BOARD BRIEFS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 553
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER BY THE VICE CHAIR- at 5:30 pm.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM- All School Board Members except Mursu, Superintendent A. Johnson, D. Vomhof, M Young-LeCoustre, and J. Brockway. Visitors M. Ondracek, L. Christensen, J. Skoog, T. Henderson and D. Faysak.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES- Approved.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND APPROVAL OF BILLS- Approved.

PRESENTATION BY ICS - Lori Christensen and Mark Ondracek

ANY VISITOR COMMENTS- None.

REPORTS- Superintendent -American Education Week celebrated NYM staff, election results and exploring next steps, Freshwater costs rising, exploring online school options; **Building and Grounds** - Girls wrestling room is set up, switch dispensers to Hillyard as a cost savings, winterization is finished except for FB concessions stand; **Elementary-** Fall conferences, UFLI implementation, upcoming concerts; **High School-** Fall sports wrapped up, Veteran's Day programs, BET is meeting regularly, after school help is available; **Food Service -** comparing prices from different vendors, holiday shop for elementary students, employee absences and storage are challenges; **Technology -** ongoing Chromebook maintenance, working on backup servers, installed new devices at FB field and bus garage; **School Board-** School Board Workshop 11/16/26.

CONSENT ITEMS- DONATIONS- Ottertail Rod and Gun Club, $1,500 to Fishing League, Ottertail Rod and Gun Club, $4,000 to Shooting Sports, New York Mills Lions Club, $600 to Bowling Team. Approved with thanks.

OLD BUSINESS-
APPROVAL OF TENNIS CONTRACT WITH PERHAM HIGH SCHOOL - Superintendent Johnson will request updates to the contract. Tabled until December meeting.

NEW BUSINESS
PROFESSIONAL STAFF ANNUAL SENIORITY LIST- Approved.

BUS DRIVERS ANNUAL SENIORITY LIST- Approved.

PARAPROFESSIONAL STAFF ANNUAL SENIORITY LIST- Approved.

OUT OF DISTRICT BUS REQUESTS- Approved.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS- High School BET 11/5/26

PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS- APPOINTMENTS- A. Musolino-Olson, HS SPED Longterm Substitute (March 15-May 28, 2027), B. Schornack, Volunteer Elementary Wrestling Coach, LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST–E. Kopveiler, 8-12 weeks starting December 12, 2026, REQUEST FOR TIME OFF W/O PAY– K. Bottem, February 3-12, 2027. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT– 6:17 pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular Meeting – December 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. (THIRD MONDAY)

Truth in Taxation Presentation December 21 at 6:01 p.m.