

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

December 2, 2025

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Tuesday, December 2, 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, Elizabeth Hanke, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: None.

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

MAPS Student Spotlight: Laura Mohapatra - West High School

MAPS Staff Spotlight: Karen Mehlhaff - Monroe Elementary School

Public Comment: No one wished to speak.

Public Hearing for 2026-27 School Year Property Tax Levy. Amanda Heilman provided background information. Chair Sinning declared the public hearing open. One citizen wished to speak and Chair Sinning closed the hearing.

Information Reports: Fall Student/Staff Recognition presented by Todd Waterbury and Eric Dahlman, 2026-27 and 2027-28 School Calendars presented by Travis Olson, First Readings of School Board Policies presented by John Lustig, and Board Member Workshop/Committee/Student Reports.

Fall Student/Staff Recognition

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

Girls Cross Country

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award (3.81 Team GPA)
- MSHSL Class AA State Meet – 7th Place Finishers
- Section 2AA Runners-up
 - Lauren Henkels
 - Ady Lurken – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Sarah Pottenger – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Elena Schroeder – MSHSCA All-State (22nd Place)
 - Macy Hayes

- Elsie Bennett
- Tori Blasl
- Hayden Johnston (Alternate)
- Skylar Nolta (Alternate)

Boys Cross Country

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award (3.89 Team GPA)
- MSHSL Class AA State Meet – 5th Place Finishers
- Section 2AA Champions
 - Dayton Clobes - MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Nathan Essler - MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - MSHSCA All-State (18th Place)
 - Elijah Seiwert
 - Eli Baty
 - Brody Willett
 - Riley Essler
 - Logan Back
 - Will Moeller (Alternate)
 - Benjamin Barker (Alternate)

Boys Soccer

- Kaden Haslach - MSHSCA All-State Second Team Selection

Football

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award (3.31 Team GPA)
 - Hayden Tischler – MSHSCA Academic All-State

Volleyball

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award
 - Claire Huettl – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Carlie Wendinger - MSHSCA Academic All-State

Girls Tennis

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award (3.81 Team GPA)
 - Sam Williams – MSHSL State Tournament Singles Runner-up
 - Ashlyn Rigdon – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Hannah Westman – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Emily Hacker – MSHSCA Academic All-State

Girls Swim and Dive

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award (4.1 Team GPA)
- Section True Team Champions
- Section 1A Champions (MSHSL State Meet 22nd Place)
 - Emma Born – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Lexi Guentzel – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Tiana Huyhn – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Jada Sivertsen – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - 200 Medley Relay – State Participants (13th Place) – School Record

- Emma Born, Cami Schuh, Kelsey Andresen and Kamille Andresen
- Cami Schuh – 50 Free – State Participant (18th Place)
- Brittan Hoffman – Diving – State Participant (16th Place)
- Kamille Andresen – 100 Fly – State Participant (9th Place) – School Record
 - 100 Breast – State Participant (14th Place) – School Record
- Emma Born – 100 Back – State Participant (24th Place)
- 400 Free Relay – State Participants (11th Place)
 - Cami Schuh, Emma Born, Brittan Hoffman and Kamille Andresen

Girls Soccer

- Section 2AA Champions
- MSHSL Class AA State Tournament – 4th Place Finishers
 - Gretta Oachs
 - Laina Peterson - MSHSL All-Tournament Team Selection
 - MSHSCA All-State First Team Selection
 - Grace Campbell - MSHSL All-Tournament Team Selection
 - Eme Asher
 - Maddy Scheel
 - Ava Tibodeau
 - Mia Graff
 - Avery Hoffman
 - Hayden Henning – MSHSCA Academic All-State
 - Taylor Schilling
 - Ava Monson
 - Dacoda McCrea
 - Olivia Heinis
 - Lilli Smasal
 - Emily Mulenburg
 - Kate Schimek
 - Chloe Beavens
 - Jenna Borgmeier
 - Emily Pieper
 - Raegan Anderson
 - Eva Starkey
 - Ella Quist

Lancers

- Youth in Music Class AA Marching Band State Champions and Colorguard State Champions

MSHSL ExCel Award School Winners

- Brynn Evans and Elijah Jacobs

Hennepin Arts Spotlight Education Showcase for “Grease”

- Overall Show Honors
 - Costume Crew – Outstanding
 - Light Crew – Outstanding
 - Overall Technical Production – Honorable Mention

- Ensemble Acting Performance – Honorable Mention
- Run Crew – Honorable Mention
- Individual Honors
 - Tessa Holland – Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role (Marty)
 - Daniel Possin – Outstanding in Technical Leadership as Lighting Designer
 - Malia Karau – Outstanding in Technical Leadership as Costumer
 - Cole Hudspith – Honorable Mention in a Leading Role (Kenickie)
 - Nora Sipe – Honorable Mention in a Leading Role (Sandy)
 - Randi Young – Honorable Mention in Technical Leadership as Stage Manager

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

Girls Cross Country

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award
- MSHSL State Meet
 - Landree Quint - 16th Place
 - Reese Quint - 44th Place

Boys Cross Country

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award
- MSHSL State Meet
 - Corbin Deichman - 80th Place

Football

- MSHSCA Silver Academic Team Award
- Academic All State- Trevor Sheldrup

Volleyball

- MSHSCA Silver Academic Team Award
- MSHSCA Academic All-State: Livi Downs

Girls Swim and Dive

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award
- MSHSCA State Academic Award:
- State Participant:
 - Jordan Woodford- 100 free- 12th place, 200 free- 11th place
 - Anna Kapsner- 1 meter Diving- 14th place
 - Jordan Woodford, Grace Ward, Olivia Schultze, Lidia Gresback- 200 Free Relay

Girls Tennis

- MSHSCA Gold Academic Team Award
- Academic Allstate: Claire Heimer

Lancers

- Youth in Music: Minnesota Class AA State Champions

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

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

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Mya Harrington - Long-term Substitute Teacher at Roosevelt Elementary School beginning December 1, 2025, and ending January 30, 2026. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Kari Welter - Part-time, Long-term Substitute Teacher at West High School beginning September 9, 2025, and ending January 20, 2026. She will be placed at step 10 of the SPEC lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Lejla Hashmi - Temporary assignment as ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning for 2.5 hours per day/1 day per week (M) beginning December 1, 2025, and continuing through the end of the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 3 of the B lane on the ECFE Teachers Association salary schedule. This is in addition to her MAPS Preschool Teacher assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Hallie Best - ACES Student Support Assistant at Bridges Community School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning November 17, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Hayley Dahmes - 8-hour, 12-month, Floating Evening Custodian with the District beginning December 1, 2025. She will be placed at classification A13, step 2, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Tatiana Garcia - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 22, 2025. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association. This is in addition to her Interpreter assignment.

Eleanor Gregoire - ACES Site Lead Substitute on an on-call basis beginning November 16, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$18.75 per hour. This is in addition to her ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute assignment.

Macy Klejeski - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning December 1, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Grace Olson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/3 days per week beginning December 1, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Maryam Mohamud - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at Kennedy Elementary School from 4.75 hours per day/3 days per week (M/TH/F) and 6.25 hours per day/2 days per week (T/W) to 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning August 27, 2025.

Zeinab Nur - Adjust start date to November 24, 2025, as Early Learning Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning.

Hiroko Wollam - Increase in assignment as ABE Teaching Assistant with Adult Basic Education at Lincoln Community Center from 1002 annual hours to 1423 annual hours beginning November 1, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kayla Lewis - Adjust start date to November 17, 2025, for Board-approved leave.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Lisa Knoll - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be October 3, 2025.

Travis Noren - Student Success Coach at East High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be June 4, 2025.

Abigail Theissen - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be November 26, 2025.

Personnel - Addendum

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ann Schmitz - Part-time (0.40 FTEs) Early Learning Special Education Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning beginning December 10, 2025, and ending May 21, 2026. She will be placed at step 10 of the M lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Madilyn Bodle - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 2, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22, step 4, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Bryn Hacker - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 15, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22, 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.

Olivia Lassen - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning December 15, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Nathalia Lerum - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/3 days per week beginning December 3, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.00 per hour.

Randall McReynolds - Health Care Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 1, 2025. He will be placed at classification B23, step 4, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Andrew McTaggart - 8-hour, 12-month, Evening Custodian at Futures/SUN beginning December 8, 2025. He will be placed at classification A13, step 3, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Chloe Murray - Non-classroom Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 2.167 hours per day/4 days per week (T-F) beginning December 2, 2025. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Grace Olson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/3 days per week beginning December 1, 2025. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Hannah Pelzel - Special Education Paraeducator at East High School for 3.25 hours per day/1 day per week (M) and 6.75 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) beginning December 2, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Diana Snow - Special Education Paraeducator at Bridges Community School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning December 2, 2025. She will be placed at classification B22, step 4, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association. This is in addition to her Non-classroom Paraeducator assignment at Bridges Community School.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Megan Denhof - Increase in assignment as School Psychologist with the District from 0.50 FTE to 0.60 FTE beginning December 15, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Abdifatah Aden - Decrease in assignment as Student Success Coach at Prairie Winds Middle School from 4 hours per day/3 days per week (M-W) and 6 hours per day/1 day per week (TH) to 5 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) beginning September 8, 2025.

Gibson Blackstad - Increase hourly rate to \$17.00 as ACES Student Support Assistant Substitute beginning December 1, 2025.

Turner Haar - Increase hourly rate to \$16.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant at Washington Elementary beginning December 1, 2025. This is in addition to his Non-classroom Paraeducator assignment at Kennedy Elementary School and ACES Site Lead Substitute assignment.

Monysona Kem - Increase hourly rate to \$15.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning December 1, 2025.

Hayden Sadaka - Increase hourly rate to \$15.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning December 1, 2025.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Martha Turner - English Teacher at East High School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be January 20, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Melissa Vaubel - Special Education Paraeducator at Franklin Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be December 5, 2025.

TERMINATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Rylan Fischer - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School, effective November 20, 2025.

Mindy Fritz - ACES Student Support Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School and ACES Site Lead Substitute, effective November 20, 2025.

Owen Krause - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School, effective November 20, 2025.

Mariama Lebbie - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective November 20, 2025.

Magdalena Miller - Cook Helper at MAPS Center for Learning, effective November 5, 2025.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Kind and seconded by Mrs. Hanke and carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

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:

- Office Depot donated \$1,800 for Washington Elementary School
- Jones Metal Inc donated Metal and Materials (\$175 value) for West High Welding Club Program
- Ryan Gustafson donated \$400 for East High Boys Baseball Program
- Mary Kudela donated \$50 for East High Boys Swim & Dive Program
- Ann & Jon Thompson donated \$400 for West High Wrestling Program
- East High School Boys Soccer Program received the following donations:
 - \$500 from Samuel Domeier
 - \$2,000 from Constance Davis

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

The following policies were presented for second reading and approval:

503 - Student Attendance

516 - Student Medication

618 - Student Evaluation & Grading

621 - Use of Copyright Materials

623 - Public Access TV

636 - Post-Secondary Courses Offered by Agreement at a Mankato Area Public Schools Site

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

On November 10th at 2:00pm, five (5) bids were received for the Mankato Area Public Schools 2026 Roof Repair and Maintenance Project (see page ____). The administrative team and The Garland Company, our professional roofing consultant, recommend that the bid as submitted by Jackson & Associates in the amount of \$1,392,000 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 FY26/FY27 budget. Mr. Baker made a motion to accept the bid as recommended and Mrs. Ratcliff seconded the motion. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

There being no further business to consider, Mr. Kind moved and Mrs. Hanke seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:18 p.m., on a 7-0 voice vote.

Clerk _____

Attest:

Chairperson _____

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

December 2, 2025

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Tuesday, December 2, 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, Elizabeth Hanke, Christopher Kind, Kari Pratt, Liz Ratcliff, Erin Roberts, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: None.

1. Ratcliff/Pratt approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 7-0
2. MAPS Student Spotlight - Laura Mohapatra
3. MAPS Staff Spotlight - Karen Mehlhaff
4. Public Comment – No one wished to speak.
5. Public Hearing on 2026-27 School Year Property Tax Levy – One wished to speak.
6. Information: Fall Student/Staff Recognition, 2026-27 & 2027-28 School Calendars, First Reading of School Board Policies, Board Member/Student Reports.
7. Pratt/Ratcliff approval of Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes of the November 17, 2025, regular meeting; Personnel. 7-0
8. Kind/Hanke acceptance of gifts and grants. 7-0
9. Ratcliff/Pratt approval of revised policies. 7-0
10. Baker/Ratcliff approval 2026 Roof Repair & Maintenance bids at DMMS. 7-0
11. Kind/Hanke adjournment at 7:18 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.



2026 Roof Repair and Maintenance Project

Bid Results

Contractor	Jackson & Associates	Schwickerts	Granite City Roofing	McPhillips Bros. Roofing	Kato Roofing
5% Bid Bond	Yes - 5%	Yes - 5%	Yes - 5%	Yes - 5%	Yes - 5%
Addenda	#1, #2	#1, #2	#1, #2	#1, #2	#1, #2
BASE BID - Section A,C,D,E,F	\$1,392,000	\$1,537,613	\$1,636,000	\$1,842,500	\$2,076,010
Add #1 - Sections B	\$638,000	\$622,911	\$553,000	\$726,450	\$998,975
Add #2 - Sections G	\$832,000	\$709,489	\$780,000	\$837,750	\$1,204,240
Unit Price: Wet Insulation	\$4.50	\$2.40	\$4.25	\$4.50	\$3.00
Unit Price: Metal Deck	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$24.00