed Proposed Revised Board Policy 414 – Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse. There were no suggested changes. This policy will be on the consent agenda at the July 22, 2026 Board of Education Meeting for a third and final reading with a request for approval.

V. **REPORTS**

A. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Laurie Putnam shared an end of year report highlighting reflections of the 2025-2026 school year.

As we close the 2025–2026 school year, I want to express my gratitude to our Board of Education, staff, students, families, and community partners. This year brought significant challenges and opportunities, and together we continued to advance our district's commitments to Safety, Belonging, Collaboration, and Academic Excellence.

This year was marked by several significant milestones, including serving more than 10,000 students for the first time in nearly a decade, expanding Ready, Set, School! districtwide, growing early childhood opportunities, successfully completing an intensive Minnesota Department of Education Special Education program and fiscal review, launching implementation of voter-approved referendum projects, securing a DALI grant to expand manufacturing career pathways, and strengthening district operations through technology modernization, cybersecurity enhancements, and operational efficiency reviews.

I would like to share a summary of key accomplishments and milestones from the past year.

- Student Success and Support
- Partnerships and Community Impact
- Academic Excellence and Innovation
- Enrollment and Strategic Planning
- Special Education Excellence
- Facilities and Referendum Implementation
- Legislative Advocacy and Statewide Leadership
- Financial Stewardship
- Talent and Organizational Health
- Safety and Community Care

As we prepare for the 2026–2027 school year, our priorities remain clear:

- Supporting every student's academic growth
- Expanding opportunities and access
- Strengthening workforce readiness pathways
- Continuing innovation in teaching and learning
- Expanding early childhood opportunities
- Maintaining fiscal responsibility
- Deepening partnerships with families, businesses, higher education, and community organizations.

This year accomplishments were made possible through the dedication of our staff, the trust of our families, the support of our community, and the leadership of the Board of Education. Together, we continue to build a district where every student is known, valued, and prepared for a successful future. Thank you for your continued partnership in serving the students of St. Cloud Area School District 742.

#### B. Board of Education Standing Committee Reports

Heather Weems, Chair of the Board Finance Committee, noted the committee met on June 10, 2026, and discussed (1) Blue Sox Baseball Field Proposal and (2) FY28 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan.

**VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Haws noted July 22, 2026 Board Meeting topics will include:

- Code of Conduct Updates
- 2025-2026 Activities Update
- Approval of Boys' Volleyball Funding
- Policy Readings

**VII. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

Moved by Copeland, seconded by Fenton to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:48 p.m. All Board members stated "aye".

Heather Weems, Clerk

These minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the Board of Education.