INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #891
CANBY PUBLIC SCHOOL
CANBY SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES: JANUARY 5, 2026

1.0 Opening of Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order: Chair Angela Leppke called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

1.2 Roll Call: Present: Thorpe, Bueltel, Fairchild, Leppke, Kockelman Absent: Pesek

1.3 Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Fairchild, second Kockelman to approve the agenda, motion passed 5-0.

1.4 Welcome Visitors

1.5 Nominations / Election for the Office of 2026 Board Chair: Director Kockelman nominated Angela Leppke as Board Chairperson, no other nominations, nominations ceased, and Angela Leppke was elected board chair.

1.6 Nominations / Election for the Office of 2026 Board Vice Chair: Director Fairchild nominated Nathan Thorpe, Director Bueltel nominated Brittany Kockelman, nominations ceased. One vote for Thorpe and One vote for Kockelman. Due to the tie Chair Leppke moved for another vote. On the second vote, Kockelman received 2 votes and Thorpe received 1 vote. Kockelman was elected Vice-Chair.

1.7 Nominations / Election for the Office of 2026 School Board Clerk: Director Bueltel nominated Allyson Pesek, no other nominations, nominations ceased, and Allyson Pesek was elected board Clerk.

1.8 Nominations / Election for the Office of 2026 School Board Treasurer: Director Bueltel nominated Thorpe, no other nominations, nominations ceased, Thorpe is elected treasurer.

2.0 Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Thorpe, second Fairchild to approve the consent agenda, motion carried 5-0.

2.2 Designate Official Depository as First Security Bank Canby N.A.

2.3 Daily Meal Allowance will be monitored and approved by the superintendent and school board.

2.4 Designate the Canby News as the official newspaper.

2.5 Designate Kennedy and Graven as the district's primary legal counsel, and provide permission for the Superintendent and School Board Chair to contact counsel when needed.

2.6 Set mileage reimbursement rate at the IRS standard rate.

2.7 Approve superintendent as Director of Transportation

2.8 Approve superintendent as Local Education Authority (LEA)

2.9 Authorize Superintendent to Invest: Authorize Superintendent or designee to invest school funds pursuant to MN Statutes and approve the collateral from financial institutions, and to approve the MSBA Minnesota Liquid Asset Funds and PMA for investment purposes.

2.10 Wire Transfers: Approve the Superintendent Ryan Nielsen, Business Manager Brandi Full, Accounts Payable Lorie Hoffman, and Payroll/Benefits specialist Dana Mamer to make wire transfers when necessary.

2.11 2025-2026 Unreserved Fund Balance Goal of 25%

2.12 Approval of the Minutes: Minutes from the regular board meeting on December 15, 2025.

3.0

3.1 Removed Consent Agenda Items

3.1.1 None

4.0

4.1 Approve bills dated: Motion by Fairchild, second Kockelman, motion carried 5-0.

12-16-25 to 12-30-25 (payroll & athletic fees)

General: 01	$	104,350.89
Transportation: 03	$	385.42
Debt Redemption:07	$	10,392.06
Total	**$**	**115,128.37**

1-5-26 Draw #21 Building Fund

Building: 06	$	215.791.15
Total	**$**	**215,791.15**

4.2 Board of Education Compensation: Motion by Thorpe, second Bueltel to set the monthly meeting rate and committee rate to $85.00 per meeting and the full day rate to $175.00 per day with the board chair receiving an additional stipend of $700.00, motion carried 5-0.

4.3 2026 School Board Meetings Dates and Times: Motion by Leppke, second Fairchild to approve the third Monday of each month with adjustments made for restricted days, motion carried 5-0.

4.4 2026 Board Committee Assignments: Motion by Thorpe, second Bueltel to approve the committee assignments, motion carried 5-0. (Attachment A)

4.5 Resolution Directing Superintendent to Make Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefore: Member Bueltel introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE REDUCTION AND / OR DISCONTINUANCE OF PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 891, State of Minnesota, as follows:

WHEREAS, the financial condition of the school district dictates that the school board must reduce expenditures immediately, and / or there has been a reduction in overall student enrollment.

WHEREAS, this reduction in expenditure must include discontinuance of positions and discontinuance or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

HEREBY, We direct the Superintendent of Canby Public Schools ISD #891 to make recommendations for adjustments in curriculum, programs and staff for the 2026-2027 school year.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Kockelman and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Fairchild, Leppke, Bueltel, Thorpe, Kockelman and the following voted against: 0

Absent: Pesek
whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

5.0 Board Discussion / Reports

5.1 Administrative Reports

5.1.1 Elementary Principal Mr. Arndt reported the spelling bee is will be January 13.

5.1.2 High School Principal Dr. Robert Slaba reported the new hallway in front of the building is completed and it looks great. They moved the furniture into this area today; Ag shop hallway also looks great and he thanked the maintenance crew for painting it; PBIS graphics were installed over the break on the stairs and floors. They are awesome and if you get a chance take some time to go look at them.

5.1.3 Superintendent Ryan Nielsen reported it was nice to get everyone back in the building after the Christmas break; the hallway is finished up front with just a few minor items that need to be completed.

5.2 Negotiations Update: The negotiations committee reported they have a tentative agreement with both the Paraprofessionals and Principal's Union.

6.0 Communication

6.1 MSBA Convention January 15-16

6.2 Meet and Confer: Tuesday, January 20 at 3:30 pm

6.3 Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 20 at 5:30 pm

7.0 Adjournment: Having no additional business to discuss or act upon, the chair adjourned the meeting at 5:58 pm. Thorpe, second Kockelman, motion carried 5-0.

Published in the Canby News Jan. 27, 2026