

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

CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR- at 5:30 pm.
Pledge of Allegiance

ATTENDANCE & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM- All School Board Members except Ehnert plus Superintendent A. Johnson, J. Brockway, M. Young-Lecoustre, D. Vomhof and student representative D. Selander. Visitors Ka. Schanning, D. Faysak and C. Koenen of the press.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES- 12/15/25 and 1/5/26. Approved.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND APPROVAL OF BILLS- Approved.

PRESENTATIONS- Comprehensive Achievement and Civil Readiness Report. School Calendar.

VISITOR COMMENTS

REPORTS- Business Office Report- January 1 Enrollments, **Administrative Report-** Activities- Winter sports and Spring sports scheduling, Elementary Report- Student teacher in elementary, January and February Events and Happenings, High School Report- End/New Semester, Snow Week, Testing, Superintendent Report- Budget meetings, Building and Grounds Report- Water heaters/exchangers, working on efficiency, Food Service Report- Slushy machine, Student Representative- Snow Week, Activities, School Board- Budget and Facilities Meeting- 1/13/26, Wellness Meeting- 1/16/26, Personnel Meeting Minutes- 1/21/26, Curriculum, Instruction and Policy Meeting- 1/26/26.

OLD BUSINESS- None

CONSENT ITEMS- DONATIONS-\$250 from Mills Lanes for Trap Team. GRANTS- \$1072.00 from Astera Health Foundation for special education purchase. Approved.

NEW BUSINESS-

OUT OF DISTRICT BUS REQUEST- Park Circle, Ottertail, Approved.

REVISION OF FY2026 BUDGET- Approved.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTION IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS WITH REASONS THEREFORE- Approved.

RESOLUTION TO SHARE LTFM WITH FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT- Tabled until 2/23/26.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS- BET High School- 1/8/2026, BET Elementary- 1/16/2026.

PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS- APPOINTMENTS- D. Barvels- Long Term Para Sub, C. Orlando-Weight Room Coordinator, T. Bauck-Assistant BPA Advisor, LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS- R. Wegscheid May-Mid November, M. Bachim-Remainder of 25/26 School Year, LANE CHANGE REQUEST- D. Grieger-BA+50 to BA+60, K. Schanning-MA+10 to MA+20, A. Bauck-BA+40 to BA+50, E. Blaha-BA+20 to BA+30, Ky. Schanning-MA+10 to MA+20, J. Raser-MA+20 to MA+30, J. Lohmiller-BA+10 to BA+20, K. Fahlen-BA+10 to BA+20, L. Kennedy-BA to BA+10, B. Schornack-MA+10 to MA+20, J. Hotakainen-MA+20 to MA+30, W. Grieger-BA+50 to BA+60, K. Hotakainen-MA+10 to MA+20, R. Wegscheid-MA+10 to MA+20, K. Salo-BA+20 to MA, J. Krebs Ma+10 to MA+30. REQUEST FOR TIME OFF W/O PAY- C. Tornquist- 6 days, R. Wegscheid, 1 day, E. Blaha, 2 days, K. Kahilainen, 5 days. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT- 6:14 p.m.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board Workshop Meeting-January 28, 2026 5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting – February 23, 2026 5:30 pm

