

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

Menahga Public School District No. 821

Monday, July 20, 2026, 6:30 PM, HS Media Center

The July 20, 2026 regular meeting of the Menahga Public School board called to order by Chair Howard at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Mission and Vision Statement.

Board members present: Katie Howard, Julia Kicker, Cherie Peterson, Sara Makela, and David Treinen.

Others present: Business Manager Dana Kennedy, ES Principal Steph Mercil, HS Principal Michelle Koch, Assistant Principal John Hedstrom and Superintendent Jay Kjos.

One or more Board Members attending virtually;

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE carried unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended/presented.

Members from the community addressed the board on coaching staff.

MOTION BY David Treinen

to remove the following from the consent agenda: 3.9. Head Baseball Coach, Kris Koll, step 5;

MOTION BY David Treinen SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to approve the following consent items:

1. June 18, 2026 special meeting minutes; July 6, 2026 policy meeting minutes;
2. Activity fund and monthly claims in the amount of \$181,575.81

3. Consider Staffing for 2026-2027:

- 3.1. Teacher Contract, Melody Rasmussen, BA step 1;
- 3.2. Instructional Coach Contract, Kerry White;
- 3.3. Transportation Supervisor Contract, Christina Albin;
- 3.4. Transportation Mechanic Contract, Daryl Kimball;
- 3.5. Head Custodian Contract, Terry Kimball;
- 3.6. Payroll & Benefits Specialist Contract, Patty Melander;
- 3.7. Superintendent's Secretary Contract, Sarah Lusti;
- 3.8. Head Golf Coach, Tim Wurdock, step 10;
- 3.10. Activities Supervisor, Luke Davidson, step 2;
- 3.11. Weight Room Advisor, Luke Davidson;
- 3.12. Food Service Bookkeeper Contract, Katie Walsh;
4. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities — CLC Agreement
5. MSBA Invoice
6. Notice of Filing Date for Election to School Board

Consent item 3. Consider Staffing for 2026-2027: 3.9. Head Baseball Coach, Kris Koll, step 5; VOTE 1-4-0 failed, voting in favor Sara Makela, voting against Katie Howard, Cherie Peterson, Julia Kicker, and David Treinen, absent Andrea Haverinen.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Katie Howard VOTE passed 4-0-1 with David Treinen abstaining to approve the Kenmark Invoice in the amount of \$693.00 as presented.

Andrea Haverinen joined at 6:51 p.m.

Break at 7:01 p.m.

Resumed meeting at 7:03 p.m.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE carried unanimously to approve the LTFM Annual Expense and Revenue as presented.

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY David Treinen VOTE carried unanimously to approve the following quotes for goods and services for FY27 as presented.

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Isaiah Usher, Paraprofessional with Menahga Public Schools, effective July 14, 2026. We thank Isaiah for his year of dedicated service to the students of our school.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Katie Howard VOTE 4-2-0 with Cherie Peterson and David Treinen against after four years of service, we renew the contracts for 2026-2027 and grant tenure to the following certified staff: Jolene Harris and Pam Johnson.

The following resolution was introduced by Andrea Haverinen

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, MS 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 for 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, MS 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.*";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Menahga Public School Dist

821 gratefully accept the following donations as identified below: \$500 to Menahga Baseball from Gateway Lions Club;

Resolution seconded by Sara Makela

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

voting aye: Sara Makela, Julia Kicker, Katie Howard, Andrea Haverinen, David Treinen, and Cherie Peterson

voting nay: none

absent: none

Whereupon, said resolution was declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE passed 4-2-0 with David Treinen and Sara Makela against to buy wall mounted cell phone lockers with codes for 7-12th grade students not to exceed \$50,000.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY David Treinen VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of the 7-12th grade high school student handbook for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

MOTION BY Andrea Haverinen SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of the K-6th grade elementary school student handbook for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults and Policy 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse as presented.

MOTION BY David Treinen SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 417 Chemical Use and Abuse as presented.

MOTION BY Sara Makela SECONDED BY Andrea Haverinen VOTE carried unanimously to approve the review and adoption of Policy 418 Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School as presented.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE carried unanimously to approve the review and adoption of Policy 419 Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction as presented.

MOTION BY David Treinen SECONDED BY Cherie Peterson VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 501 School Weapons Policy as presented.

MOTION BY Julia Kicker SECONDED BY Sara Makela VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 505 Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees as presented.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY David Treinen VOTE carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Policy 524.5 Personal Electronic Communication Devices as amended.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY Andrea Haverinen VOTE carried unanimously to accept the summative statement as presented.

MOTION BY Cherie Peterson SECONDED BY Julia Kicker VOTE carried unanimously to adjourn the July 20, 2026 regular meeting of the Menahga Public School board at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,