

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

April 7, 2025

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, April 7, in the Mankato Room - Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present at roll call: Patrick Baker, Elizabeth Hanke, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts and Shannon Sinning. Members absent: None.

Mrs. Pratt made a motion, and Mrs. Ratcliff seconded, approval of the agenda together with a Personnel Addendum. The motion carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

MAPS Student Spotlight: Lily Freitas - Dakota Meadows Middle School

MAPS Staff Spotlight: Micah Degner - West High School

Public Comment: Erin Guentzel wished to speak.

Information Reports: Central High School Report presented by Principal Marti Sievek and Dean of Students Dan Sharpsteen and First Reading of Revised Policies presented by Director of Administrative Services John Lustig, Board Member Workshop/Committee Reports.

Winter Student/Staff Recognition presented by Activities Directors Eric Dahlman and Todd Waterbury:

The following East High students are recognized for their accomplishments during the Winter season:

Boys Basketball

- Section 2AAA Champions and Big 9 Conference Champions
- State Tournament Class AAA Runner-Up
 - Brogan Madson
 - MSHSL All-Tournament Team Selection
 - Big 9 Conference Player of the Year
 - Mr. Basketball Finalist
 - MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - MSHSCA All-Star Game Selection
 - Lucas Gustafson
 - MSHSL All-Tournament Team Selection
 - Amari Nobles
 - Zach Bosse
 - Ganden Gosch
 - MSHSL All-Tournament Team Selection
 - MSHSCA All-Star Game Selection

- Thokwech Puoch
- Dwuan Reliford
- Abdullahi Mohamed
- Hayden Tischler
- Deandre Bangu
- Griffin Schott
- Colton McCormick
- Gavin Hering
- Briggs Meyer
- Mason Diede
- Jake Langworthy
- Braden Petzel
- Student Managers - Carter Kamphoff, Liliana Steinbach and Raegan Anderson
- Joe Madson - Conference Coach of the Year

Adapted Floor Hockey

- Section Champions and State 4th Place
 - Kellen Britz
 - Oliver Dowd
 - Silas Visker
 - Jak Okumo
 - Hailie Johnson
 - Davaris Woods
 - Lilly Maas

Wrestling

- MSHSCA Gold Team Academic Award Winner
 - Max Morgan - 189lb State Qualifier (3rd Place)
 - Jackson Stensrud - 121lb State Qualifier
 - Tyler Thilges - Heavyweight State Qualifier

Alpine Ski

- Reed Pope - State Participant (25th Place)
- Maddie Cooney - State Participant

Gymnastics

- Section 2A Champions
- MSHSCA Gold Team Academic Award
 - Rylie Hansen
 - Individual State Participant - Floor (20th Place)
 - All-State - Vault, Bars, Beam and Floor
 - All-State Elite - All Around
 - Aubrey Britz
 - Individual State Participant - Balance Beam (9th Place) and Floor (18th Place)
 - All-State - Floor and Beam
 - All-State Honorable Mention Vault and All Around
 - Kailynn Thul
 - Individual State Participant - Vault (17th Place) and Bars (18th Place)
 - All-State Honorable Mention - Bars

- Nora Javens
 - Individual State Participant - Balance Beam (32nd Place)
 - All-State Honorable Mention - Bars
- Teegan Mullikin
 - Individual State Participant - Vault (33rd Place) and Floor (36th Place)
 - All-State Honorable Mention - Vault, Balance Beam, Floor and All-Around
- Liv Thauvin
 - All-State Honorable Mention - Floor
- Olivia Lassen

Boys Swim and Dive

- 16th Place at State Meet
- MSHSCA Gold Team Academic Award (3.98 GPA)
- 200 Medley Relay: Elam Asker, Elijah Malten, Elliot Bartell & Hayden Kulas (14th Place)
- 50 Freestyle: Elliot Bartell (5th Place) All-State
- 100 Fly: Elliot Bartell (State Champion) All-State (New Class A State Record)
- 500 Freestyle: Elam Asker (13th Place)
- Medley Relay Alternate - Nolan Blech
- MSHSCA All-State Academic - Spencer Flitter

VEX Robotics

- Cougar Dynasty (Team 9457D) - State Qualifiers
 - Khya Culbertson
 - Llanelle Burnett
 - Maya Wood
 - Sara Reza
- Sky High (Team 9457S) - State Qualifiers
 - Claire Pieper
 - Kai Laidlaw
 - Kamren Hines
 - Zachary McCabe
 - Logan Budge
 - Samuel Matson
 - Clay Warner
- Wolfram (Team 9457W) - State Qualifier
 - Carson Crawford
 - Jackson Ecker
 - Ibrahim Ibrahim
 - Colin Talle
 - Zach Asfaw
 - Elsie Mack
- Spongebot Spareparts (Team 9457Z) - State Qualifiers
 - Cadyn Thul
 - Garrett Chatleain
 - Isaac Megard
 - Noah Altomari
 - Preston Thomas
 - Tyler Asfaw
- Why? (Team 9457Y) - State Qualifiers
 - Cashel Thill

- Nicholas Willaert
- Blake Thielsen
- Jonah Krenz
- Joshua Larsen
- Taylor Reuter
- Evan Verly
- The Minnesotans (Team 9457C) - State Qualifiers
 - Alexander Jacob
 - Andrew Myhra
 - Jeremiah Daniels
 - Megan Myhra
 - Nicholas Hoffman
 - Samuel Barker

DECA

- State Participants
 - Guillaume Bibbee
 - Employment Interview - Advanced Level - Champion
 - Personal Financial Literacy - 3rd Place
 - Aidan Burns
 - Mackenzie Burns
 - Eli Edberg
 - Gabe Filter
 - Norah Finch
 - Kadence Hiniker
 - Ibrahim Ibrahim
 - Abdullah Khan
 - Alexander Kunst
 - Elias Malten
 - Esther Njeru
 - Parker Sinning
 - Jada Sivertsen
 - Liam Slotemaker
 - Cole Wolle

FFA

- Companion Animals (State Qualifiers)
 - Amanda Boles
 - Morgan Gropel
 - Lily Rader

The following West High students are recognized for their accomplishments during the Winter season:

Adapted Floor Hockey

- Section Champions
- 4th Place at State
- State Meet Qualifiers: Nicholas Hernandez, Ania Janssen, Chloe Marks, Semaji Scurlock, Damaria Pickett, Taylor Tokheim

Girls Basketball

- MSHSCA Team Academic Gold Award - GPA 3.80
- Academic All-State - Avery Schmitz, Rachel Younge, Jillian Olsen

Gymnastics

- Section 2A Runner Up
- State participants: Grace Jacobson, Charley Fernandez, and Ava Olson
 - All Around: Grace Jacobson-6th, Charley Fernandez- 10th
 - Floor Exercise: Grace Jacobson- 3rd
 - Vault: Grace Jacobson- 2nd
- ALL STATE/ALL STATE HONORABLE MENTION
 - Aoife Rooney
 - All State Honorable Mention: Vault
 - Ava Olson
 - All State Honorable Mention: Floor Exercise
 - Charley Fernandez
 - All State: Uneven Bars, Floor Exerciseable
 - All State Honorable Mention: Vault, Balance Beam, All-Around
 - Grace Jacobson
 - All State: Vault, Uneven Bars, Floor Exercise
 - All State Honorable Mention: Balance Beam, All-Around
 - Conference Champion - All-Around

Boys Hockey

- Section 3A Runner Up

Boys Alpine Ski

- Big 9 Conference Champions

Boys Swim and Dive

- 12th as a team at state meet
- State Participants: Dani Mauri, Isaac Sanderson, Corbin Diechman, Sam Simmons, Trey Sabatka, Kaid Maxwell, Wyatt Bartell, Ian Ray
- State Meet
 - 50 Freestyle- Dani Mauri 2nd
 - 100 Freestyle- Dani Mauri 2nd

Wrestling

- Team Academic All-State Silver Award

DECA

- Outstanding Student Award -Addi Lawrence
- Accounting Role Play State Finalist and ICDC Advancement -Addi Lawrence
- 2024-2025 State Officer for MN DECA - Addi Lawrence
- State Participants
 - Lilly Considine
 - Brodie Cox
 - Corbin Diechman
 - Keaton Dorzek
 - Olivia Downs

- Evelyn Erickson
- Annie Essay
- Maleah Gisen
- Marina Honnette
- Charlie Huerlik
- Hudson Jacobs
- Riley Johnson
- Tssa Kalm
- Addison Lawrence
- Aiden Lawton
- Megan Lewandowski
- Zoe Lienemann
- Frankie McAninch
- Austin Nommenson
- Courtney O'Connor
- Aofie Rooney
- Mason Schreiber
- Anne Schill
- Mikia Stevens
- Jakobe Tosch
- Isaac Ulman
- Luci Velasquez

Math League

- State Tournament
 - Arlo Chapman, Emmy Gengler, Ella Haggerty, Zichun Lin, Aiden Mock, Ashley Pipes, Sophia Post, Lila Pratt, and Prithviraj Ray

Vex Robotics

- State Tournament Qualifying Teams
 - 8110A ReStart
 - Evie Bottner
 - Ethan Mann
 - Dylan Jacoby
 - Eli Luiken
 - 8110B The Bakery
 - Brendan Isenberg
 - Chris Squires
 - Aiden Mock
 - Weston Grassmann
 - 8110C Llamas
 - Carter James
 - Jacob Goblirsch
 - Evan Honken
 - Luke Haggerty
 - 8110G Immortal
 - Max Spriggs
 - Colten Lindsey
 - Chase Chronic
 - Chase Rademaker

- 8110R Geared Up
 - Tobin Gangi
 - Charlie Vonbank
 - Josh Hulsebos
 - Fletcher Myer
 - Patrick Kremer
- 8110T Cappytech
 - Walter Gaalswyk
 - Nathan Veen-Morel
 - Joselynn Andersen
 - Brayden Kittelson
- 8110W Whisper
 - Logan Peters
 - Prith Ray
 - Jaxson Parker
 - Sam Anderson
 - Jack Morgan
 - Zichun Lin
- 8110Z R.I.P. Tide
 - Hudson Long
 - Mason Martirock
 - Dylan Tholen
- World's Tournament Qualifying Teams
 - ReStart, Llamas, and Whisper
 - ReStart- state champion
 - Llamas and Whisper- 2nd at State

Triple A Award

- Jillian Olsen
- Chase Lindeman

Excel Award

- Zoe Williams
- Mason Schreiber

The consent agenda items outlined below were approved on a motion by Mrs. Ratcliff, seconded by Ms. Roberts, and carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

Approval of Minutes of the March 17, 2025, regular Board meeting.

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (NON-AFFILIATED)

Eric Koser - Instructional Technology Coordinator with the District beginning July 1, 2025. This is a full-time, 12-month Non-Affiliated position with an annual salary of \$96,825 (subject to 2025-26 salary adjustments). He will be eligible for Category III benefits.

Morgan Schreiner - ACES Site Specialist at Lincoln Community Center beginning April 2, 2025. This is a full-time, Non-affiliated position with an annual salary of \$54,288, prorated to \$13,312 for 64 days for 2024-25. She will be eligible for Category II Benefits.

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Trinitey Bryant - Full-time (1.00 FTEs) Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Dakota Meadows Middle School starting August 11, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Megan Denhof - Part-time (0.50 FTEs) School Psychologist with the District beginning August 11, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 1 of the M+45 lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule with an additional 10 contract days per year, contingent upon obtaining licensure.

Michelle Hague - ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning for 45 annual hours (0.031 FTEs) beginning February 25, 2025. She will be placed at step 6 of the M lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule. This is in addition to her Early Childhood Special Education Teacher assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Lillian Bengston - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at SUN for 3.5 hours per day/3 days per week (M/W/F) and 7 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) beginning March 24, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Matilda Burg - Special Education Paraeducator (Resource) at Hoover Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 20, 2025. She will be placed at classification B21.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Mercy Emery - Non-classroom (Playground) Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 2.167 hours per day/3 days per week (M-W) beginning April 1, 2025. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Jenna Haman - ACES Child Care Assistant at Jefferson Elementary School for 2-3 hours per day/2 days per week beginning April 1, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Benjamin Harpestad - Special Education Paraeducator (Intervention-ASD) at Monroe Elementary School for 6.75 hours per day/4 days per week (M/T/TH/F) beginning April 4, 2025. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Megan Herkenhoff - ACES Site Lead Substitute at Roosevelt Elementary School on an on-call basis beginning April 1, 2025. 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 Washington Elementary School.

Nataley Labonia - ACES Child Care Assistant at Washington Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning March 6, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Sophie Lies - ACES Child Care Assistant at Washington Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning March 4, 2025. She will be paid compensation at the rate of \$13.00 per hour.

Chelsey Olson - Non-classroom (Playground/Lunchroom) Paraeducator at Monroe Elementary School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 25, 2025. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Jane Phares - ACES Child Care Associate Substitute at Roosevelt Elementary School on an on-call basis beginning April 1, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$11.13 per hour.

Junior Pontes Da Veiga - Student Success Coach at East High School for 4 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 24, 2025. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Maximus Sims - Non-classroom (Playground) Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 2.167 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) beginning March 20, 2025. He will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Brea Tonsager - ACES Site Lead Substitute at Franklin Elementary School on an on-call basis beginning March 18, 2025. 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 Franklin Elementary School.

Brenda Voracek - Early Learning Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning for 7 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning April 1, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22, step 7, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Dylan Williams - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at West High School for 3.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning April 1, 2025. He will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Nicole Helget - Increase in assignment as Special Education Teacher at Dakota Meadows Middle School from 1.00 FTEs to 1.04175 FTEs for the 4th quarter beginning April 1, and ending June 6, 2025.

Mary Mccuskey Simpson - Temporary increase in assignment as Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 343.5 annual hours (0.239 FTEs) to 428 annual hours (0.297 FTEs) beginning February 25 and ending May 20, 2025.

Megan Schultz - Voluntary temporary decrease in assignment as School Social Worker at Hoover Elementary and Kennedy Elementary Schools from full-time (1.00 FTEs) to part-time (0.50 FTEs) beginning August 18 and returning to full-time (1.00 FTEs) on November 17, 2025.

Angela Timmerman - Temporary increase in assignment as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 640 annual hours (0.44 FTEs) to 660 annual hours (0.45 FTEs) beginning February 25 and ending May 30, 2025.

Megan Van Beek - Temporary increase in assignment as ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning from 180.5 annual hours (0.125 FTEs) to 220.5 annual hours (0.153 FTEs) beginning February 25 and ending May 30, 2025.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Mackenzie Bosch - Increase in assignment as Early Learning Special Education Paraeducator, classification B22, at MAPS Center for Learning from 7 hours per day/1 days per week (M) and 5.5 hours per day/1 day per week (W) to 7 hours per day/1 day per week (M), 1.75 hours per day/1 day per week (T) and 5.5 hours per day/1 day per week (W) beginning March 17, 2025. This is in addition to her Early Learning Paraeducator, classification B21, assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

Joselyn Ellis - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator (Intervention-DCD) at Prairie Winds Middle School from 6.75 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) and 2.75 hours per day/1 day per week (M) to 6.75 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) and 4.25 hours per day/1 day per week (M) beginning March 26, 2025.

Cordena Maurer - Temporary increase in assignment as Early Learning Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning from 3.5 hours per day/2 days per week (M/T), 2.5 hours per day/1 day per week (W) and 3 hours per day/1 day per week (F) to 3.5 hours per day/2 days per week (M/T), 2.5 hours per day/1 day per week (W), 1.5 hours per day/1 day per week (TH), and 3 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning March 7 and ending May 23, 2025.

Mercy Nyamari - Change in assignment from ACES Early Learning Aide to ACES Early Learning Aide Substitute at MAPS Center for Learning on an on-call basis beginning January 13, 2025.

Madeline Saye - Increase hourly rate to \$14.00 as ACES Child Care Assistant at Kennedy Elementary School beginning April 1, 2025. This is in addition to her Student Success Coach assignment at Kennedy Elementary.

Sarah Sullivan - Change in assignment from Second Cook, classification A13 at Franklin Elementary School for 7.5 hours per day/5 days per week to Cook Helper,

classification A11, at East High School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning April 1, 2025. She will be compensated according to her placement on the Minnesota School Employees Association salary schedule.

Marie Zuehlke - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator (Resource) at Roosevelt Elementary School from 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 3, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Chantell Drummer - Extend Board-approved leave, returning to work on June 3, 2025.

Eric Koser - Part-time (0.50 FTEs) Mentor Coach and Part-time (0.50 FTEs) Science Teacher at West High School has requested a leave of absence beginning with the 2025-26 school year, for the purpose of accepting the Instructional Technology Coordinator assignment.

Ashlee Osmundson - Adjust return date to April 14, 2025, for Board-approved leave.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Nohemi Quiroz De Ponce - ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Center, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning March 4 and returning to work on April 1, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-AFFILIATED)

William Scott Hare - Director of Student Support Services, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 30, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Emily Boyle - Spanish Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Melissa Buseth - 4th Grade Teacher at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Patrick Clark - Youth Mental Health Navigator for the District, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Mallory Stiff - Special Education K-12 DAPE Teacher with the District, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 30, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Shipra Chowdhury - Early Learning Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 23, 2025.

Heather Hoernemann - Cook Helper at East High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be March 10, 2025.

Emma Schwandt - ACES Early Learning Aide at MAPS Center for Learning and ACES Site Lead at Jefferson Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be March 20, 2025.

Darshawn Walker - 4-hour Evening Custodian at Kennedy Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be March 20, 2025.

Personnel - Addendum

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Jack Baumbach - Long-term Substitute Teacher for Anna Rose at West High School beginning April 14 and ending June 5, 2025. He will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Kaylee Engle - Full-time (1.00 FTEs) School Psychologist with the District beginning August 11, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 2 of the M+45 lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule with an additional 10 contract days per year, contingent upon obtaining licensure.

Samuel Pratt - Full-time (1.00 FTEs) Special Education Teacher, site to be determined, beginning August 11, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. He will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule, contingent upon obtaining licensure.

Evelyn Scheibe - Full-time (1.00 FTEs) Special Education Teacher, site to be determined, beginning August 11, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule, contingent upon obtaining licensure.

Alyssa Surret - Long-term Substitute Teacher at Futures beginning April 14 and ending June 5, 2025. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Pamela Becker - Temporary increase in assignment as ABE Teacher with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Central from 0.24 FTEs to 0.29 FTEs beginning April 21 and ending June 5, 2025.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Turner Haar - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant at Washington Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning May 12, 2025.

Olivia Kaser - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning May 2, 2025.

Meghan Pape - Change in assignment from Non-classroom (Lunchroom) Paraeducator Substitute to POS Operator at Roosevelt Elementary School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning April 7, 2025. She will be placed at step 1, classification A13 of the Educational Secretaries Association salary schedule.

Addison Reichenberg - Change in assignment from ACES Early Learning Aide at MAPS Center for Learning to ACES Early Learning Aide Substitute on an on-call basis beginning April 7, 2025. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute assignment.

Skylar Smithers - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning May 8, 2025.

Calleejo Sohn - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Assistant at Roosevelt Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning May 1, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kerrigan Chesney - School Social Worker at Central High School and Washington Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning May 31, and returning to work on August 25, 2025.

Tanya Loewen - Spanish Teacher at Dakota Meadows Middle School, has requested Medical leave beginning April 7 and continuing through the end of the 2024-25 school year. She will be eligible to use any applicable fringe benefits available.

Kelsey Nelson - 4th Grade Teacher at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has requested leave under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act beginning May 19, and continuing through the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Jesse Pigman - Adjust dates for Board-approved leave, beginning April 3 and returning to work on April 21, 2025.

Abbey Riese - Adjust dates for Board-approved leave, beginning April 21 and continuing through the end of the 2024-25 school year.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Simon Gatluak - Extend Board-approved leave, returning to work on June 2, 2025.

Jaclyn Rademaker - Extend Board-approved leave and continue with a reduced work schedule of 3.5 hours per day until returning to full schedule on April 15, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Andrea Brinkman - Choir Director at East High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Taten Lyngstad - Social Studies Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Shelbi Morton - English Language Arts Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

Emma Sill - Health Science Teacher at West High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 6, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ella Cordes - ACES Early Learning Aide Substitute at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 1, 2025.

Elizabeth Haglund - ACES Early Learning Aide at MAPS Center for Learning and ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be April 16, 2025.

Breena Luiken - ACES Child Care Assistant at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be April 16, 2025.

Jasmine Mata Diaz - ACES Child Care Assistant at Roosevelt Elementary School and ACES Site Lead Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 7, 2025.

Sarah T Peterson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 9, 2025.

Samuel Pratt - Special Education Paraeducator (Intervention- Behavior Support) at Franklin Elementary School has submitted a resignation in order to accept the Special Education Teacher assignment. The last day for this assignment will be June 5, 2025.

Evelyn Scheibe - Special Education Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation in order to accept the Special Education Teacher assignment. The last day for this assignment will be June 5, 2025.

Alyssa Surrett - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at SUN, has submitted a resignation in order to accept the Long-term Substitute Teacher assignment. The last day for this assignment will be April 11, 2025.

Approval of Agreement Regarding Discontinuation of Employment.

Mr. Kind made a motion to accept the gifts.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: "The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or the benefit of

pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: “Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full.”; and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Mankato Area Public Schools, ISD77, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

- The Mankato Area Public Schools FFA Program received the following donations:
 - \$100 from Mankato Motor Company
 - \$500 from New Vision Co-op
 - \$1,000 from Crystal Valley
- Prairie Ecology Bus Center donated \$500 for Rosa Parks Elementary Kindergarten Field Trip Busing
- WEB Construction donated \$1,000 for West High and Dakota Meadows Middle VEX Robotics
- Mankato Ballet Company donated \$1,083 for Mankato Area Public Schools 2nd Grade Busing to Sleeping Beauty
- Edward H. Schultz Family donated \$3,500 for East & West High Schools Edward H. Schultz scholarship

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff and carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

On March 4th, 2025 at 11:00am, four (4) bids were received for the Mankato Area Public Schools 2025 Site (Hard Surface) Improvements (see page _____). The administrative team and Bolten & Menk, our professional hard surface team, recommend that the bid as submitted by W.W. Blacktopping, Inc. in the amount of \$196,592.50 for the base bid to be accepted by the School Board. LTFM revenue will be used to fund this project, and this project will be part of the FY25/FY26 budget. Mr. Baker made a motion to accept the bid as recommended and Mrs. Pratt seconded the motion. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

On March 20, 2025, multiple bids for each of the Work Scopes were received for the Dakota Meadows Middle School Tennis Courts (see page _____). The administrative team, Kraus-Anderson Construction (Construction Managers) and ISG/LSE Architects, our professional design teams, recommends that the bids as

submitted on the attachment in a total amount of \$921,490.00 be accepted by the School Board. The Bond Referendum will be used to fund this project. Mrs. Ratcliff made a motion to accept the bid as recommended and Mr. Kind seconded the motion. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

The following policies were presented for second reading and approval:

519 - Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies

522 - Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process

701 - Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget

727 - Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources

The revised policies were approved on a motion by Mrs. Ratcliff, second by Mrs. Pratt, and carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

A motion was made by Mrs. Pratt to approve the 2025-2026 calendar adjustment (see pages _____). The motion was seconded by Mr. Kind and carried on a 7-0 roll call.

Part of the normal staffing process is the adoption of a resolution relating to the termination/non-renewal of the teaching contract of probationary, Tier 1, Tier 2, and/or substitute teachers. A motion was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Kind to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, are probationary, Tier 1, Tier 2, or contract substitute teachers in Independent School District No. 77, Sonia Barker, Nicholas Campbell, Evelin Canil Aguilar, Mary Carlsen, Britt Cline, Randall Colvin, Chelsey Crary, Renee Ehlers, Jacquelyn Frerichs, Nicole Helget, Alecia Hynes, Susan F Johnson, Charles Johnston, Corey Kneeshaw, Lyndal Kosmatka, Jessica Noakes, Brandon Pashina, Danielle Peterson, Lindsey Pratt, Jennifer Snyder, Lauren Stark, Martha Stelter, Maria Stock, Darian Thompson, Jennifer Wade, Brittany Wundermachen, Serenity Zwaschka

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 77 that pursuant to Minnesota Statute 122A.40 Sub. division 5, and Minnesota Statute 122A.44 Subdivision 2 that the teaching contracts of Sonia Barker, Nicholas Campbell, Evelin Canil Aguilar, Mary Carlsen, Britt Cline, Randall Colvin, Chelsey Crary, Renee Ehlers, Jacquelyn Frerichs, Nicole Helget, Alecia Hynes, Susan F Johnson, Charles Johnston, Corey Kneeshaw, Lyndal Kosmatka, Jessica Noakes, Brandon Pashina, Danielle Peterson, Lindsey Pratt, Jennifer Snyder, Lauren Stark, Martha Stelter, Maria Stock, Darian Thompson, Jennifer Wade, Brittany Wundermachen, Serenity Zwaschka are hereby terminated and shall be non-renewed at the close of the 2024-25 school year effective June 6, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that written notice be sent to said teachers regarding termination and non-renewal of their contracts and assignments as provided by law.

The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

Amanda Heilman reviewed the recommended revised 2024-2025 budget for Mankato Area Public Schools programs. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the revised budgets as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff and carried on a 7-0 roll call vote. Approval of the revised 2024-2025 budgets will change the individual fund totals as follows, as compared to the FY 25 Preliminary Budget which was board approved in June 2024:

1. General Fund Revenues from \$127,454,185 to \$128,391,117.
2. General Fund Expenditures from \$124,349,659 to \$124,196,404.
3. Food Service Revenues from \$6,299,590 to \$6,311,700.
4. Food Service Expenditures from \$6,836,071 to \$7,228,381.
5. Community Service Fund Revenues from \$7,443,610 to \$7,736,278.
6. Community Service Fund Expenditures from \$7,376,573 to \$7,813,505.
7. Construction Fund Revenues from \$1,950,000 to \$2,231,500.
8. Construction Fund Expenditures from \$43,958,028 to \$44,151,074.
9. Debt Service Revenue from \$16,007,729 to \$16,178,411.
10. OPEB Trust Fund Revenues from \$1,250,000 to \$1,200,000.
11. OPEB Trust Fund Expenditures from \$1,425,000 to \$1,505,000.

There being no further business to consider, Mrs. Hanke moved and Mr. Kind seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:35 p.m., on a 7-0 voice vote.

Clerk _____

Attest:

Chairperson _____

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

April 7, 2025

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, April 7, in the Mankato Room - Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present at roll call: Patrick Baker, Elizabeth Hanke, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts and Shannon Sinning. Members absent: None.

1. Pratt/Ratcliff approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 7-0
2. MAPS Student Spotlight - Lily Freitas
3. MAPS Staff Spotlight - Micah Degner
4. Public Comment - Erin Guentzel wished to speak.
5. Information: Winter Student/Staff Recognition, Central High School Report, First Reading of Revised Policies, Board Member Reports.
6. Ratcliff/Roberts approval of Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes of the March 17, 2025, regular meeting; Personnel; Approval of Agreement Regarding Discontinuation of Employment. 7-0
7. Kind/Ratcliff acceptance of gifts. 7-0
8. Baker/Pratt approval of 2025 hard surface improvements - Kennedy, Washington, Rosa Parks, Bridges. 7-0
9. Ratcliff/Kind approval of construction bids for Dakota Meadows Tennis Courts. 7-0
10. Ratcliff/Pratt approval of second/final reading of board policies. 7-0
11. Pratt/Kind approval of 2025-26 school year calendar adjustment. 7-0
12. Baker/Kind approval of resolution relating to termination/non-renewal of teaching contracts of probationary, tier 1, tier 2 and/or contract substitute teachers. 7-0
13. Baker/Ratcliff approval of 2024-25 revised budget. 7-0
14. Hanke/Kind adjournment at 7:35 p.m. 7-0

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.



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March 4, 2025

Mr. Scott Kaminski
Facilities Operations Manager
Independent School District No. 77
10 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1, P.O. Box 8741
Mankato, MN 56002-8741

RE: 2025 Site (Hard Surface) Improvements
Independent School District No. 77
Mankato and North Mankato, Minnesota
BMI Project No. 24X.137039.000

Dear Mr. Kaminski,

Bids were received and opened on Tuesday, March 4 at 11:00 am for the 2025 Site (Hard Surface) Improvement project.

The project includes the following improvements:

Kennedy Elementary School:	Reclaim & Pave East Playground; Mill & Overlay West Dropoff and Parking Area
Washington Elementary School:	Reclaim & Pave East Playground and South Playground
Rosa Parks Elementary School:	Reclaim & Pave Trail
Bridges Community School:	Mill & Overlay North Driveway

Four (4) bids were received, and the results of the bids are tabulated below:

Bidder	Amount Bid
W.W. Blacktopping, Inc.	\$196,592.50
Nielsen Blacktopping, Inc.	\$211,897.50
OMG Midwest, Inc. (MN Paving & Materials)	\$308,557.00
Equity Builders & Construction Services, Inc.	\$391,350.60
Engineer's Estimate	\$184,050.00

The low bidder is W.W. Blacktopping, Inc. from Mankato, Minnesota. The low bid is approximately 7% above the Engineers Estimate.

Based on past performance on similar projects in previous years, it is our opinion that W.W. Blacktopping, Inc., is qualified to perform the work required under this contract. We hereby recommend that W.W. Blacktopping, Inc. be awarded the project for a contract amount of \$196,592.50.

Mr. Scott Kaminski

March 4, 2025

Page 2

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.



Daniel R. Sarff, P.E.

Project Engineer

cc: Lyle Femrite, Bolton & Menk, Inc



April 6, 2025

Mr. Scott Hogen
Mankato Area Public Schools
10 Civic Center Plaza
Mankato, MN 56002

RE: **MAPS Dakota Meadows Middle School Tennis Courts
Contract Award Letter**

Dear Mr. Hogen:

This letter is concerning the contract awards for the above referenced project that was bid on March 20, 2025.

Based on the bid protest letter from UMAC dated April 6, 2025 we recommend rebidding Work Scope 11 – K Athletic Equipment with a revised specification section that omits the basis for bid protest.

Kraus-Anderson has verified bidders and we submit the following lowest responsible bidders and their total bid amount:

Work Scope		Contractor, City, State		Bid Amount	
WS 26-A	Electrical	R & K Electric, Inc. Owatonna, MN	Base Bid:	\$22,850.00	
			Total Contract:	\$22,850.00	
WS 31-A, 32-A, 32-B	Site Clearing and Earthwork, Asphalt Paving, Concrete Paving	Nielson Blacktopping, Inc. Kasota, MN	Combined Bid:	\$727,000.00	
			Total Contract:	\$727,000.00	
WS 32-D	Fencing	Keller Fence, Inc. Saint Paul, MN	Base Bid:	\$171,640.00	
			Total Contract:	\$171,640.00	
			Total Base Bid: \$	921,490.00	
			Contract Total: \$	921,490.00	

We have enclosed the Bid Tabulation sheets that reflect the bids received.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 612.490.0256.

Very truly yours,

KRAUS-ANDERSON® CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale Sonnichsen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dale Sonnichsen
Project Manager



Mankato Area Public Schools - Independent School District #77

2025-2026 STAFF Calendar ***Adjusted*** **Pending Board Approval**

July

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

- 11 New Teacher Workshop
- 12 New Teacher Workshop
- 13 New Teacher Workshop
- 18 All Teacher Workshop/Prep
- 19 All Teacher Workshop/Prep
- 20 All Teacher Workshop/Prep
- 21 All Teacher Workshop/Prep
- 22 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 25 Classes Begin 9th grade
- 25 No School K-8 (Conf)
- 26 Classes Begin 6th, 10-12
- 26 No School K-5, 7 & 8 (Conf)
- 27 Classes Begin K-5, 7 & 8

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

- 1 *Holiday Paid Labor Day
- 10 2hr Early Out

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

- 8 2hr Early Out
- 13 Holiday Unpaid Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 16 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 17 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 31 End of Quarter 1

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

- 3 All Teacher Workshop/Prep
- 12 2hr Early Out
- 27 *Holiday Paid Thanksgiving Day
- 28 *Holiday Paid

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

- 10 2hr Early Out
- 24 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 25 *Holiday Paid Christmas Day
- 26 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 29 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 30 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day
- 31 Non-Paid, Non-Work Day

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January

- 1 *Holiday Paid New Year's Day
- 14 2hr Early Out
- 16 End of Quarter 2
- 19 Holiday Unpaid MLK Jr. Day
- 20 All Teacher Workshop/Prep

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

February

- 11 2hr Early Out

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March

- 11 2hr Early Out
- 18 End of Quarter 3
- 19 No School K-12 Prep
- 20 Holiday Unpaid Eid

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

April

- 3 *Holiday Paid Good Friday
- 8 2hr Early Out

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May

- 13 2hr Early Out
- 18 Classes End Grades K-5
- 19 Teacher Workshop/Prep K-5
- 20 Classes End Grades 6-8, 12
- 20 Graduation
- 21 Teacher Workshop/Prep 6-8
- 21 End of Quarter 4
- 21 Classes End Grades 9-11
- 22 Teacher Workshop/Prep 9-12
- 25 *Holiday Paid Memorial Day

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

****Board Approval April 2025**

*Reflects MTA Master Agreement



Mankato Area Public Schools - Independent School District #77

2025-2026 Student Calendar ***Adjusted*** **Pending Board Approval**

July

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January

1 No School K-12 New Year's Day
14 2hr Early Out
16 End of Quarter 2
19 No School K-12 MLK Jr. Day
20 No School K-12

August

25 Classes Begin 9th grade
25 No School K-8 (Conf)
26 Classes Begin 6th, 10-12
26 No School K-5, 7 & 8 (Conf)
27 Classes Begin K-5, 7 & 8

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

February

11 2hr Early Out

September

1 No School K-12 - Labor Day
10 2hr Early Out

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

March 2026						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March

11 2hr Early Out
18 End of Quarter 3
19 No School K-12
20 No School K-12 Eid

October

8 2hr Early Out
13 No School K-12 Indigenous Peoples' Day
16 No School K-12- MEA Break
17 No School K-12- MEA Break
31 End of Quarter 1

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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April 2026						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

April

3 No School K-12 Good Friday
8 2hr Early Out

November

3 No School K-12
12 2hr Early Out
27 No School K-12 Thanksgiving Day
28 No School K-12

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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May 2026						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May

13 2hr Early Out
18 Classes End Grades K-5
20 Classes End Grades 6-8,12
20 Graduation
21 End of Quarter 4
21 Classes End Grades 9-11

December

10 2hr Early Out
24 No School K-12
25 No School K-12 Christmas Day
26 No School K-12
29 No School K-12
30 No School K-12
31 No School K-12

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2026						
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June

****Board Approval April 2025**