BOARD BRIEFS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 553
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026

CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRPERSON- at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

ATTENDANCE & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM- All School Board Members except Ehnert and Geiser, Superintendent A. Johnson, M. Young-Lecoustre, and D. Vomhof. Visitors B. Weller, M. Wattenhofer, B. Genoch, T. Henderson, D. Faysak, S. Fagerland (Eide Bailly- virtual) and C. Koenen of the press.

SETTING THE AGENDA TO DETERMINE THE ORDERS OF THE DAY– Approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES- 9/28/26 Regular Meeting minutes and 10/12/26 Special Meeting minutes. Approved**.**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND APPROVAL OF BILLS- Approved.

RECOGNITION AND CONGRATULATIONS- Aurora Jabas on qualifying for MSHSL Girls Tennis Tournament. NYM Students and Staff for MCA test scores.

Ehnert arrived at 5:33pm.

PRESENTATIONS
Eide Bailly- Fiscal Year 2026 Audit (virtual)

REPORTS- Business Office Report- Audit complete. **Activities Report-** Playoffs, winter season coaches, schedules, transportation, etc, projects of wall pads, banners, walls, etc. **Elementary Report-** Conferences, MTSS meetings, ULFI Implementation. **High School-** MCA scores are out. Doing well in our region. COMPASS/MTSS training and teams developed. **Superintendent Report-** Homecoming went well, working to gather information about online school, CDL program, state mandated anonymous reporting system, Vitality partnership, hopeful for referendum passing on Nov 3.**Transportation-** DOT random tests, getting fleet ready for cold weather. **Building and Grounds-** wall pad replacement in HS gym complete and old pads are going to multipurpose/girls wrestling room. Winterization of sprinkler systems and concessions building, repaired domestic water heater, exploring options to switch out soap, paper towel and toilet paper dispensers for cost savings from Hillyard. **Food Service-** staffing and high grocery prices continue to be a challenge. **School Board-** Curriculum, Instruction and Policy 9/28/26

CONSENT ITEMS- CONTRACTS- Caulfield Studio **DONATIONS-** Arvig Rebate for Schools $1,393 to NYM General Fund, Perham Health $500 to Volleyball Program (Booster Club), Clay County $695 for Tandem Bicycle for bike fleet, NYM Lions Club $2500 to elementary girls basketball program (Booster Club) **MEETING DATES-** Canvassing meeting set for November 6, 7:30 am. Approved.

NEW BUSINESS
ACTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF THE FY26 AUDIT- Approved.

OUT OF DISTRICT BUS REQUESTS- 3rd Street, Bluffton and 1st Street Wadena. Approved.

APPROVAL OF TENNIS CONTRACT WITH PERHAM HIGH SCHOOL- Superintendent Johnson was advised to work with Superintendent Anderson about terms and pricing. Approval tabled until November meeting.

ESTABLISHING COMBINED POLLING PLACES- Approved.
COMBINED POLLING PLACE: NYM City Hall 28, Centennial 84 Drive W. New York Mills,
COMBINED POLLING PLACE: Spruce Grove Township, Wolf Lake Lions Community Hall, 103 North Manninen Avenue, Wolf Lake, MN

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION TO MSHSL FOUNDATION- Grant application for student activities fees. Approved.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION TO MSHSL FOUNDATION- Grant application for prevention of injuries. Approved.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS- High School BET- 10/8/26.

PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS- APPOINTMENTS- Creedan Dunrud Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, Cody Geiser Junior High Wrestling Coach, Dinee Dykhoff FFA Assistant Advisor, Karli Padgett Junior High Girls Basketball, Josh Hendrickx Volunteer Junior High Girls Basketball Coach, RESIGNATIONS- Zach Hocking Junior High Wrestling Coach, Jessica Masloski Boys Basketball Cheer Advisor, STAFF ASSIGNMENTS- Alli Bauck Junior High Girls Basketball Coach, Jason Boe Elementary Boys Basketball Coach and Elementary Girls Basketball Coach, Chris Bushinger Junior High Boys Basketball Coach and Junior High Girls Basketball Coach, Creedan Dunrud Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, Dustin Geiser Head Girls Wrestling Coach and Elementary Wrestling Coach, Katie Geiser Junior High Girls Wrestling Coach, Will Grieger Junior High Boys Basketball Coach, Jared Hotakainen Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach, Eric Niemi Head Wrestling Coach, Victoria Olson Wrestling Cheer Advisor. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT– 6:15 pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Canvass Meeting - November 6, 2026 7:30 a.m.
Regular Meeting– November 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting- December 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
Truth In Taxation Presentation- December 21 at 6:01 p.m.