

AGENDA
Independent School District No. 77
Mankato, MN 56001

Monday, March 2, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
Intergovernmental Center - Mankato Room

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (5:30 P.M.)
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (5:30 P.M.)
3. MAPS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT (5:35 P.M.)
4. MAPS STAFF SPOTLIGHT (5:40 P.M.)
5. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:45 P.M.)
6. INFORMATION (5:55 P.M.)
 - A. Annual School District Radon Report
 - B. Talent Development Report
 - C. Board Member Workshop/Committee/Student Reports
7. CONSENT AGENDA (6:15 P.M.)
 - A. Approval of Minutes of February 17, 2026, Regular Meeting
 - B. Personnel
 - C. Approval of Extended Trip - Lancers Trip 2027
8. ADJOURNMENT (6:20 P.M.)



School Board Members for 2026

Shannon Sinning, Chair
Phone: 507-207-4023
E-Mail: ssinni1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2026

Kari Pratt, Vice Chair
Phone: 507-207-4025
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Term Ends December 31, 2026

Patrick Baker, Treasurer
Phone: 507-207-4028
E-Mail: pbaker1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2026

Erin Roberts, Clerk
Phone: 507-207-4026
E-Mail: erober1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2028

Elizabeth Hanke
Phone: 507-207-4030
E-Mail: ehanke1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2028

Christopher Kind
Phone: 507-207-4027
E-Mail: ckind1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2028

Liz Ratcliff
Phone: 507-207-4029
E-Mail: eratcl1@isd77.org
Term Ends December 31, 2028

Paul Peterson, Superintendent
10 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 2
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 387-1868
E-Mail: ppeter1@isd77.org



PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

The Mankato Area School Board welcomes public participation through Public Comment. Hearing from citizens is an important aspect of public service, and the School Board appreciates people sharing their views.

It is important to note that School Board meetings are business meetings held in the public. They are not public meetings nor are they a public forum. They are a business meeting of the elected representatives of the school district. The Mankato Area School Board expects that the same etiquette and decorum displayed during the business meeting be present during the Public Comment.

- Public Comment participation is limited to those individuals who wish to speak to an item on the Board agenda.
- The School Board does not comment or ask questions during Public Comment.
- Each speaker is asked to provide his/her name and city for the record.
- Each speaker is allowed three (3) minutes to speak. The Board Chair will alert speakers when their time is up. Failure to stop speaking and blatantly ignore the cue, will result in an individual losing the ability to participate in Public Comment for the next two months.
- When there is a large number of speakers, the Board Chair may modify Public Comment, such as shortening the time allotted for each speaker, adding an overall time limit, or shifting a portion of Public Comment to the end of the meeting.
- Public Comment participants are prohibited from calling out or addressing any individual School Board or school district staff member. If this occurs, Public Comment will be closed and the individual will not be allowed to participate in future Public Comments.
- Crowd noise or any sort of grandstanding during Public Comment, including applause, talking, shouting, or any outbursts will result in the Public Comment being closed.

Citizens wishing to speak are asked to fill out the form online by 3 pm the day of the meeting or complete a Visitor Registration Card (located at the door of the meeting room) and hand it to the Board Chair or Deputy Clerk prior to the start of the meeting.

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School Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be found at:
<https://www.isd77.org/experience/school-board/agendas-and-minutes>



MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STRATEGIC ROADMAP

Mission Statement

our core purpose

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.

Core Values



drivers of our words and actions

- **Courage:** We do and say what is needed to develop strength, resilience and character.
- **Student Centered:** Student success drives our decisions and actions, and we strive to provide each learner with what they need, when they need it.
- **Integrity:** We are honest, authentic and respectful in every interaction.
- **Accountable:** We know our desired outcomes, understand our individual responsibility for them, and collectively take accountability for results and continuous improvement.
- **Inclusive Practices:** We ensure ALL learners are welcomed and valued, have a sense of belonging and see themselves in their learning.

Vision



what we intend to create

MAPS inspires students to thrive through future focused learning experiences by:

- Pursuing their individual pathway
- Ensuring safe and secure schools
- Fostering inclusivity by understanding and appreciating diversity
- Engaging with families and caregivers
- Partnering with and contributing to our community

with high quality, dedicated and exceptionally trained staff.

Strategic Directions



focus of our improvement efforts

- A. Improving our professional practices so that each learner achieves at high levels in an inclusive educational model that is relevant and flexible
- B. Enhancing our student support structures to meet academic, social, behavioral, and mental health needs
- C. Recruiting, developing, and retaining staff to ensure positive learning experiences for students
- D. Strengthening our parent/caregiver partnerships and connections
- E. Ensuring safe, efficient and effective operations

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.

#MAPSready

School Board Regular Meeting**6. A.****Meeting Date:** 03/02/2026**Prepared By:** Amanda Heilman, Director of Business Services

Subject:

Annual School District Radon Report

Background:

Radon testing is performed every five years on a rotating schedule for all district buildings, as mandated by MN Statute 123B.571. The district utilizes LTFM revenue for this testing, and is required to report test results at a school board meeting. All tested areas showed radon levels within safe thresholds, with the exception of nine spaces as determined by the Minnesota Department of Health. Additional testing was conducted on these spaces and results came back with radon levels well below allowable limits in four out of the nine spaces. A Radon Mitigation System will be installed in the other spaces. A more detailed report is attached.

Recommended Action:

None

AttachmentsPresentation



2025 – 2026

2025–2026 Radon Report

March 2, 2026

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.



MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MISSION & CORE VALUES

MISSION

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student,
Every Day.

CORE VALUES

- Courage
- Student Centered
- Integrity
- Accountable
- Inclusive Practices



Strategic Directions: Focus of Our Improvement Efforts

- A. Improving our professional practices so that each learner achieves at high levels in an inclusive educational model that is relevant and flexible
- B. Enhancing our student support structures to meet academic, social, behavioral, and mental health needs
- C. Recruiting, developing, and retaining staff to ensure positive learning experiences for students
- D. Strengthening our parent/caregiver partnerships and connections
- E. Ensuring safe, efficient and effective operations

Short-Term Radon Test

The Institute for Environmental Assessment, Inc. (IEA) placed 141 Air Chek Pro Chek short-term radon test kits in 121 locations in the following buildings for the purpose of evaluating radon levels:

- Franklin Elementary – 42 locations
- INSITE – 17 locations
- Futures – 35 locations
- Jefferson Elementary – 27 locations

A total of 141 radon test kits were placed from November 10, 2025, to November 13, 2025, for a total short-term sampling period of 3 days, including five (5) test kits that were missing at the time of pick-up.

Air intakes and ventilation systems were operating in normal condition at the time of placement and retrieval. IEA was informed that the HVAC was on a normal operating schedule during the testing period.

MDH recommends follow-up testing for sampling results that are above the action level. Please refer to the following table for MDH guidelines:

RESULTS (pCi/L)	RECOMMENDED ACTION
LESS THAN 4	Re-test after changes to foundation or HVAC and every 5 years
GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 4	Conduct CRM short-term testing during winter months
LESS THAN 4 (<u>DURING OCCUPANCY</u>) AFTER CRM TESTING	Repeat CRM testing if not conducted during winter or if conducted during abnormal ventilation. Otherwise consider re-testing after changes to foundation or HVAC and every 5 years
GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 4 (<u>DURING OCCUPANCY</u>) AFTER CRM TESTING	Reduce radon in rooms to less than 4 through radon mitigation. Conduct CRM testing to verify radon reduction.

CRM: Continuous Radon Monitor

TABLE 2: FUTURES BUILDING - RANGE OF RESULTS

	0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
Number of Locations	1	19	7	3 ¹

TABLE 1: FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RANGE OF RESULTS

	0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
Number of Locations	32	5	1	4 ¹

TABLE 4: JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RANGE OF RESULTS

	0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
Number of Locations	18	5	2	2 ¹

TABLE 3: INSITE BUILDING - RANGE OF RESULTS

	0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
Number of Locations	12	5	0	0 ¹

¹ All locations below Action Level





Futures Retest All Pass

February 11, 2026

** LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT **

Radon test result report for:

MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUTURES

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
12186986	102	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.9 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186985	104	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.4 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186976	106	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.8 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186980	107	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.4 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186966	110	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.8 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186968	112	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.2 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186979	118	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.8 ± 0.7	2026-02-11
12186978	129	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.9 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186969	149	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.8 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186975	CONFERENCE ROOM	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.1 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186974	COPY ROOM	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.6 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186971	DUP-117-1	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.7 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186970	DUP-117-2	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.5 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186965	DUP-120-1	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.8 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12186973	DUP-120-2	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.0 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186972	MAIL ROOM	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186981	OSTORAGE ROOM A	2026-02-02 @ 11:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 11:00 am	< 0.3	2026-02-11

Air Chek 1936 Butler Bridge Rd, Mills River, NC 28759-3892 Phone: (828) 684-0893 Fax: (828) 684-8498

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February 11, 2026

**** LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT ****

Radon test result report for:
MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
12189757	209	2026-02-02 @ 9:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 9:00 am	1.2 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189775	210	2026-02-02 @ 9:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 9:00 am	2.0 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12189769	211	2026-02-02 @ 9:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 9:00 am	< 0.3	2026-02-11

Air Chek 1936 Butler Bridge Rd, Mills River, NC 28759-3892 Phone: (828) 684-0893 Fax: (828) 684-8498

Jefferson Retest All Pass

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Radon test result report for:
MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
12189762	101	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	0.8 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189779	102	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.4 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189774	102 NORTH OFFICE	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.5 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186959	102 SOUTH OFFICE	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189749	103	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.1 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186958	104	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.4 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189780	105	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.4 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12189758	108	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189787	113	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.5 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186967	224	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	0.7 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189748	AUDITORIUM EAST	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.9 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12189776	AUDITORIUM WEST	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.5 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12189770	DUP-107-1	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.6 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12189767	DUP-107-2	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	1.3 ± 0.5	2026-02-11
12186962	DUP-CUSTODIAL OFFICE-1	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	5.0 ± 0.7	2026-02-11
12186961	DUP-CUSTODIAL OFFICE-2	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	5.2 ± 0.7	2026-02-11
12186963	FBLOUNGE-1	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	< 0.3	2026-02-11
12186964	FBLOUNGE-2	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	< 0.3	2026-02-11
12186960	LOUNGE	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	2.5 ± 0.6	2026-02-11
12189777	SOUTH GYM EAST	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	5.1 ± 0.7	2026-02-11
12189756	SOUTH GYM LOCKDOWN SHELTER	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	6.6 ± 0.8	2026-02-11
12189768	SOUTH GYM PHY ED OFFICE	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	14.1 ± 1.2	2026-02-11
12189761	SOUTH GYM WEST	2026-02-02 @ 10:00 am	2026-02-05 @ 10:00 am	4.1 ± 0.7	2026-02-11

Franklin Retest Showed
Mitigation System
Needs





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School Board Regular Meeting

6. B.

Meeting Date: 03/02/2026

Prepared By: Travis Olson, Director of Teaching & Learning

Subject:

Talent Development Report

Background:

Bobbie Bastian, Elementary Academic Standards and Talent Development Coordinator, will be presenting the Talent Development Report.

Recommended Action:

None

Attachments

Presentation



2025 – 2026

Talent Development Report to School Board

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MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MISSION & CORE VALUES

MISSION

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student,
Every Day.

CORE VALUES

- Courage
- Student Centered
- Integrity
- Accountable
- Inclusive Practices



Strategic Directions: Focus of Our Improvement Efforts

- A. Improving our professional practices so that each learner achieves at high levels in an inclusive educational model that is relevant and flexible
- B. Enhancing our student support structures to meet academic, social, behavioral, and mental health needs
- C. Recruiting, developing, and retaining staff to ensure positive learning experiences for students
- D. Strengthening our parent/caregiver partnerships and connections
- E. Ensuring safe, efficient and effective operations

District Mission & Talent Development Programming

The district mission for Mankato Area Public Schools provides the foundation for Talent Development Programming: *“Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.”* As part of accomplishing this mission, we believe that education should help students discover their gifts and talents.

Talent Development goals include:

- meeting students where they are at in order to bring out students’ potential
- nurturing students’ passions and strengths to engage students in learning
- challenging students in order to provide them with a purposeful and motivating education

These goals provide the foundation of Talent Development work throughout the district.

Talent Development Overview

The role of a Talent Development Program is to support the education of children and youth who demonstrate these high levels of achievement or potential ability in general intellectual areas, specific academic subjects, creativity, leadership, and visual and performing arts.

Talent Development Professional Development

Teachers who work with academically talented students receive ongoing professional development and support for the unique needs of these students. This training includes the following areas:

- understanding the characteristics of academically talented students
- meeting the learning needs of academically talented students
- utilizing best practices in meeting the needs of academically talented students including:
 - focusing on higher order thinking skills, not more of the same;
 - using the 4Cs Framework for meeting the needs of academically talented students;
 - compacting curriculum and using replacement activities;
 - increasing the complexity of learning activities;
 - incorporating critical thinking into learning activities;
 - embedding creative thinking into learning activities;
- using specific district curricular resources
- using flexible grouping of students to meet the needs of academically talented students

Talent Development Implementation 25–26

- Elementary staff/admin workshop week
- Mentor Coach collaboration to support teachers & students
- Personalized Learning plans with coordinator and admin
- Elementary and Middle School Professional Development for teachers of highly capable students (fall and spring)
- Middle School update of MCT material into Canva
- Elementary and Middle School meetings with TD coordinator to review teacher responsibilities and expectations and implementation fidelity
- Teaching & Learning Talent Development Website updates
- Online administration of the CogAt
- Enrollment into TD opportunities

Talent Development Services in Elementary School

- Differentiated instruction in K–5 classes
- Differentiated curriculum resources
- Early Entrance to Kindergarten option for eligible students
- Grade K–2 Enrichment Activities delivered by Talent Development Services
- Grade 3–5 Cluster classrooms in reading and math
- Academic challenge activities
- Academic challenge competitions and events in reading, math, and science
- Rising Scholar Services

Talent Development Services in Middle School

- Differentiated instruction in 6–8 classes
- Differentiated curriculum resources
- Grade 6 Cluster Classrooms in reading and math
- Grade 6 Rising Scholar Service
- Grade 7–8 enriched and accelerated math options
- Grade 7–8 cluster classrooms in English
- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) approach to learning
- Academic Challenge Opportunities: Math Counts, Math League, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Knowledge Bowl, Drama Club, Debate, Student Council

Talent Development Services in High School

- Differentiated instruction in 9–12 classes
- Grade 9–10 enriched classes in English, math, and social studies
- AP courses in 12 subject areas
- Concurrent enrollment classes in 7 MNTC goal areas (11 Courses)
- AVID
- Project Lead the Way Engineering Program
- Elective courses in multiple subject areas
- Fine Arts & Activities: Connection Choir, Orchesis, Debate, Jazz Band, Knowledge Bowl, Math League, and Speech
- Clubs and Organizations: Science Club, DECA, Drama Club, HOSA, Link Crew, National Honor Society, Student Council, VEX Robotics, Visual Arts, Yearbook



Thank You!

Questions?

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School Board Regular Meeting**6. C.****Meeting Date:** 03/02/2026**Prepared By:** Paul Peterson, Superintendent

Subject:

Board Member Workshop/Committee/Student Reports

Background:

Board members will have an opportunity to provide brief reports on recent workshops they have attended or on committees they are serving on. Student representatives will have an opportunity to provide brief updates on their schools.

Recommended Action:None

School Board Regular Meeting

7. A.

Meeting Date: 03/02/2026

Prepared By: Paul Peterson, Superintendent

Subject:

Approval of Minutes of February 17, 2026, Regular Meeting

Background:

See attachment.

Recommended Action:

Recommend approval of the minutes and proceedings as attached.

Attachments

Minutes - February 17, 2026

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

February 17, 2026

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, in the Minnesota River Room at the Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:31 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. 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.

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

Approval of Minutes of the February 2, 2026, regular Board meeting.

Approval of February Bills totaling \$22,816,120.45

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Andrea Brinkman - Part-time (0.167 FTE) Music Teacher at West High School beginning February 9, and ending May 21, 2026. She will be placed at step 10 of the M lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Amy Kranz - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning beginning August 24, 2026, for the 2026-27 school year. She will be placed at step 3 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Marcus Kruger - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Special Education K-12 DAPE Teacher, site to be determined, beginning August 24, 2026, for the 2026-27 school year. He will be placed at step 10 of the M+30 lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Carrie Nolan - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Special Education Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School beginning January 29, 2026. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Mary Deschneau - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/1 days per week beginning February 9, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Rogan Kelling - Special Education Paraeducator at Monroe Elementary School for 5.5 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH), 4 hours per day/1 day per week (M), and 4.5 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning February 9, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Elan Litt - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/3 days per week beginning February 9, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Trista Marsolek - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 9, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Kalie Osowski - ACES Student Support Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/1 days per week beginning February 4, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.00 per hour.

Rachel Stock - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning February 4, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Anastasia Carter - Voluntary decrease in assignment as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 321 annual hours (0.223 FTE) to 186 annual hours (0.129 FTE) beginning December 1, 2025. This is in addition to her Early Learning Social Worker assignment.

Chantell Drummer - Increase in assignment as Early Childhood Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning from 997 annual hours (0.69 FTE) to 1033 annual hours (0.717 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

Deanna Hofmeister - Increase in assignment as ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning from 135 annual hours (0.094 FTE) to 195 annual hours (0.135 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

Mary Mccuskey Simpson - Voluntary decrease in assignment as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 749.5 annual hours (0.52 FTE) to 734.5 annual hours (0.51 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

Evelyn Scheibe - Adjust start date to February 6, 2026, as long-term Substitute Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School.

Kristine Schimek - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Early Learning Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 169 annual hours (0.117 FTE) to 151 annual hours (0.105 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Peyton Berreman - Increase hourly rate to \$15.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School beginning February 2, 2026.

Stella Byrd - Increase in assignment as Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning from 3 hours per day/3 days per week (T-TH) to 6.5 hours per day/3 days per week (T-TH) and 2 hours per day/2 days per week (M/F) beginning January 19, 2026.

Mercy Emery - Adjust start date to February 3, 2026, as Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School.

Ashlyn Guse - Increase hourly rate to \$15.50 as ACES Child Care Assistant beginning February 16, 2026. This is in addition to her ACES Site Lead Substitute assignment.

Marissa Herbst - Increase hourly rate to \$15.75 as ACES Child Care Assistant beginning February 16, 2026. This is in addition to her ACES Site Lead assignment at Hoover Elementary School.

Madeline Kempenich - Increase hourly rate to \$15.50 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning February 16, 2026.

Maya Kopp - Increase hourly rate to \$15.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning February 2, 2026.

Haylee Palmer - Increase in assignment as Early Learning Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning from 6.5 hours per day/3 days per week (M-W) to 6.5 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning January 12, 2026.

Grace Palmquist - Change in assignment from ACES Site Lead at Hoover Elementary School to ACES Site Lead Substitute on an on-call basis beginning January 2, 2026.

Taylor Penning - Increase hourly rate to \$15.25 as ACES Child Care Assistant at Jefferson Elementary School beginning February 16, 2026.

Toni Roberts - Change in assignment from Kitchen Float Cook Helper with the District to Cook Helper at East High School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 9, 2026. She will be compensated according to her placement on the Minnesota School Employees Association salary schedule.

Lauren Swanson - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at East High School from 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.75 hours per day/3 days per week (W-F), 3.25 hours per day/1 day per week (M) and 5.5 hours per day/1 day per week (T) beginning February 9, 2026.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Jessica Dowd - Special Education Teacher at Prairie Winds Middle School, has requested unpaid leave beginning February 6, and continuing through the end of the 2025-26 school year.

Jessica Kingston - Teacher currently on Board-approved leave has requested unpaid leave for the 2026-27 school year.

Abigail Miller - Adjust start date to February 6, 2026, for Board-approved leave.

Michael Shores - Teacher currently on Board-approved leave has requested unpaid leave for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years.

Renee Unger - Teacher currently on Board-approved leave has requested unpaid leave for the 2026-27 school year.

Christina Woodside - Teacher currently on Board-approved leave has requested unpaid leave for the 2026-27 school year.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Bridgette Ketter - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School, has requested unpaid leave beginning February 3, and returning to work on April 3, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Rebecca Heinze - Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 26, 2026.

Mary Mccuskey Simpson - Elementary Teacher currently on leave, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day for this assignment will be May 26, 2026. She will continue as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning.

Linette Moyer - ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 20, 2026.

Sadie Nelson - Special Education Teacher at Rosa Parks Elementary, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 26, 2026.

Colleen Newman - Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Interventionist at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 27, 2026.

Joyce Petersen - Intervention Teacher at Rosa Parks Elementary School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 26, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kelly Chiet - Childcare Assistant Teacher at Lincoln Logs Learning Center, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 5, 2026.

Carrie Nolan - Special Education Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation in order to accept the Teaching position. The last day for this assignment will be January 28, 2026.

Josie Robertson - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be January 30, 2026.

Addendum

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Shelby Homan - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Interventionist at MAPS Center for Learning beginning February 23, 2026, for the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Hawa Abdillahi - ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Center for 4.25 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning February 23, and ending May 14, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Roni Christensen - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at SUN for 5.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 16, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Elsa Gonzalez - ACES Child Care Assistant at Franklin Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning February 10, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.25 per hour.

Jane Ikonitski - Special Education Paraeducator at Monroe Elementary School for 4 hours per day/3 days per week (M-W) beginning February 16, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Marin Johnson - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning February 17, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Madison Mattson - Student Success Coach at Bridges Community School for 2.667 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning February 11, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Lauren McAlpine - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning February 19, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Elise Muehlenhardt - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Futures for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 16, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 2, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Kalie Osowski - ACES Student Support Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/1 day per week beginning February 4, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.00 per hour.

Brenna Patterson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning February 17, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Thomas Rykhus - Coffee Shop Associate at West High School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning January 20, and ending May 21, 2026. He will be compensated at the rate of \$11.41 per hour.

Trevor Sheldrup - Coffee Shop Associate at West High School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning January 21, and ending May 21, 2026. He will be compensated at the rate of \$11.41 per hour.

Jake Stensvad - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning February 16, 2026. He will be compensated at the rate of \$15.25 per hour.

Johanna Thompson - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 16, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Cade Williamson - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Futures for 7.5 hours per day/2 days per week (M/F) and 4.5 hours per day/1 day per week (W) beginning February 9, 2026. 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)

Mallory Howk - Change in assignment from 5th Grade Teacher at Franklin Elementary School to Elementary Mentor Coach (TOSA) at Bridges Community School and Washington Elementary School beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2030.

Kelsey Nelson - Change in assignment from 4th Grade Teacher at Eagle Lake Elementary School to Elementary Mentor Coach (TOSA) at Eagle Lake Elementary and Monroe Elementary Schools beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2030.

Angela Timmerman - Increase in assignment as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from 849.5 annual hours (0.59 FTE) to 863.5 annual hours (0.60 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

Megan Van Beek - Voluntary decrease in assignment as ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning from 275 annual hours (0.19 FTE) to 251 annual hours (0.17 FTE) beginning February 23, 2026.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Anastasiia Palm - Increase in assignment as ABE Teaching Assistant at Lincoln Community Center from 2.25 hours per day/3 days per week (T-TH) to 6.5 hours per day/3 days per week (T-TH) and 4.25 hours per day/2 days per week (M/F) beginning February 23, 2026. She will be eligible for 6-3-2 benefits.

Carlese Ronning - Increase in assignment as Non-classroom Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School from 2.167 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) and .75 hours per day/3 days per week (M/W/F) to 2.167 hours per day/5 days per week beginning February 2 and ending May 18, 2026.

Elizabeth Vars - Increase hourly rate to \$15.50 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning February 2, 2026.

Myzel Williams - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at Dakota Meadows Middle School from 5 hours per day/2 days per week (M/T) and 4.5 hours per day/3 days per week (W-F) to 4 hours per day/2 days per week (M/T) and 4.5 hours per day/3 days per week (W-F) beginning February 9, 2026.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Celena Brandel - Extend Board-approved leave, returning on March 27, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Rebecca Brudwick - 5th Grade Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 27, 2026.

Nicole Dwinell - Teacher currently on leave, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 26, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Olivia O'Hara-Hulett - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be February 11, 2026. She will continue as an Early Learning Classroom Aide Substitute.

Lauren Swanson - Special Education Paraeducator at East High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 10, 2026.

Isaac Wadd - Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 20, 2026.

Approval of Agreement Regarding Discontinuation of Employment

There being no further business to consider, Mrs. Pratt moved and Mrs. Ratcliff seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was declared adjourned at 5:33 p.m., on a 7-0 voice vote.

Clerk _____
Attest:

Chairperson _____

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

February 17, 2026

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, in the Minnesota River Room at the Intergovernmental Center. Chair Sinning called the meeting to order at 5:31 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. Ratcliff/Pratt approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 7-0
2. Ratcliff/Kind approval of Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes of the February 2, 2026, regular meeting; Approval of February Bills; Personnel; Approval of Agreement Regarding Discontinuation of Employment. 7-0
3. Pratt/Ratcliff adjournment at 5:33 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.

School Board Regular Meeting

7. B.

Meeting Date: 03/02/2026

Prepared By: John Lustig, Director of Administrative Services

Subject:

Personnel

Background:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kim Hermer - Work-Based Learning Teacher at East High School for 0.167 FTE beginning January 21, 2026, for the 2nd semester of the 2025-26 school year. She will be placed at step 10 of the B+30 lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Dylan Kennedy - Long-term Substitute Teacher at Hoover Elementary School beginning March 10, and ending May 26, 2026. He will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Charles Reilly - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Interventionist at Prairie Winds Middle School beginning February 25, 2026. He will be placed at step 1 of the B 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 March 3 and ending April 21, 2026. They will be compensated according to their placement on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

Frederick Berg, Zachary Blasing, Emma Brunton, Jeremy Burger, David Burgess, Heather Fitzsimmons, Heather Gilman, Russell Groebner, Jeffery Helget, Laura Januschka, Crystal Kay, Amanda Kline, Jessica Larsen, TerRon Lee, Christina Makela, Aaron Miller, Sherry Miller, Rebecca Sellers, Michael Sipe, Daniel Toegel, Kristin Van Otterloo, Amber Waibel, Matthew Weichert, Anna Wirth, Christopher Wollmuth

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Antonio Davis - Second Cook at East High School for 8 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 2, 2026. He will be placed at classification A13, step 6, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Melissa Fowler - 8-hour, 12-month, Floating Evening Custodian with the District beginning February 23, 2026. She will be placed at classification A13, step 3, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Duy Linh Nguyen - ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Center for 2 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH), 3.25 hours per day/1 day per week (W), and 2.75 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning March 25 and ending May 13, 2026. This is in addition to his ABE Teaching Assistant Substitute assignment.

Ava Schneider - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute on an on-call basis beginning February 23, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Isaac Wadd - ACES Site Lead Substitute at Rosa Parks Elementary School on an on-call basis beginning March 2 and ending March 13, 2026. He will be compensated at the rate of \$19.25 per hour.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Hanno Botha - Change in assignment from Elementary School Counselor at Monroe Elementary School to Youth Mental Health Navigator with the District beginning August 31, 2026.

Erika Schenk - Increase in assignment as Agriculture Teacher at East High and West High Schools from 1.00 FTE to 1.083 FTE for the 2nd semester of the 2025-26 school year.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kennedy Macke - Decrease in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at East High School from 5.25 hours per day/5 days per week to 4.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning January 12, 2026.

Maryam Mahamud - Voluntary decrease in assignment as ABE Teaching Assistant with the Adult Basic Education Program at Lincoln Community Center from 1.75 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) to 1 hour per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning February 23, 2026. This is in addition to her Home School Liaison assignment with the Adult Basic Education Program and Paraeducator Substitute assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

Maryam Mahamud - Increase in assignment as Home School Liaison with the Adult Basic Education Program from 2.5 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) to 3.5 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning February 23, 2026. This is in addition to her ABE Teaching Assistant assignment with the Adult Basic Education Program and Paraeducator Substitute assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

Ann Vose - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Student Success Coach at Eagle Lake Elementary from 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week to 4 hours per day/5 days per week beginning March 9, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Deanna Hofmeister - ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 22, 2026. She will continue as a Substitute Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning.

Shelby Homan - Rescind acceptance as Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Interventionist at MAPS Center for Learning.

Kristen Toner - Developmental Adapted Physical Education Teacher with the District, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 27, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Elsa Gonzalez - ACES Child Care Assistant at Franklin Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be March 5, 2026.

Kierra Henderson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Kennedy Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 11, 2026.

Grace Olson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 16, 2026.

Charles Reilly - Special Education Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation in order to accept the teaching position. The last day for this assignment will be February 24, 2026.

Maximus Sims - Non-classroom Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be February 6, 2026. He will continue as a Paraeducator Substitute. This is in addition to his ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute assignment.

Zachary Stackurski - Student Success Coach at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 27, 2026.

Ann Vose - Student Success Coach at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. The last day of employment will be May 18, 2026.

Quincy Zarn - 8-hour Evening Custodian at Hoover Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be February 24, 2026.

Recommended Action:

The Administration recommends the approval of the personnel items.

School Board Regular Meeting**7. C.****Meeting Date:** 03/02/2026**Prepared By:** Paul Peterson, Superintendent

Subject:

Approval of Extended Trip - Lancers Trip 2027

Background:

The Mankato Lancer program requested school board approval of an extended trip and out-of-state travel October 19-25, 2027 for the purpose of performances, collaboration, and rehearsals with Puerto Rican schools and students.

Under Minnesota State High School League bylaw 411.00 Travel For Out-of-State, the school board must complete the following steps prior to any travel by the team:

1. Review a complete copy of the itinerary planned for the school team.
2. Review the financial aspect of the trip including the funds to be received from and expended by the school team.
3. Identify the manner in which the school board will comply with the Title IX relative to travel opportunities for each gender.
4. Approve travel for the school team at a regularly scheduled school board meeting.

This request also received prior approval by Principal Osman and Principal Blasing and is in alignment with District Policy 610 Field Trips for school sponsored extended supplemental trips that are considered to be a part of the school's program.

Recommended Action:

The administration recommends that the School Board approve the extended trip, per MSHSL requirement.

Attachments
