

IND. SCHOOL DISTRICT #36

KELLIHER PUBLIC SCHOOL

REGULAR AND ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2026

The School Board of ISD #36, Kelliher, MN met January 5, 2026 in the School Media Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Thayer at 6:00 p.m. Members present: Mary Thayer, Rachel Jorgensen, Jake Neft, Dawn Jensen, Tessa Koisti, Kevin Waldo and Jeff Nelson, Superintendent, Ex-Officio. Members absent: None.

Visitors: Kari Christiansen, Sherri Dahl, Nichole Frenzel, Kimberly Frenzel, Emma Wang, Angela Leach, August Poxleitner, Shana Dreher, and Aliza Lundin.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Dawn Jensen, second Kevin Waldo to approve the agenda moving Spanish Club presentation first. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dawn Jensen, second by Kevin Waldo to call for officer nominations.

Kevin Waldo nominated Mary Thayer and Dawn Jensen nominated Rachel Jorgensen as Board Chairperson. Candidate A: Mary Thayer; Candidate B: Rachel Jorgensen. Roll Call Vote Results: Mary Thayer: Mary Thayer, Tessa Koisti: Mary Thayer, Kevin Waldo: Mary Thayer, Rachel Jorgensen: Rachel Jorgensen, Jake Neft: Mary Thayer, Dawn Jensen: Rachel Jorgensen. Result: Mary Thayer was elected as Chairperson with a majority vote of 4-2.

Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Tessa Koisti to nominate Rachel Jorgensen as Board Clerk. There being no other nominations, motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Tessa Koisti to nominate Dawn Jensen as Board Treasurer. There being no other nominations, motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Tessa Koisti to nominate Kevin Waldo as Vice-Chair. There being no other nominations, motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Tessa Koisti to set the regular board meeting dates for the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the School Media Center. Motion passed

unanimously.

1/5/2026 Regular and Reorganizational Meeting DRAFT

Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Dawn Jensen to set board member salaries at \$100 (previously \$75)/meeting, annual salaries of \$650 for Chair (previously \$600), \$550 for Clerk (previously \$550) and \$550 for Treasurer (previously \$500) and director's pay for attending workshops related to school business at \$150 (previously \$100) for half day or \$250 for full day (previously \$200) and committee meetings at \$100/meeting (previously \$75) with the addition of \$350 (previously \$300) annual salary for Vice-Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Tessa Koisti, second by Rachel Jorgensen to make the following committee appointments:

1. Athletic Advisory/Sports Coop – Kevin Waldo and Rachel Jorgensen
2. Meet & Confer – Mary Thayer, Tessa Koisti, and Jake Neft
3. BRIC Representative – Dawn Jensen
4. EdMN Kelliher Negotiations – Kevin Waldo, Mary Thayer, and Jake Neft
5. EdMN Kelliher Support Staff Negotiations – Tessa Koisti, Dawn Jensen, Rachel Jorgensen
6. Legislative Liaison – Rachel Jorgensen
7. Staff Development – Mary Thayer
8. MN State High School League – Kevin Waldo
9. Student Hearings Committee – Rachel Jorgensen, Jake Neft
10. Technology Committee – Rachel Jorgensen, Tessa Koisti, Jake Neft
11. Old School Committee – Rachel Jorgensen, Tessa Koisti, Mary Thayer
12. Early Childhood and Childcare Center Committee – Dawn Jensen, Rachel Jorgensen, Mary Thayer
13. Health Insurance Committee – Kevin Waldo
14. Curriculum Review Committee – Rachel Jorgensen, Mary Thayer, Dawn Jensen
15. Career and Tech Ed Representative – Kevin Waldo
16. Finance Committee – Dawn Jensen, Tessa Koisti, Mary Thayer
17. Tribal Consultation Committee – Rachel Jorgensen, Tessa Koisti
18. School Forest Committee – Dawn Jensen
19. Wellness Committee – Mary Thayer, Kevin Waldo

Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen's forum:

1. None.

1/5/2026 Regular and Reorganizational Meeting DRAFT

Reports & Presentations:

1. Presentations
 - a. Spanish Club Advisor Kari Christiansen presented on their upcoming Spain Trip, scheduled for March 20-31, 2026. A donation request for \$1,000 & transportation (suburban & ramp/parking fees) was made to the board.
2. Administrative Reports
 - a. Superintendent Jeff Nelson gave an enrollment update stating 319 students, reported the policy review with MSBA is in process, relayed past field trip cost data, discussed mileage reimbursements, and relayed Sanford clinic to close end of February.
 - b. Business Manager Aliza Lundin relayed year end tax reporting timeline, Beltrami County festival proposal, budget revision status, and an update for Minnesota Paid Leave, with payroll deductions beginning on January 14, 2026 payroll.
 - c. Principal Sherri Dahl relayed itinerary for upcoming Professional Development day featuring AED, MNTSS, and Crisis Go training and reported students will be taking Pre-ACT and ASVAB tests.

Committee Reports:

1. The Wellness Committee met on December 17, 2025

Directors' Forum:

1. Rachel Jorgensen shared the idea of creating a Board Handbook (template from MSBA) as a reference guide.
2. Dawn Jensen expressed how great it is to have grandchildren excited about reading and inquired on the new reading tools being used.
3. Mary Thayer thanked Dan Alto and those involved for all the time spent with the new banners in large gym.

Regular Business:

1. Motion by Kevin Waldo, second by Dawn Jensen to approve the December 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion by Tessa Koisti, second by Dawn Jansen to approve the December Treasurer's Report and December payroll and District bills in the amount of \$780,180.36. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

1. Select the Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund and First State Bank of Bigfork, Kelliher as official depositories of the Kelliher School District.
2. Designate Bear Country Chronicles as the official school district publication. 3. Appoint the firm of Knutson, Flynn and Deans as the official school district attorney. 4. Designate board officers as signatories for school district accounts.
5. Designate the Business Manager, and Superintendent to conduct financial transactions at the official depositories on behalf of the Kelliher School District.
6. Set mileage rates for 2026 IRS standard rate \$0.73/mile. When using a personal vehicle because a school vehicle is not available. Mileage rate when using a personal vehicle and a school vehicle is available will be \$0.63/mile. Prior approval from administration is required for staff members requesting reimbursement for use of their personal vehicle.
7. Designate the Superintendent as authorized L.E.A. representative for Title I, II, IV, VI, VII, Impact Aid and all other federal and state programs and grants.
8. Authorize the Business Manager and Superintendent to initiate electronic transfers between official depository accounts, electronic payroll deposits and other electronic payments as required.
9. Approve Resolution Accepting Donations.

Motion made by Rachel Jorgensen, seconded by Jake Neft to approve the consent agenda.
Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items:

1. Consider the Spanish Club request for March Spain Trip.

Motion by Rachel Jorgensen, second by Kevin Waldo to approve the Spanish Club request of \$1,000 to offset trip costs and request school suburban to airport and parking ramp cost (\$267 plus tax). Motion passed unanimously.

2. Adjourn

Motion by Rachel Jorgensen, second by Tessa Koisti to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. Motion passed unanimously.

The next Regular School Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the School Media Center.

1/5/2026 Regular and Reorganizational Meeting DRAFT