

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2711  
MESABI EAST SCHOOLS  
AURORA, MN 55705**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
January 5, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chair, Walt Hautala at 5:30 p.m. on January 5, 2026 in the Board Room (204) with the following in answer to roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Directors Justin Adams, Amanda Gross, Walt Hautala, Pamela LaFrenier, Kathy Undeland, Superintendent Burgess

Absent: Director Chris Baudhuin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL: Moved by Director Adams, seconded by Director Hautala to approve the agenda as amended.

All in favor---Motion passed

DISTRICT PATRON AND VISITOR COMMENTS: None.

Consent Agenda: Moved by Director Gross, seconded by Director Adams to approve the consent agenda as presented: Payrolls and Bills in the amount of \$1,240,468.34; Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025; Tuition Agreement with Vermilion Country School for 2 students with start dates of 9/2/25 and 9/29/25; Minnesota Transitions Charter School for 3 students with start dates of 8/25/25 and 8/27/25.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Teacher Retirement Resignation: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director LaFrenier to accept the retirement resignation of Craig Johnson as HS Science Teacher and IT Director effective May 28, 2026 with appreciation for his dedicated service to the district.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Special Ed Para Bus Monitor Assignment: Moved by Director Gross, seconded by Director Adams to approve Chris Shaw as Special Education Para Bus Monitor up to 25 hours per week, Step 3 effective January 6, 2026.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Bus Driver Resignation: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director LaFrenier to accept the resignation of Orville Urban as Bus Driver effective December 4, 2025.

All in favor---Motion passed.

CTC Renewal: Moved by Director Gross, seconded by Director Hautala to approve the member service renewal with CTC for a 5 year period for the district phone system services.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Custodian Resignation: Moved by Director Hautala, seconded by Director Gross to accept the resignation of April Mattson as Custodian effective January 23, 2026 with appreciation for her dedicated service to the district.

All in favor---Motion passed.

Teachers on Call Wage: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Adams to approve the following Teacher's On Call wage effective January 6, 2026: Teacher Wage = \$140 per day; Paraprofessional Wage = \$16.00 per hour.

All in favor----Motion passed.

Donations Accepted: Moved by Director LaFrenier, seconded by Director Gross to accept the following donations: Monetary donation in the amount of 500 earmarked for the Drama Department; Monetary donation in the amount of \$500 earmarked for the Band Program; Monetary donation in the amount of \$1,000 earmarked for Creative Harts Programming; Monetary donation in the amount of \$200 earmarked YIA Student Club (Pantry).

2026 IRS Standard Mileage Rate: Moved by Director LaFreniere, seconded by Director Adams to approve the 2026 IRS Standard Mileage rate as 72.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2026.

All in favor---Motion passed.

REPORTS: Under Separate Cover.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Regular Board Meeting, February 2, 2026, 5:30 p.m., Board Room (204)

Adjournment: Moved by Director Adams, seconded by Director Gross to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

All in favor---Motion passed.

ATTEST:

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Chair

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Clerk