

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 77
Mankato, Minnesota

November 4, 2024

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, November 4, in the Mankato Room at the Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present at roll call: Patrick Baker, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: Kristi Schuck.

Mrs. Pratt made a motion, and Mrs. Ratcliff seconded, approval of the agenda together with a Personnel Addendum. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

MAPS Student Spotlight: Mik Hanson - Futures

MAPS Student Spotlight: Julia Battern - East

Public Comment: No one wished to speak.

Information Reports: Coordinated Early Intervening Services Report presented by Scott Hare and Samantha Steinman; First Reading of School Board Policies presented by John Lustig; Board Member Workshop/Committee Reports.

The consent agenda items outlined below were approved on a motion by Mrs. Ratcliff, seconded by Mr. Kind, and carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

Approval of Minutes of the October 21, 2024, regular Board meeting.

Approval of Extended Trips - East Baseball

Approval of Extended Trips - East Softball

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Nancy Drescher - Long-term Substitute Teacher for Kristin Edwards at Prairie Winds Middle School beginning November 5, and ending December 17, 2024. She will be placed at step 5 of the PhD lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

The following will be teachers in the Central High night school Program for 2.5 hours per day/2 nights per week (T/TH) beginning October 22 and ending

December 12, 2024. They will be compensated according to their placement on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Frederick Berg, Jeremy Burger, Micah Degner, Russell Groebner, Stephen Hueser, Laura Januschka, Crystal Kay, Amanda Knode Abel, TeRon Lee, Christina Makela, Aaron Miller, Sherry Miller, Emma Noren, Michael Sipe, Daniel Toegel, Kristin Van Otterloo, Amber Waibel, Matthew Weichert, Anna Wirth, Christopher Wollmuth

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Nimo Amiin - Cook Helper at East High School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning October 28, 2024. She will be placed at classification A11, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Brielle Bushaw - ACES Student Support Assistant at Franklin Elementary School for 2-3 hours per day/2 days per week beginning October 28, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$14.00 per hour. This is in addition to her Special Education Paraeducator assignment at Franklin Elementary School.

Morrigan Douglass - Building Supervisor with Community Education on an as-needed basis beginning October 15, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Sebastian Flores - Special Education Paraeducator (Intervention-ASD) at West High School for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning October 23, 2024. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Rachel Guentzel - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School for 7.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning November 7, 2024. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Tyler Leinen - 8-hour, 12-month Evening Custodian at Monroe Elementary School beginning November 4, 2024. He will be placed at classification A13, step 3, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Kiahna Pape - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School for 2-3 hours per day/3 days per week beginning October 24, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Grace Perschbacher - ACES Early Learning Aide Substitute at MAPS Center for Learning on an on-call basis beginning October 16, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.25 per hour for this assignment. This is in addition to her Early Learning Special Education Paraeducator assignment at MAPS Center.

Emma Portner - ACES Site Lead Substitute on an on-call basis beginning October 16, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.75 for this assignment. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant assignment at Jefferson Elementary School.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Isabella Alioto - Change in assignment from ACES Site Lead Substitute to ACES Site Lead at Eagle Lake Elementary School for 4-5 hours per day/1 day per week beginning November 4, 2024. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant assignment at Eagle Lake Elementary School.

Isabella Alioto - Decrease in assignment as ACES Child Care Assistant from 3-4 hours per day/4 days per week at Franklin Elementary School to 2-3 hours per day/4 days per week at Eagle Lake Elementary School beginning November 4, 2024. This is in addition to her ACES Site Lead assignment at Eagle Lake Elementary School.

Hunter Hillman - Increase hourly rate to \$13.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant at Jefferson Elementary School beginning November 1, 2024.

Keanna Johnson - Increase in assignment as Student Success Coach at Prairie Winds Middle School from 5.03 hours per day/4 days per week (M/T/TH/F) to 7 hours per day/5 days per week beginning October 28, 2024.

Maribeth Marso - Change in assignment from ACES Student Support Assistant to ACES Student Support Assistant Substitute at Franklin Elementary School beginning September 5, 2024. This is in addition to her Special Education Paraeducator assignment at Franklin Elementary School.

Nadiya Mohamed - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Associate Substitute to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning November 7, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Evelyn Scheibe - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School from 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 7 hours per day/3 days per week (W-F) beginning October 28, 2024.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Paige Burnham - Special Education Teacher at Kennedy Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning March 28, 2025, and continuing through the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Chantell Drummer - MAPS Early Childhood Teacher and Early Learning Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning, has requested unpaid leave beginning October 23 and returning to work on December 3, 2024.

Danielle Edstrom - Adjust start date to November 11, 2024, for Board-approved leave.

Kristin Edwards - Special Education Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning November 5 and returning to work on December 18, 2024.

Mary Jane Hollerich - 1st Grade Teacher at Bridges Community School, has requested intermittent leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning October 23, 2024, and ending May 21, 2025.

Lara Zimmerli - Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning January 17, 2025, and continuing for a period of 12 work weeks, then continuing with unpaid leave until returning to work on April 23, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Sharon Dinsmore - Extend Board-approved leave with a reduced work schedule of 6 hours per day, until returning to full schedule on November 8, 2024.

Taylor Homan - Adjust dates for Board-approved leave beginning October 21, 2024, and returning to work on March 3, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-AFFILIATED)

Carolyn Clause - Information Systems Programming Technician, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be December 2, 2024.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Jennifer Clausen - Building Secretary at Futures/SUN, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be November 8, 2024.

Lori DesLauriers - East Health Service Secretary at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be January 15, 2025.

Elvia Brinks - ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be October 24, 2024. She will continue as an ABE Teaching Assistant Substitute.

TERMINATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Derek Whaley - Supervision & Security at West High School, effective October 21, 2024.

Addendum:

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Breena Luiken - ACES Child Care Assistant for 1.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning November 4, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Augustus Nelson - ACES Early Learning Aide at MAPS Center for Learning 3 hrs per day/3 days per week beginning October 23, 2024. He will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Lindsey Rockvam - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at SUN for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning November 4, 2024. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute assignment.

Rebekka Rotz - ACES Sub Site Lead Substitute on an on-call basis at Roosevelt Elementary School beginning October 16, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.75 per hour for this assignment. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant assignment at Roosevelt Elementary School.

Monique Severson - Student Information Secretary at East High School for 6 hours per day/5 days per week, with a work year of 170 days and 5 paid holidays beginning November 5, 2024. She will be placed at step 1, classification B21, in accordance with the Educational Secretaries Association salary schedule.

Eric Sletten - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Futures for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning November 4, 2024. He will be placed at classification B22.5, step 2, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Isabelle Abel - Increase hourly rate to \$13.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant beginning November 18, 2024.

Holly Brobst - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator (Resource) at Bridges Community School from 3 hours per day/5 days per week to 5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning October 25, 2024. This is in addition to her Non-classroom Paraeducator (Lunchroom) assignment at Bridges Community School.

Holly Brobst - Decrease in assignment as Non-classroom Paraeducator (Lunchroom) at Bridges Community School from 1.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 1 hour per day/5 days per week beginning October 25, 2024. This is in addition to her Special Education Paraeducator (Resource) assignment at Bridges Community School.

Nohemi Quiroz De Ponce - Voluntary decrease in assignment as ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Center from 3.5 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) to 2.25 hours per day/3 days per week beginning November 5, 2024.

Miranda Suess - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute to ACES Student Support Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning November 1, 2024. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Collin Seifert - School Psychologist for the District, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning December 5, 2024, and returning to work on January 2, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Paula Ziegler - Health Care Paraeducator (RN) at Washington Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning November 27, 2024, and returning to work on February 22, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-AFFILIATED)

Michelle Biodrowski - Enrichment Specialist with Community Education at Lincoln Community Center, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be December 20, 2024.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ann Schmitz - Early Childhood Assessment Specialist, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be January 13, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ann Amaye - Special Education Paraeducator (Resource) at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be November 8, 2024. She will continue as a Teacher Substitute.

Chloe Millard - ACES Student Support Assistant Substitute and ACSE Site Lead Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be November 11, 2024.

Michael Sathoff - ACES Student Support Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be November 5, 2024. He will continue his ACES Site Lead Substitute and ACES Student Support Assistant Substitute.

Isaiah Smith - Special Education Paraeducator (Intervention-Behavior Support) at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be October 29, 2024.

The following gifts have been received by the School District:

Bryan Pucik and Barbara Lake donated \$500 for Bridges Community School Mr. Hatlestad's Classroom

Kato Escape donated \$500 for West High Girls Tennis Program

Mary Ann Christensen donated \$189,257.31 for Mankato Area Public Schools FFA Program, Career Pathways Program, and Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Education

Industrial Fabrication Services donated Pallet of Steel (200 value) for East High Welding Program

Ryan and Jill McKeown donated 1,000 for West High Girls Hockey Program

Becky Neve donated \$1,000 for East High VEX Robotics Program

Matthew E. Wolff donated \$2,000 for Wolff Family Jumpstart Scholarship Program

CAB Construction donated Welding supplies for Dice Project (\$52.63 value) for West High Welding Program

Central High School received the following donations for the Basketball Hoops:

- \$10,000 from Mankato Area Foundation
- \$5,000 from Mankato Area Foundation
- \$10,000 from Robert Chesley

West High School received the following donations for the Hall of Fame:

- \$250 from Charlton Dietz
- \$50 from Lynn Nordgren

Mr. Kind made a motion to accept the gifts. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts and carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

The following policies were presented for second reading and approval:

- 204 - School Board Meeting Minutes
- 206 - Public Participation in School Board Meetings/Complaints about Persons at School Board Meetings and Data Privacy Considerations
- 207 - Public Hearings
- 413 - Harassment and Violence
- 416 - Drug, Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing
- 418 - Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
- 419 - Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction
- 466 - Professional Development and Mentoring
- 606.5 - Library Materials

The revised policies were approved on a motion by Mrs. Pratt, second by Mrs. Ratcliff, and carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

The state law requires school districts to enter contracts with all individuals or companies who transport students. There are a number of individuals with whom we must reach an agreement with each fall. There are various situations in the school district for which a special arrangement for transportation has been made with either the parent or a private contractor for example: There are situations where the bus is unable to travel on a road because of location and condition. The bus routes are too

long for some students that have very special needs or are medically fragile. Some are just not able to make arrangements suitable for the child's specific needs and therefore enter into a contract with the parent or guardian. The district has a number of students that participate in a work program and are being transported to and from their work experience sites on a daily basis. Following questions, Mrs. Ratcliff made a motion to approve the contracts and the motion was seconded by Mr. Kind. The motion carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

Earlier in 2024, the Mankato Area School Board committed to establishing a handbook that would provide information and direction to current and prospective school board members. The Communications Committee, along with Administrative Assistant Becky Bailey, have worked over the last several months to pull together resources for inclusion in the handbook that will be available on the school district website. Paper versions of the handbook will be made available at the district office. Mrs. Pratt made a motion to approve the MAPS School Board Handbook as presented and the motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

A major teaching and learning initiative stemming from the new strategic roadmap is the transition of three MAPS elementary schools to *focus schools*. These schools offer a specialized theme that is integrated into the curriculum, instruction, and overall school experience. Last spring, Rosa Parks Elementary and Jefferson Elementary were selected to join Bridges Community School as focus schools starting with the 2025-2026 school year. Ms. Roberts made a motion adopt the three focus areas for the three elementary schools beginning in the 2025-2026 school year:

- Bridges Community School Global Studies Focus
- Jefferson Elementary School Outdoor-Nature Based Education Focus

- Rosa Parks Elementary School STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) Focus

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Pratt and was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

There being no further business to consider, Mrs. Ratcliff moved and Mr. Kind seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was declared adjourned at 6:57 p.m., on a 6-0 voice vote.

Attest: Clerk _____

 Chairperson _____

SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 77
Mankato, Minnesota

November 4, 2024

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, November 4, in the Mankato Room at the Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present at roll call: Patrick Baker, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: Kristi Schuck.

1. Pratt/Ratcliff approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 6-0
2. MAPS Student Spotlight - Mik Hanson
3. MAPS Staff Spotlight - Julia Battern
4. Public Comment - No one wished to speak.
5. Information: Coordinated Early Intervening Services Report, First Reading of Policies, Board Member Report.
6. Ratcliff/Kind approval of Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes of the October 21, 2024, regular meeting; Approval of Extended Trips - East Baseball and East Softball; Personnel. 6-0
7. Kind/Roberts acceptance of gifts and grants. 6-0
8. Pratt/Ratcliff approval of revised policies. 6-0
9. Ratcliff/Kind approval of individual transportation contracts. 6-0
10. Pratt/Roberts approval of MAPS School Board Handbook. 6-0
11. Roberts/Pratt approval of elementary school themes. 6-0
12. Ratcliff/Kind adjournment at 6:57 p.m. 6-0

Independent School District No. 77
Mankato, Minnesota
By: Erin Roberts

The complete minutes and all documents relating to this meeting are on file and available for review in the Superintendent's Office, 10 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 2 and on-line at www.isd77.org.