

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

September 21, 2026

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, September 21, 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, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: Erin Roberts.

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

Special Recognition: Greater Mankato Area United Way

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

Approval of Minutes of the September 8, 2026, regular meeting.

Approval of September Bills totaling \$19,212,053.43.

Personnel:

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Anastasia Carter - ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning for 274 annual hours (0.19 FTE) beginning September 14, 2026, and ending May 21, 2027. She will be placed at step 7 of the Masters lane on the ECFE Teachers Association salary schedule. This is in addition to her Early Learning Social Worker and Exit Interviewer assignments.

Junior Pontes Da Veiga - Full-time (1.00 FTE) Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Interventionist at East High School beginning September 11, 2026, and ending June 11, 2027. He will be placed at step 1 of the B lane on the Teachers Association salary schedule.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Macy Anderson - Special Education Paraeducator at Roosevelt Elementary School for 3.5 hours per day/3 days per week (M/W/F) beginning September 11, 2026, training August 26, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Nathan Anderson - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/4 days per week (M-TH) beginning September 10, 2026. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Benjamin Arneson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning September 10, 2026. He will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Kaitlyn Culbert - Special Education Paraeducator at Kennedy Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days a week beginning September 10, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Stephanie De Los Santos - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Prairie Winds Middle School for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 9, 2026, training August 26, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22.5, step 3, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Mya Gasswint - ACES Student Support Assistant beginning September 1, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.00 per hour for this assignment. This is in addition to her ACES Site Lead assignment.

Jessica Hanevik - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning for 5.5 hours per day/3 days per week (M/TH/F) and 6.5 hours per day/2 days per week (T/W) beginning September 10, 2026. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

McKayla Henderson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/3 days per week beginning September 10, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.50 per hour.

Krista Kleve - Non-classroom Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School for 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2026. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employees Association.

Riley Looft - Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning for 6.5 hours per day/3 days per week (M/W/F) and 3 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) beginning September 10, 2026, training August 26, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Elleandra Maloney - ACES Child Care Assistant at Jefferson Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning September 14, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.25 per hour.

Mackenzie Marso - Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2026, training August 26, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Bailey Meinke - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning for 5.25 hours per day/1 day per week (M) 3.75 hours per day/2 days per week (W/F) and 2.5 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) beginning September 10, 2026, training August 31, 2026. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Sage Minnihan - ACES Child Care Assistant at Roosevelt Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/1 day per week beginning September 14, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Shyanna Mosser - Health Care (LPN) Float with the District for 7 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 2026. She will be placed at classification B23, step 4, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Azlee Schaefer - Correction - Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center for Learning for 6.5 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) beginning August 31, 2026. 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 ACES Student Support Assistant at Franklin and Building Supervisor assignments.

Brenda Oladipupo - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 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.

Abigail Pfeifer - ACES Child Care Assistant at Jefferson Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning September 18, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.75 per hour.

Shannon Schmit - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at INSITE for 7 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 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.

Ashlynn Sweet - ACES Child Care Assistant at Franklin Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/2 days per week beginning September 11, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Alexa Thompson - ACES Student Support Assistant beginning September 1, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$16.00 per hour for this assignment. This is in addition to her ACES Site Lead assignment.

Hazel Tweten - 4-hour, 9-month, Evening Custodian at Bridges Community School beginning September 8, 2026. She will be placed at classification A13, step 2, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Athea Witt - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 3-4 hours per day/1 day per week beginning September 10, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Lillian Worel - Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning for 6.5 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning September 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.

Trinnen Xanaxay - 6-hour, 9-month, Evening Custodian at Jefferson Elementary School beginning September 10, 2026. He will be placed at classification A13, step 2, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Kristine Barnes - Overload assignment as German Teacher at East High School beginning August 31, 2026, and ending June 11, 2027.

Callie Jongbloedt - Adjust salary placement as School Psychologist at Futures from M step 8 to SPEC step 8 on the Teachers Association salary schedule beginning August 24, 2026.

Tamala King - Increase in assignment as Family & Consumer Science (FACS) Teacher at West High School from 0.67 FTE to 1.00 FTE beginning with the 2026-27 school year.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Samantha Frick - Increase in assignment as Early Learning Classroom Aide at MAPS Center from Learning from 4 hours per day/5 days per week to 4 hours per day/4 days per week (M/T/W/F) and 5.25 hours per day/1 day per week (TH) beginning September 17, 2026.

Mia Graff - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Associate at Washington Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning September 18, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Bryn Hacker - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at Hoover Elementary School from 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 1.5 hours per day/1 day per week (M), 2.5 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH), 3.25 hours per day/1 day per week (W), and 1.25 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning September 10, 2026. This is in addition to her ACES Student Support Assistant & ACES Site Lead Substitute assignments.

Allison Hemming - Increase hourly rate to \$15.50 as ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning September 16, 2026.

Kayla Hunter - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Health & Wellness Paraeducator at West High School from 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 5.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2026.

Ross Mariner - Adjust end date to September 30, 2026 as Long-term Substitute Level 1 Technician. This is in addition to his Building Technology Assistant at Dakota Meadows Middle School.

Melissa Myers - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at East High School from 4 hours per day/5 days per week to 7 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 14, 2026.

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 5.5 hours per day/1 day per week (M) and 7.75 hours per day/3 days per week (T-TH) beginning September 14, 2026. She will be eligible for 6-3-2 benefits.

Alyssa Ruch - Voluntary decrease in assignment as East Health Service Secretary from 7.75 hours per day/5 days per week to 7.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2026.

Deeann Wacker - Increase in assignment as POS Operator at Washington Elementary School from 1.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 2 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 10, 2026. This is in addition to her Clerical Assistant assignment at Washington Elementary School.

Melissa Vaubel - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Health Care (LPN) at Rosa Parks Elementary School from 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 16, 2026.

Madisyn Volkart - Increase hourly rate to \$15.50 as ACES Child Care Assistant beginning September 1, 2026.

Peyton Zrust - Change in assignment from ACES Child Care Associate at Washington Elementary School to ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute beginning September 4, 2026. She will be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Rebecca Johnson - Second Cook at MAPS Center for Learning, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be September 4, 2026.

Meron Koser - ACES Child Care Assistant at Franklin Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be August 21, 2026.

Rennardo Lampley - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Futures and Middle School After School Site Leader at Prairie Winds Middle School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be May 20, 2026.

Junior Pontes Da Veiga - Student Success Coach at East High School, has submitted a resignation in order to accept the teaching position. The last day for this assignment will be September 10, 2026.

Sarah Parno - Special Education Paraeducator at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be September 10, 2026. She will continue as a Substitute Teacher with the District.

Adella Maisuk - Special Education and ESY Paraeducator at Roosevelt Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be July 24, 2026.

Tristian Marks - Special Education Paraeducator at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be September 24, 2026.

Tianna Meadows - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be August 21, 2026. She will continue her Early Learning Classroom Aide assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

Susan Ruch - Secretary to the Principal at Eagle Lake Elementary School, has submitted a resignation for the purpose of retirement. Her last day of employment will be November 30, 2026.

Rachel Stock - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be August 21, 2026. She will continue her Youth Recreation Coach assignment with Community Education.

TERMINATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Natalia Alonzo - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

Ella Arntz - ACES Child Care Assistant at Monroe Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

Mary Deschneau - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Alison Deters - ACES Child Care Assistant at Rosa Parks Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

Emery Erdman - ACES Child Care Assistant at Eagle Lake Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

Easton Farley - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Hannah Herrera Frederickson - ACES Child Care Assistant at Hoover Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

Lauren McAlpine - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Ameeriah McCoy - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Clarissa McKeown - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Audrey Mitties - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Zennor Morris - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Addison Wilhelm - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, effective September 14, 2026.

Personnel – Addendum

APPOINTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Katie Haala - ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning for 75 annual hours (0.052 FTE) beginning September 14, 2026, and ending May 21, 2027. She will be placed at step 10 of the Master's lane on the ECFE Teacher Association salary schedule. This is in addition to her ECSE Teaching Assistant assignment.

Michelle Hague - ECFE Teacher at MAPS Center for Learning for 60 annual hours (0.042 FTE) beginning September 14, 2026, and ending May 21, 2027. She will be placed at step 7 of the Master's lane on the ECFE Teacher Association salary schedule. This is in addition to her ECSE Teacher assignment at MAPS Center for Learning.

Izabel Murphy - Adjust dates as Contract Substitute Teacher at Rosa Parks Elementary School beginning August 31, 2026, and ending January 15, 2027.

APPOINTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Haviland Berg - Special Education Paraeducator at MAPS Center for Learning for 4 hours per day/2 days per week (T/TH) and 6.5 hours per day/1 day per week (F) beginning September 22, 2026. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Ayan Duale - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at SUN for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 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.

Addison Graupmann - Special Education Paraeducator at Hoover Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/3 days per week (M/W/F) beginning September 21, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Annie Kenne - Non-classroom Paraeducator at Jefferson Elementary School for 2 hours per day/1 day per week (M) beginning September 10, 2026, and ending June 11, 2027. She will be placed at classification B21, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Sarah Krogman - Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School for 6.5 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 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.

Cindy Lang - Special Education Paraeducator at Jefferson Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 4, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Chloe Murray - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 3 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) beginning September 18, 2026. 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 Non-classroom Paraeducator assignment at Rosa Parks Elementary School.

James Payne - Special Education Paraeducator at West High School for 6.75 hours per day/3 days per week (T/TH/F) and 3.5 hours per day/1 day per week (M) beginning September 8, 2026. He will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Carlese Ronning - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 4.25 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 2026. 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 Non-classroom Paraeducator assignment at Rosa Parks Elementary School.

Ella Schisler - Special Education Paraeducator at Franklin Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/2 days per week (M/F) and 4.25 hours per day/1 day per week (TH) beginning September 24, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Hannah Schwamberger - Special Education Paraeducator at East High School for 6.75 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 21, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

Elisabeth Yager - Special Education Paraeducator at Rosa Parks Elementary School for 6.25 hours per day/2 days per week (M/F), 3 hours per day/1 day per week (T) and 4 hours per day/1 day per week (TH)

beginning September 21, 2026. She will be placed at classification B22, step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the District and the Minnesota School Employee Association.

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Tammy Lorch - Adjust salary placement as ECFE Parent Educator at MAPS Center for Learning from Masters step 2 to Masters step 4 on the ECFE Teachers Association salary schedule beginning August 24, 2026. This is in addition to her ECSE Exit Interviewer assignment.

REQUESTS FOR SALARY LANE ADVANCEMENT (INSTRUCTIONAL)

In accordance with the terms of the agreement between the Mankato Teachers Association and the District, teachers have submitted their requests for salary lane advancement. Each of these requests has been reviewed and a list of those qualifying for salary lane advancement for September of the 2026-27 school year is shown below. The salary lane advancement will be retroactive to the beginning of the 2026-27 school year. The Administration recommends that the Board approve the salary lane advancements.

First Name	Last Name	From	To
Julia	Battern	B	B+15
Angela	Burnett	B+30	M
Angela	Chatleain	M	M+45
Elizabeth	Cress	M	M+30
Renae	Danberry	B+15	B+30
Jeffrey	Dittmer	B	B+15
Kaylee	Engle	M+45	PhD
Cindy	Gawrych	M	M+45
Jeffery	Helget	M	M+45
Kelli	Hollerich	B	B+30
LaRen	Holtman	B+15	M
Summer	Hornemann	B+15	B+30
Kaitlyn	Jones	B	B+30
Chelsea	Kelly	B	M
Amanda	Kline	B+30	M
Erika	Kuhlers	B+15	M
Paul	Larson	M	M+30
Keira	Luntsford	B	B+15
Eric	Miller	M	M+30

Anahi	Miranda	B	B+15
Mary	Nelson	M	SPEC
Danielle	Peterson	M+30	M+45
Lea	Pienkoss	M+30	M+45
Jennifer	Reed	M+30	M+45
Paola	Rodeback	M	M+30
Angela	Sawatzky	M	M+45
Carol	Schulz	M	M+30
Lisa	Shea	M	M+45
Stacie	Smith	B	B+30
Kayla	Steinberg	M	M+30
Daniel	Tinaglia	B	B+30
Kristin	Van Otterloo	M+30	M+45
Amber	Waibel	M+30	M+45
Brittany	Ward	M+45	PhD
Zoey	Weller	B	B+15
Katherine	Westman	M+30	M+45
Darius	Westrich	B	M
Parker	Winning	M	M+30
Charissa	Wischnack	M+30	M+45
Katie	Woitas	M	M+30

CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Ashley Neeser - Increase in assignment as Special Education Paraeducator at Roosevelt Elementary School from 6.25 hours per day/2 days per week (W/F) to 5 hours per day/1 day per week (M) and 6.25 hours per day/2 days per week (W/F) beginning September 21, 2026.

Noreen Neville - Change in assignment from Kitchen Float Cook Helper, classification A11, to Second Cook, classification A13, at MAPS Center for Learning for 8 hours per day/5 days per week beginning September 16, 2026.

Dimeka Walker - Voluntary decrease in assignment as Non-classroom Paraeducator at Jefferson Elementary School from 2.5 hours per day/5 days per week to 2 hours per day/4 days per week (T-F) beginning September 10, 2026, and ending June 11, 2027.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Michele Machado - Special Education Paraeducation at East High School, has requested unpaid leave beginning September 16, 2026, and continuing through the end of the 2026-27 school year.

RESIGNATIONS (INSTRUCTIONAL)

Anita Weir - Special Education Teacher at West High School, has submitted a resignation. The last day of employment will be September 25, 2026.

RESIGNATIONS (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)

Lauryn Mueske - ACES Child Care Assistant Substitute, has submitted a resignation. The last day for this assignment will be September 15, 2026. She will continue as Health & Wellness Paraeducator at Washington Elementary School.

Amanda Heilman presented and reviewed the background information for certifying the 2027-2028 school year preliminary property tax levy. Mrs. Pratt made a motion to certify the maximum levy for taxes payable in 2027 to accommodate any adjustments that might occur before the final preliminary levy is submitted to the County Auditor by September 30, 2026. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ratcliff, and carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Celebrations: Board members were recognized and thanked for their service to the school district.

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 5:48 p.m., on a 6-0 voice vote.

Clerk _____

Attest:

Chairperson _____

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

September 21, 2026

The School Board of Independent School District No. 77 met in regular session on Monday, September 21, 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, and Shannon Sinning. Absent: Erin Roberts.

1. Pratt/Kind approval of agenda with personnel addendum. 6-0
2. Special Recognition: Greater Mankato Area United Way
3. Ratcliff/Pratt approval of Consent agenda Items: approval of Minutes of September 8, 2026, regular meeting; Approval of September Bills; Personnel. 6-0
4. Pratt/Ratcliff certify maximum levy for taxes payable in 2027. 6-0
5. Recognition of Board members.
6. Hanke/Kind adjournment at 5:48 p.m. 6-0

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

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