

LEGAL NOTICE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #891 REGULAR SCHEDULED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MAY 19, 2025 - 5:30 P.M. - DISTRICT OFFICE

1. Opening of Meeting:

- 1.1 **Call to Order:** Chair Leppke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- 1.2 **Roll Call:** Attendance: Leppke, Kockelman, Fairchild, Thorpe, Pesek, Bueltel
- 1.3 **Welcome Visitors**
- 1.4 **Approve the Agenda:** Motion by Thorpe, second Fairchild, to approve the agenda, motion carried 6-0.
- 1.5 **Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by Kockelman, second Fairchild, to approve the minutes from 5-5-2025, motion carried 6-0.
- 1.6 **Approve Payment of Bills:** Motion by Kockelman, second Thorpe, to approve the payment of the bills motion carried 6-0.

Bills Dated

01 General Fund:	\$ 173,084.30
02 Food Service2:	\$ 84,478.23
03 Transportation:	\$ 15,370.27
04 Community Services:	\$ 13,024.03
05 Capital:	\$ 4,747.16
06 Building fund:	\$ 2,916.50
21 Student Activities:	\$ 11,893.01
Total:	\$ 305,513.50

2.0 New Business / Board Discussion:

- 2.1 **Legislative Update:** Legislative Update: Superintendent Nielsen updated the board on the status of the legislative session related to education.

2.2 Administrative Reports

- 2.2.1 **High School Principal Report:** Dr. Slaba expressed gratitude to the board for their assistance with graduation preparations. He reported that over \$156,000 in local scholarships had been awarded to students. Additionally, three new scholarships were introduced this year. Students are also lending a hand with moving efforts to support the summer building project needs.
- 2.2.2 **Elementary Principal Report:** Mr. Arndt shared that the time capsule event was a success, with approximately 70 community members in attendance. He announced that Field Day, which will take place on the last day of school, is planned to be held indoors. To celebrate reaching the schoolwide Accelerated Reader (AR) goal of 20,000 points, staff members will participate in races while wearing inflatable costumes. Additionally, a team of teachers, along with Mr. Arndt conducted interviews for the physical education position earlier today.
- 2.2.3 **Superintendent Ryan Nielsen:** Superintendent Nielsen shared that the district office is preparing to move, and office staff have begun reviewing purchase orders. Employee insurance paperwork is currently in progress. Final work on the FY26 budget is on hold, pending legislative decisions. Superintendent Nielsen also noted that graduation was a great success and extended thanks to the school board, graduates, and staff for their efforts. He acknowledged that school staff are doing their best to maintain the baseball fields despite limited personnel. To support summer operations, two college students have been hired to assist. Unfortunately, the district is currently dealing with vandalism in the field bathrooms. Summer expenses will need to be reviewed and discussed. Additionally, the current weight room will be staffed and available for use throughout the summer.

2.3 Building Project Update

- 2.3.1 The district office will be located in the high school library for the summer, with Door 7 serving as the designated entrance. Installation of the gym floors is currently underway, and work on the concession area is in progress. Lockers are installed in the locker rooms, and cabinets were added to the coaches' and PE teachers' offices. Work on the new district office entrance is scheduled to begin next week. All construction projects remain on schedule. The district is currently reviewing options for the shop flooring. The new locations cannot be used until it all passes inspection.

2.4 Committee Reports

- 2.4.1 **Policy Committee:** The cell phone committee has reviewed the current proposed policy and is planning to present recommendations to the school board in June. Additionally, the athletic policy, which was last updated in 2016, will be reviewed and revised over the summer.
- 2.4.2 **Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Shop flooring options have been reviewed, and necessary concrete repairs are being considered. Additionally, updates to the field fencing were discussed.

3.0 Old Business / Board Action

- 3.1 **MSHSL Membership Resolution:** Resolution read by Kockelman, second Fairchild, to approve the MSHSL resolution, motion carried 6-0.
- 3.2 **FY26 Capital Outlay Projects:** Motion by Thorpe, second Fairchild, to approve FY26 Capital Outlay projects, motion carried 6-0.
- 3.3 **Personnel - Elementary General Education Teacher Hiring:** Motion by Kockelman, second Bueltel, to approve hiring of Jay Pratt as a general elementary education teacher in the event he meets all Minnesota licensure requirements, motion carried 6-0.
- 3.4 **Social Worker Contract with PACT for Families:** Motion by Fairchild, second Bueltel, to approve PACT for Families Social Worker contract, motion carried 6-0.

4.0 Communication

- 4.1 **Administrative Committee:** Kockelman, Thorpe, Leppke. May 22 at 8 a.m.
- 4.2 **Negotiations Committee:** Bueltel, Thorpe, Pesek. May 28 at 8 a.m. Board will plan a closed session in June.
- 4.3 **Next Board Meeting:** June 2, 2025

5.0 Adjournment

- 5.1 **Adjournment:** 6:26 p.m. Motion to adjourn Kockelman, second Fairchild, motion carried 6-0.