

John Bergs
Activities Director
Margot Hansen
Director of Teaching & Learning
Jeff Heine
Buildings & Grounds Director



Chuck Keller
Business Director
Mary Mesler
Student Support Services Director
Dorothy Koller
Community Education Director

FINANCE/REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Oak Crest Elementary School, 1101 Commerce Dr, Belle Plaine, MN 56011
6:00 PM Monday, July 28, 2025

Our mission is to pursue excellence in academics, programming, and the social and emotional development of our students. Fostering a culture of kindness, inclusion, and pride in ourselves, our school, and our community.

Terry Kahle: Present, Karl Keup: Present, Matt Lenz: Present, Tracy O'Brien: Present, Kellen Schmidt: Absent, Tonya Smith: Present.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Hearing regarding Property Tax Abatement for Parking Lot Improvements:

3. Acknowledgement of Visitors and Special Presentations

1. Bray Architect and Krause Anderson representatives will review the potential referendum options.

4. Finance Meeting

Chuck Keller

5. Other Items as Brought Before the Board & Consideration of Agenda

6. Consensus Items

Chair Kahle

1. Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Chair Kahle

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2. Approve Monthly Expenditures

Chair Kahle

3. Personnel

Chair Kahle

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4. Donations

Chair Kahle

9

7. Discussion Items

Chair Kahle

1. Superintendent Update

Chair Kahle

2. Board Member Reports

Chair Kahle

8. Action Items

Chair Kahle

1. Resolution Relating to Determining the Necessity of Issuing General Obligation Bonds and Calling a Special Election Resolution: **10**

2. Resolution Granting the Abatement for the Proposed Property Tax Abatement for Parking Lot Reconstruction and Improvement Projects: **19**

3. Long-Term Facility Maintenance 10-Year Plan Mr. Keller **27**

4. Activity Handbook:

5. Early Incentive Retirement Agreement: **29**

9. Upcoming Meetings

10. Adjourn

Board Clerk

Date

John Bergs
Activities Director
Margot Hansen
Director of Teaching & Learning
Jeff Heine
Buildings & Grounds Director



Chuck Keller
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Mary Mesler
Student Support Services Director
Dorothy Koller
Community Education Director

FINANCE/REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Oak Crest Elementary School, 1101 Commerce Dr, Belle Plaine, MN 56011
6:00 PM Monday, June 16, 2025

Our mission is to pursue excellence in academics, programming, and the social and emotional development of our students. Fostering a culture of kindness, inclusion, and pride in ourselves, our school, and our community.

Terry Kahle: Present, Karl Keup: Present, Matt Lenz: Present, Tracy O'Brien: Absent, Kellen Schmidt: Present, Tonya Smith: Present.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Kahle will call the meeting to order.

2. Acknowledgement of Visitors and Special Presentations

Chairperson Kahle will ask if visitors wish to be placed on the agenda.

3. Finance Meeting

Chuck Keller

FY26 Adopted Budget

Proposed Property Tax Abatement for parking lots

Monthly Expenditures

Legislative Update: *There is now agreement on the K-12 education bill for the upcoming biennium. Overall, the agreement is favorable for next year (FY25-26); however, the outlook for the tail years (FY26-27) will present significant financial challenges for all districts.*

Key Budget Items from the Agreement:

- *General Education Formula: No changes to the formula's inflationary increases.*
- *Compensatory Revenue: Modifications are funded at \$50 million in FY26. A Compensatory Revenue Task Force is established to make further recommendations.*
- *Special Education Transportation Reimbursement: Funding is reduced by \$43 million in FY26-27 and by \$48 million in FY28-29.*
- *Blue Ribbon Commission on Special Education: This commission will be tasked with identifying \$250 million in savings in FY28-29. If savings are not found, commensurate reductions will be made to special education cross-subsidy aid.*
- *Student Support Personnel Aid: Reduced by \$28.7 million in FY26-27 and \$23.7 million in FY28-29.*
- *School Library Aid: Reduced by \$19.6 million in FY26-27 and \$22 million in FY28-29.*
- *School Lunch Reimbursement: Reduced by \$13.4 million in FY28-29.*

- *Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM): Expanded to include roof replacement projects.*

Adopted Budget: *Business Director Chuck Keller reviewed the 2025-26 Adopted Budget.*

Property Tax Abatement: *Business Director Chuck Keller reviewed a proposed property tax abatement for parking lot improvement projects.*

4. Other Items as Brought Before the Board & Consideration of Agenda

Chairperson Kahle will ask if there are any items that need to be brought before the board and for consideration of the agenda.

Approve the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Matt Lenz and seconded by Karl Keup, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

5. Consensus Items

Chair Kahle

If any board member has concerns about the adoption of the following consensus items, please acknowledge the Chairperson prior to the final vote. If there are no concerns, these items will be voted on as a group.

Approval of all consensus items is recommended. This motion, made by Kellen Schmidt and seconded by Tonya Smith, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

1. Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Chair Kahle

Enclosed are the May 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes for your review and adoption.

2. Approve Monthly Expenditures

Chair Kahle

At the board finance meeting, expenditures for the month of June were reviewed. Administration recommends approval of the June 2025 disbursements totaling \$1,667,400.95. This includes Board Payables of \$264,252.96, Hand Payments of \$240,306.12, Electronic Payments of \$1,141,090.38 and Student Activity Payments of \$21,751.49.

3. Personnel

Chair Kahle

See the attached Personnel Changes spreadsheet.

4. Donations

Chair Kahle

Donations totaling \$2,231.11 were given to the Belle Plaine School District over the past month. See the attached resolution for a full listing of the donations. Thank you to all who made these generous donations!

6. Discussion Items

Chair Kahle

1. Superintendent Update

Chair Kahle

Superintendent Laager will provide updates on current school activities.

Superintendent Laager provided the following updates:

- *Athletic Complex building construction expected to begin the week of July 8*
- *Review and comment for the proposed facility updates have been submitted to MDE.*
- *Survey results have been shared with the school community.*

- *Staffing positions have been filled for next school year. Superintendent Laager provided updates on staffing changes throughout the district.*

2. Board Member Reports

Chair Kahle

Board members will have an opportunity to share information about meetings they have attended over the past month.

Board chair Terry Kahle provided an update on the recent SouthWest Metro board meeting.

7. Action Items

Chair Kahle

1. Non-Renewal- Dwight Myers:

The following are non-renewals of probationary staff effective at the end of FY25: Administration recommends the non-renewal of probationary teacher Dwight Myers. This motion, made by Matt Lenz and seconded by Karl Keup, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

2. Designation of Identified Official with Authority

(IOWA) for the MDE External User Access

Recertification System:

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requires that school districts annually designate an Identified Official with Authority to comply with the MNIT Enterprise Identity and Access Management Standard which states that all user access rights to Minnesota state systems must be reviewed and recertified at least annually. The Identified Official with Authority will assign job duties and authorize external user's access to MDE secure systems for their local education agency (LEA). The Director recommends the Board authorize Ryan Laager to act as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for Belle Plaine Public School District 0716-01.

Approve the designation of the Identified Official with Authority for the Belle Plaine School District. This motion, made by Kellen Schmidt and seconded by Karl Keup, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

3. FY26 Adopted Budget:

At the finance meeting we reviewed the FY26 Adopted Budget. Approval is recommended.

Approve the FY26 Adopted Budget. This motion, made by Tonya Smith and seconded by Matt Lenz, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

4. Abatement Levy Resolution for Parking Lots:

It has been proposed that the District undertake parking lot improvement projects at various District facilities, including the Chatfield, Oak Crest, Athletic Complex and the High School, which will enable District residents to continue to conveniently and safely access these District facilities, and benefiting the Property (the Improvements). In order to finance the Improvements, it has been proposed that the Board grant a property tax abatement on the Property in an amount not to exceed \$688,000 over one (1) year (the Proposed Property Tax Abatement), and that this Board hold a public hearing on the Proposed Property Tax Abatement as required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.1813, subdivision 5.

Approve the public hearing resolution for the proposed Property Tax Abatement. This motion, made by Kellen Schmidt and seconded by Matt Lenz, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

5. SW Metro LTFM and Safe Schools Resolutions

The attached resolutions are for SW Metro and their LTFM and Safe Schools requests for 2026-27. These resolutions would approve our portion to go on our 2025-26 Levy. Our allocation is \$6,496.85 for LTFM and \$8,233.66 for Safe Schools.

Approve the SW Metro LTFM Resolution. This motion, made by Matt Lenz and seconded by Kellen Schmidt, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

Approve the Safe Schools Resolutions. This motion, made by Karl Keup and seconded by Matt Lenz, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea

8. Upcoming Meetings

July 21, 2025 6:00 p.m. Finance/Regular Board Meeting

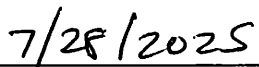
9. Adjourn

Adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. This motion, made by Kellen Schmidt and seconded by Tonya Smith, Passed.

Kahle: Yea, Keup: Yea, Lenz: Yea, O'Brien: Absent, Schmidt: Yea, Smith: Yea



Board Clerk



Date

PERSONNEL CONSENSUS ITEMS:

(New Hires, Resignations, Retirements, Terminations, Leave Requests, Assignment Changes)

RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION/RELEASE

NAME	STATUS	ASSIGNMENT	GROUP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lovejoy, Allison	Resignation	Dance Coach - 2nd Assistant	N/A	06/12/2025
Andert, Andrea	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Braun, Jackie	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Ebeling, Katie	ESY SLP	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Kerkow, Rachelle	ESY Nurse (On-Call)	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Lovejoy, Allison	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Menke, Cayla	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Olson, Courtney	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Salaba, Erin	ESY SLP	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Stoterau, Jenae	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Van Buskirk, James	ESY Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Anderson, Tina	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Bullert, Christine	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Caola, Missy	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Helfrey, Malinda	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Mattison, Anthony	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Morgan, Loretta	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Newson, Jamie	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Parks, Jennifer	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Scott, Jennifer	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Smith, Josh	ESY Paraprofessional	Summer Assignment Ended	BPESP	06/26/2025
Bungarden, Sara	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Endres, Amy	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Greisen, Marci	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Frisell, Kim	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Hanson, Melissa	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
McNamara, Phil	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Simones, Rose	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Swanson, Megan	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Williamson, Kerri	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Van Buskirk, Heather	Summer School Teacher	Summer Assignment Ended	BPEA	06/26/2025
Covart, Debbie	Resignation	Art Teacher - High Schools	BPEA	06/26/2025
Smith, Josh	Resignation	Special Education Paraprofessional - Oak Crest	BPESP	06/27/2025
McGuire, Kristine	Resignation	Principal - Chatfield	Administration	06/30/2025
Fadden, Mackenzie	Resignation	Kids Company	N/A	07/03/2025
Burtman, Joella	Resignation	Kids Company	N/A	07/11/2025

Rauh, Mary	Resignation	Elementary Education Teacher - Oak Crest	BPEA	07/14/2025
Schroeder, Steve	Retirement	Science Teacher - High School Cross Country Head Coach Track Assistant Coach	BPEA N/A N/A	07/28/2025

HIRES/REHIRES/CONTRACT RENEWALS

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY PLACEMENT/HOURLY RATE	REASON	GROUP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Miller, Genevieve	Kids Company	\$11.13/hour	Addition	N/A	06/16/2025
Burr, Courtney	Early Learning Coordinator	\$40.98/hour	Addition	N/A	06/16/2025
Williamson, Kyia	Summer Custodian	\$20.44/hour	Addition	N/A	06/18/2025
Fadden, Maria	Dean of Students - Chatfield	\$92,656.80/year	Replacement	Principals	07/01/2025
Biffle, Parker	Kids Company	\$11.13/hour	Addition	N/A	07/07/2025
Hoen, Hunter	Community Ed	\$800	Addition	N/A	07/07/2025
Hoffman, Ethan	Community Ed	\$700	Addition	N/A	07/15/2025
Reitz, Kelli	Summer Custodian	\$20.44/hour	Addition	N/A	07/14/2025
Miller, Mitch	Special Education Teacher - High School	BA 30/20, Step 24, \$69,437/year	Replacement	BPEA	08/25/2025
Doyle, Janelle	Art Teacher- High School (0.6 FTE) Visual Arts Advisor	MA 15/10, Step 15, \$44,409.60/year \$3,745.67/year	Replacement	BPEA	08/25/2025
Shackle, Kaylee	Dance Coach - 2nd Assistant	Year 1, \$2,203.34/season	Replacement	N/A	09/01/2025
Croft, Lacey	Volleyball Coach - Adjunct	\$1,200/season	Addition	N/A	09/01/2025

LANE CHANGES

NAME	FROM	TO	REASON	GROUP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Hynes-Marquette, Sue	MA 45/30, Step 24, \$83,147	MA 60/40, Step 24, \$85,463	Lane Change	BPEA	09/01/2025
Schroers, Samantha	MA, Step 12, \$65,868	MA 15/10, Step 12, \$67,820	Lane Change	BPEA	09/01/2025

ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

NAME	FROM	TO	REASON	GROUP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Voigt, Megan	Reading Intervention Teacher - Chatfield & Oak Crest	Special Education Teacher - High School	Replacement	BPEA	08/25/2025
Eliason, Keren	Reading Intervention Paraprofessional - Chatfield	Special/General Education Paraprofessional - Chatfield	Replacement	BPESP	08/25/2025
Davis, Tara	Special Education Paraprofessional - Chatfield	Special Education Paraprofessional - High School	Change	BPESP	08/25/2025
Hiel, Kelly	Special Education Paraprofessional - Chatfield	Special Education Paraprofessional - High School	Change	BPESP	08/25/2025

ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

NAME	POSITION	REASON	GROUP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Wise, Kaitlyn	Volleyball Coach - 1st Assistant (C Squad), Year 1 \$3,084.67/season	Replacement	N/A	09/01/2025
Hunsader, Elizabeth	Volleyball Coach - 1st Assistant (B Squad), Year 5, \$3,305.00/season [Correction to Salary]	Replacement	N/A	09/01/2025
Haas, Dain	Football Coach - 1st Assistant, Year 1, \$3,966.00/season	Replacement	N/A	09/01/2025

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO SPECIAL ELECTION

Issuer: Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

Kind, date, time and place of meeting: A regular meeting held on July 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Oak Crest Elementary Media Center, 1101 W Commerce Dr, Belle Plaine, Minnesota.

Members present:

Smith, Lenz, Keup, O'Brien, Kahle

Members absent:

Schmidt

Documents attached:

Minutes of said meeting (including):

RESOLUTION RELATING TO DETERMINING THE NECESSITY OF ISSUING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION THEREON

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto, as described above, have been carefully compared with the original records of said corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the governing body of said corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body at the time and place and was attended throughout by the members indicated above, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer on July 28, 2025.



School District Clerk

Member O'Brien introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member Keup:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO DETERMINING THE NECESSITY OF ISSUING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION THEREON

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota (the School District) as follows:

It is hereby found, determined and declared as follows:

1. The Board has investigated the facts and does hereby find, determine and declare that it is necessary and expedient to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$65,000,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, converting Oak Crest Elementary into a middle/high school and repurposing the existing Junior/Senior High School into an elementary facility.

2. The projects described in paragraph 1 have been submitted to the Commissioner of Education of the State of Minnesota (the Commissioner) for Review and Comment. Said projects and such submission are hereby approved by this Board. The actions of the School District's administration in applying to the Minnesota Department of Education for the Commissioner's Review and Comment and taking such other actions as necessary to comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.71, as amended, are hereby directed, authorized, approved and ratified in all respects.

The Board's determination to hold the election to authorize the issuance of the bonds described in paragraph 1 (collectively, the Bonds) is contingent upon receiving: (a) a favorable Review and Comment; or (b) an unfavorable Review and Comment subject to the Board's reconsideration, by resolution, of construction of the projects and the Board's determination to proceed with such construction and approval by 60 percent of the voters voting in the election to approve the issuance of the Bonds, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.70, Subdivision 4.

When the Commissioner's Review and Comment is received, the Clerk is authorized and directed to publish a summary of the Review and Comment in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the School District not less than forty-eight (48) nor more than seventy (70) days before the special election date.

The School District will hold a public meeting on the Review and Comment with respect to the issuance of the Bonds prior to the date of the election.

3. The question on the issuance of the Bonds of the School District shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the School District at a special election, which is hereby called and directed to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

4. The School District's combined polling places and the precincts served by the polling places, as established and designated by resolution of the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, are hereby designated for this special election.

5. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of the special election to be: (a) provided to each County Auditor at least eighty-four (84) days before the date of the special election; (b) provided to the Commissioner at least seventy-four (74) days before the date of the special election; (c) posted at the administrative offices of the School District, for public inspection, at least ten (10) days before the date of the special election; and (d) published in the official newspaper of the School District once each week for at least two consecutive weeks, with the last publication being at least one week before the date of the special election. The Notice of Special Election shall be prepared in substantially the following form:

[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank]

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 716
(BELLE PLAINE), MINNESOTA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota, on November 4, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to vote on the following question:

**School District Question
Approval of School Building Bonds**

YES Shall the board of Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$65,000,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, converting Oak Crest Elementary into a middle/high school and repurposing the existing Junior/Senior High School into an elementary facility?

NO

**BY VOTING “YES” ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING
FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**

The polling place and precincts served by the polling place for the special election will be as follows:

Combined Polling Place	Precincts Served:
Belle Plaine Government Center 218 North Meridian Street Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011	All District Precincts

All qualified electors residing in the School District may cast their ballots at the polling places listed above during the polling hours specified above.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in the special election. Unregistered individuals may register to vote at the polling places on Election Day.

Dated: July 28, 2025.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Tonya M. Smith, Clerk

6. The Clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election. If an optical scan voting system is being used, the Clerk shall comply with the laws and rules governing the procedures and requirements for optical scan voting systems. The Clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials and to take such other actions as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this special election and generally to cooperate with election authorities conducting any other elections on that date. The Clerk and members of the administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with other elections, including entering into agreements with appropriate municipal and county officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots or ballot cards, election administration, and cost sharing.


7. The Clerk is authorized and directed to cause a printed ballot for the question to be prepared in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.08, Subdivision 5 and the rules of the secretary of state for use at the special election. If an optical scan voting system is being used, the Clerk shall cause official ballots to be printed according to the format of ballots for optical scan voting systems provided by the laws and rules governing optical scan voting systems. The Clerk is further authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted in the administrative offices of the School District, for public inspection, at least four (4) days before the date of the special election and to cause two sample ballots to be posted at each polling place on the date of the special election and to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots or ballot cards to be prepared for use at said election. The ballot shall be in substantially the following form, with such changes in form and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate the use of an optical scan voting system:

[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank]

**Special Election Ballot
School District Ballot
Independent School District No. 716
(Belle Plaine), Minnesota**

November 4, 2025

Instructions to Voters

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: 

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" for that question.

To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" for that question.

**School District Question
Approval of School Building Bonds**

NO

YES Shall the board of Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$65,000,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, converting Oak Crest Elementary into a middle/high school and repurposing the existing Junior/Senior High School into an elementary facility?

**BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING
FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**

(Reverse side of ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

November 4, 2025

Judge

Judge

(The ballot is to be initialed by two judges)

[End of Ballot Form]

[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank]

8. If the School District will be contracting to print the ballots for this special election, the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract in excess of \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall, upon request, furnish in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04 a sufficient bond, letter of credit or certified check acceptable to the Clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The Clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

9. At least forty-six (46) days before the special election, the Clerk shall prepare and have ready for use absentee ballots and shall mail absentee ballots to voters on the permanent absentee ballot list in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 203B.04. Subdivisions 4 and 5.

10. As required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 203B.121, the Board hereby establishes a ballot board to process, accept and reject absentee ballots at school district elections not held on the day of a statewide election and generally to carry out the duties of a ballot board as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 203B.121 and other applicable laws. The ballot board must consist of a sufficient number of election judges trained in the handling of absentee ballots. The ballot board may include deputy county auditors and deputy city clerks who have received training in the processing and counting of absentee ballots. The clerk or the clerk's designee is hereby authorized and directed to appoint the members of the ballot board. The clerk or the clerk's designee shall establish, maintain and update a roster of members appointed to and currently serving on the ballot board and shall report to the Board from time to time as to its status. Each member of the ballot board shall be paid reasonable compensation for services rendered during an election at the same rate as other election judges; provided, however, if a staff member is already being compensated for regular duties, additional compensation shall not be paid for ballot board duties performed during that staff member's duty day.

11. The Board shall appoint election judges and alternates in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204B.21. The appointments will be made at least twenty-five (25) days before the special election.

12. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 206.83, the Clerk shall provide for testing of the optical scan voting system at least three (3) days before the voting equipment is used and shall cause notice of the time and place of the test to be published in the School District's official newspaper at least five (5) days before the test.

13. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 206.85, Subdivision 1(6), where an electronic voting system is being used at a counting center, the Clerk shall cause notice of the exact location of the counting center to be published in a legal newspaper during the week preceding the week of election and in the newspaper of widest circulation the day preceding the election or, if the newspaper is only published weekly, once during the week preceding the election.

14. The special election shall be held and the returns made and canvassed in the manner prescribed by law and the Board shall meet on a date between the third day, November 7, 2025, and the tenth day, November 14, 2025, after the special election for the purpose of canvassing the results thereof.

15. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.07, Subdivision 3a, the Clerk is hereby instructed to notify the Commissioner of the results of the special election and to provide the certified vote totals for the ballot question in written form within fifteen (15) days after the results have been certified by the Board.

16. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 211A.02, Subdivision 6, the Clerk is hereby instructed to make any campaign finance reports filed with the Clerk by campaign committees within seven (7) days after the special election available on the School District's web site as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of any such report. The Clerk is further instructed to provide the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board with a link to the section of web site where such reports are made available. Such reports must remain available on the web site for four (4) years from the date first posted.

17. Any obligations of the Clerk described herein may be undertaken by a County Auditor, acting on the Clerk's behalf, as the official in charge of elections in accordance with Minnesota election laws. The Board hereby authorizes the Clerk to work with the County Auditor in accomplishing the obligations described hereunder when necessary, appropriate, and desirable.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof

Smith, Lenz, Keup, O'Brien, Kahle

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX
ABATEMENT FOR PARKING LOT RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS

School District: Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

Kind, date, time and place of meeting: A regular meeting held on July 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Oak Crest Elementary Media Center, 1101 W Commerce Drive, Belle Plaine, Minnesota.

Members present: *Smith, Lenz, Keup, O'Brien, Kahle*

Members absent: *Schmidt*

Documents attached:

Minutes of said meeting (including):

RESOLUTION RELATING TO PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR
PARKING LOT RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS; GRANTING THE
ABATEMENT

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation approving the abatement referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto, as described above, have been carefully compared with the original records of said corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the governing body of said corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting, so far as they relate to said abatement; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body at the time and place and was attended throughout by the members indicated above, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer this 28th day of July, 2025.



School District Clerk

Member Lenz introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member Smith:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR PARKING LOT RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS; GRANTING THE ABATEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 716 (Belle Plaine), Minnesota (the District), as follows:

Section 1. Tax Abatement Authorization and Recitals.

1.01. The District, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 to 469.1815, as amended (the Act), is authorized to grant an abatement of the property taxes imposed by the District on parcels of property (the Abated Parcels) by the adoption of a resolution specifying the terms of the abatement.

1.02. The District intends to undertake parking lot improvement projects at various District facilities, including the Chatfield, Oak Crest, Athletic Complex and the High School (the Improvements) and benefiting certain properties within the District boundaries identified on Exhibit A attached hereto (collectively, the Property).

1.03. The District has proposed to fund the Improvements by granting an abatement of the property taxes imposed by the District on the Property (the Proposed Property Tax Abatement).

1.04. Pursuant to the Act, this Board, on the date hereof, July 28, 2025, conducted a public hearing on the desirability of granting the Proposed Property Tax Abatement. Notice of the public hearing was duly published as required by law in the *Henderson Independent*, the official newspaper of the District, on July 18, 2025.

Section 2. Findings. On the basis of the information compiled by the District and elicited at the public hearing referred to in Section 1.04, it is hereby found, determined and declared:

2.01. The District expects that the benefits to the District associated with granting the Proposed Property Tax Abatement are at least equal to or exceed the associated costs to the District.

2.02. The granting of the Proposed Property Tax Abatement is in the public interest because it will fund and provide public infrastructure and help provide access to services for District residents.

2.03. The nature and extent of the public benefits which the District expects to result from the Proposed Property Tax Abatement are the parking lot reconstruction and improvements

which will enable District residents to continue to conveniently and safely District facilities that are regularly utilized by the public for community events.

2.04. The Property is not located in a tax increment financing district.

2.05. The granting of the Proposed Abatement will not cause the aggregate amount of abatements granted by the District under the Act to exceed, in any year, the greater of (i) ten percent (10%) of the District's net tax capacity for the taxes payable year to which the abatement applies, or (ii) \$200,000.

2.06. It is in the best interests of the District to grant the tax abatement authorized in this resolution.

2.07. Under Section 469.1813, subdivision 9 of the Act, it is not necessary for the District to obtain the consent of any owner of the Property to grant an abatement.

Section 3. Granting of Tax Abatement.

3.01. A property tax abatement (the Abatement) is hereby granted in respect of property taxes levied by the District on the Property for one (1) year, commencing and concluding with taxes payable in 2026. The total Abatement amount is not expected to exceed \$688,000 over one (1) year.

3.02. The District shall retain the Abatement and apply it to payment of all or a portion of the costs of acquiring or constructing the Improvements.

3.03. The Abatement may be modified or terminated at any time by the Board in accordance with the Act.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Smith, Lenz, Keup, O'Brien, Kahle

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

EXHIBIT A

Abated Parcels

(See Attached)

200880010	200017811	010060010	020140010	200015021	028010050	200014642
200910010	010290020	109330021	029290080	019240130	209070070	200380070
200940010	029150063	200780090	200018982	020220010	200330290	200015640
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201150010	019030071	020170022	010130060	019090064	200210050	019270070
200930010	209060130	010300020	010400010	200850270	200780570	010310080
200890010	200013050	200820030	010200010	019080072	200330291	200780420
200450010	201040010	020170023	201140070	200014490	200013530	200860060
200300020	200016050	200010650	201140010	010310070	200770070	200330050
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201100040	010490010	019050021	200018860	019320070	010310020	200013680
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200720170	200700550	200790090	200720360	200014850	200640380	200200040
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019300061	200410020	019050130	200850130	020230010	200840040	200640190
200700690	200700560	200013990	200820130	200670460	200850100	200030080
200720190	200640340	200580240	029210052	200700380	200850170	200280180
019130221	200570090	200480080	200160100	200410160	200470030	200780270
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200720510	200014780	200700310	200010621	200040110	200470550	200840030
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EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING
SCHOOL BOARD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT ISD 716
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a school board meeting of School District No. 716, State of Minnesota, was held on July 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM., for the purpose, in part, of approving the District's Long-Term Facility Maintenance Ten Year Plan.

Member O'Brien introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE
10 YEAR FACILITY PLAN FOR THE
LONG TERM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE REVENUE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature passed legislation affecting school district revenue for Long Term Facilities Maintenance, and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education has determined that to access Long Term Facilities Maintenance revenue school districts must approve a Ten Year Facility Plan, and

WHEREAS, that Ten Year Facility Plan must be updated and approved annually and reported to the Minnesota Department of Education every year, and

WHEREAS, the Belle Plaine School Board has reviewed the Long Term Facilities Maintenance revenue program and has reviewed the school district's Ten Year Facilities Plan.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 716 that the FY26 Ten Year Facility Plan be approved for submission to the Minnesota Department of Education.

Member Lenz seconded the resolution and the following members voted in support of the resolution:

Smith, Lenz, Keup, O'Brien, Kahle

And the following voted against the resolution:

Therefore the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Tony M Smith
School Board Chair/Clerk

7/28/2025
Date



Division of School Finance
400 NE Stinson Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Application for Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue Statement of Assurances

ED-02477-011
Due: July 31, 2025

General Information: Minnesota school districts, intermediate school districts, cooperative districts, joint powers applying for Long-Term Facilities Maintenance revenue (LTFM) under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595 must annually complete the Application for Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue – Statement of Assurances (ED-02477). The application must be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) by July 31, 2025. Submit to [Sarah C. Miller](mailto:Sarah.C.Miller@mde.state.mn.us) (MDE.Facilities@state.mn.us) along with other required LTFM documentation. **Do not mail a hard copy. Please email this form with other required documentation.**

Identification Information

Name of District, Intermediate/Cooperative/Joint Powers Belle Plaine Public Schools	District Number and Type: 0716-01	Date Submitted: 07/29/2025
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Statement of Assurances

1. All estimated expenditures included in the attached Ten-Year Plan Expenditure spreadsheet under Health and Safety and entered into the MDE Health and Safety data submission system are for allowed health and safety uses under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 10, paragraph (a), clause (3), Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.57, subd. 6, and the MDE Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Guide for Allowable Expenditures, Section E, Health and Safety Qualifying Criteria, and Section F, Additional Requirements Regarding Health and Safety. None of the estimated expenditures included in the attached Ten-Year Plan Expenditure spreadsheet under Health and Safety and entered into the MDE Health and Safety System are for uses prohibited under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 11.
2. All estimated expenditures included in the attached Ten-Year Plan Expenditure spreadsheet under Accessibility and Deferred Maintenance are for allowed uses under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 10, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2) and the MDE Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Guide for Allowable Expenditures, Section C, Deferred Maintenance Qualifying Criteria or Section D, Disabled Access Qualifying Criteria. None of the estimated expenditures included in the attached Ten-Year Plan Expenditure spreadsheet under Accessibility and Deferred Maintenance are for uses prohibited under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 11.
3. All actual expenditures to be reported in Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards (UFARS) for FY 2027 under Finance Codes 347, 349, 352, 358, 363 and 366 will be for allowed health and safety uses under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 10, paragraph (a), clause (3), Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.57, subd. 6, and the MDE Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Guide for Allowable Expenditures, Section E, Health and Safety Qualifying Criteria, and Section F, Additional Requirements Regarding Health and Safety. None of the actual expenditures reported in these finance codes will be for uses prohibited under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 11.
4. All actual expenditures to be reported in UFARS for FY 2027 under Finance Codes 367, 368, 369, 370, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383 and 384 for Accessibility and Deferred Maintenance will be for allowed uses under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 10, paragraph (a), clauses (1), (2) and (4) and the MDE Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Guide for Allowable Expenditures, Section C, Deferred Maintenance Qualifying Criteria or Section D, Disabled Access Qualifying Criteria. None of the actual expenditures reported in these finance codes will be for uses prohibited under Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 123B.595, subd. 11. **Effective FY 2025 and if applicable, provisions for a gender-neutral, single-user restroom are included in The LTFM plan (Finance Code 384 must be used with Course Code 684).**
5. The district will maintain a description of each project funded with long-term facilities maintenance revenue that will provide enough detail for an auditor to determine the cost of the project and if the work qualifies for revenue (Minn. Stat. 127A.41, subd. 3[2024]).
6. The district's plan includes provisions for implementing a health and safety program that complies with health, safety and environmental regulations and best practices, including indoor air quality management and mandatory lead in water testing, remediation and reporting (Minn. Stat. 121A.335 [2024]). **The district's ten-year plan does not include a request for a second-time project cost for: (1) replacement of an existing mechanical ventilation system to the current Minnesota State Mechanical Code/American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) guidelines; or, (2) to provide a level of approximately 15 Cubic Feet per Minute (CFM) per person.**

Certification of Statement of Assurances

Signature – Must be signed by Superintendent or Cooperative Unit Director:	Name – Superintendent or Cooperative Director (Please print) Ryan Laager	Date: 07/24/2025
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EARLY INCENTIVE RETIREMENT AGREEMENT

STEVEN P. SCHROEDER

This Agreement is entered into by and among Independent School District No. 716, Belle Plaine, Minnesota (the "School District"), the Belle Plaine Education Association (the "Association") and Steven P. Schroeder (the "Employee").

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Section 122A.48, as amended ("Section 122A.48") authorizes school districts, in their complete discretion, to provide an early retirement incentive to eligible teachers; and

WHEREAS, an "eligible teacher," for purposes of Section 122A.48, means a teacher who has at least fifteen (15) total years of full-time teaching service in elementary, secondary and technical colleges, or at least fifteen (15) years of allowable service in accordance with Section 122A.48, subd. 1(b)(i) and has or will have attained the age of fifty-five (55) years but less than sixty-five (65) years as of June 30, 2025; or has at least thirty (30) years of full-time teaching service in elementary, secondary or technical colleges, or at least thirty (30) years of allowable service in accordance with Section 122A.48, subdivision 1(b)(2); and

WHEREAS, Employee is an eligible teacher for purposes of Section 122A.48; and

WHEREAS, Employee has submitted a timely application to the School Board of the School District for a contract for termination of services, withdrawal from active teaching service, and payment of an early retirement incentive; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the School District has the complete discretion to approve or deny Employee's application; and

WHEREAS, the Association is the exclusive bargaining representative of the teachers employed by the School District, including Employee; and

WHEREAS, the Association has negotiated a 2023-2025 Master Agreement (hereinafter the "CBA") with the School District setting forth the terms and conditions of employment of all teachers employed by the School District, including Employee; and

WHEREAS, Employee has consulted with the Association and is fully advised of his legal rights and any and all other rights he may have regarding his employment by the School District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the School District is willing to approve Employee's application subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Resignation and Retirement from Employment.** By not later than August 1, 2025, Employee shall deliver to the Superintendent a written notice stating that the Employee is resigning from his teaching position and retiring from the School District effective August 1, 2025 (the “Resignation and Retirement Date”).

2. **Early Retirement Incentive.** In consideration of Employee’s resignation and retirement, the School District shall, notwithstanding anything in the CBA to the contrary, make a one-time lump payment to Employee’s health reimbursement arrangement (“HRA”) in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars and 00/100 Dollars (\$50,000) (the “Early Retirement Incentive Payment”). The Early Retirement Incentive Payment shall be made following the School District’s receipt of Employee’s written resignation and retirement in accordance with Section 1, above, but not later than September 1, 2025.

3. **Unemployment Benefits.** Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 268.052, subdivision 1, as amended, any amount of unemployment benefits that Employee receives and for which the School District is required to pay into the unemployment insurance program trust fund shall be deducted by the School District from the Early Retirement Incentive Payment, or recovered by the School District from Employee up to the amount of the Early Retirement Incentive Payment.

4. **Tax Considerations.** Employee acknowledges and agrees that the School District, its employees and agents, have made no representations regarding taxes that may be due as a result of the consideration provided pursuant to this Agreement. Employees understand and agrees that the School District has no duty to defend Employee against any claims brought by taxing authorities related in any way to any payments made to Employee pursuant to this Agreement. Employee further understands and agrees that Employee shall fully indemnify the School District, its current and former board members, employees and agents, for any claims brought by taxing authorities against the School District.

5. **Teacher Retirement Association Benefits.** It is specifically understood and agreed that the School District has made no representations to Employee regarding his Teacher Retirement Association (“TRA”) benefits, or eligibility for benefits, pursuant to TRA which have accrued during the course of his employment or may accrue as a result of any payments made under this Agreement. It is further specifically understood and agreed that any issues regarding TRA which relate to or arise as a result of this Agreement are strictly between Employee and TRA and its agents, and that the District shall have no responsibility or liability for such issues, and Employee hereby releases, indemnifies and holds the District harmless as to any disputes, claims, or other matters arising between Employee and TRA.

6. **No Past Practice.** The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that the early retirement incentive described herein is being offered by the School District on a one-time only basis. The Association agrees that nothing in this Agreement may be deemed to establish a binding precedent, practice, or to alter any existing precedent or practice arising out of or relating to the CBA between the School District and the Association. No party may refer to this Agreement or submit it in any proceeding or case as evidence of a precedent, practice, or past practice.

7. **Voluntary Agreement.** By executing this Agreement, each of the parties hereto acknowledges and agrees that they have carefully read and understand all of the provisions of this Agreement and that they have entered into this Agreement voluntarily. Employee further acknowledges and agrees that Employee has had the opportunity to consult with representatives of the Association or legal counsel of Employee's choosing and the parties agree that there were no inducements or representations leading to the execution of this Agreement except as specifically set forth herein.

8. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable under present or future laws, rules or regulations, such provision shall be fully severable and this Agreement shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision had never comprised a part of the Agreement, and the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be affected by the illegal, invalid or unenforceable provisions or by its severance from this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned parties hereto have duly executed this Agreement as of the date indicated next to the name of the party who signs below.

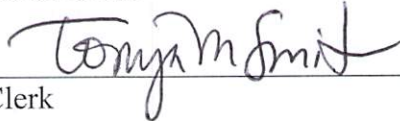
[SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW]

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.
716

Dated: 7/20, 2025

By:


Board Chair


Clerk

Dated: 7/24, 2025

By:


Steven P. Schroeder

Dated: 7/22, 2025

By:


President
Belle Plaine Education Association