

August 17, 2026

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2689, PIPESTONE COUNTY, PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA. A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Pipestone Area Schools was held on Monday, August 17, 2026 beginning at 6:30 PM in Conference Room 1148. MS/HS.

The following members were present: Brad Carson, Katie Wiese, Daphne Likness, Mark Hiniker, Tami Taubert, and Chrissy DeBates. Absent: Tyler Fruechte. Also present: Dr. Klint Willert, Jacque Kennedy, Sonja Ortman, Lisa Pease, Jennifer Moravetz, and Deb Peschon.

Vice Chair Wiese opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by DeBates, second by Carson, approved the agenda as presented. Motion carried

Public Forum: None.

Presentation: None.

Consent Agenda:

- Motion by DeBates to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Failed for lack of second.
- Motion by Likness, second by DeBates to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel settlement prior to board action at that point in the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, approve the July 27, 2026 regular school board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Likness, second by DeBates, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Financials:

- The budget year-to-date shows expenditures as of August 12, 2026 at \$18,202,937.60 or 101%. This was non-action.
- The treasurer's report for month ended July 31, 2026 shows a cash balance of \$7,105,070.19. Motion by Carson, second by Likness, approved the treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- The MN Trust 2023A Bonds treasurer's report for month ended July 31, 2026 has a cash balance of \$1,190.04. Motion by Taubert, second by DeBates, approved the 2023A bonds treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- The 2026A Facilities Maintenance Bond treasurer's report for month ended July 31, 2026 has a cash balance of \$603,637.25 Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, approved the 2026A Facilities Maintenance Bond treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.
- Regular bills paid through August 4, 2026 totaled \$1,027,215.90 Motion by Taubert, second by Likness, approved payment of the regular bills. Motion carried unanimously.
- High school activity bills paid through August 4, 2026 totaled \$808.26. Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, approved payment of the high school activity bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Report: Budget/Finance Committee and Policy Committee met.

Superintendent Report: Willert reported on staff workshop week, Portrait of a Graduate, the roof project, start of the school year, shout out to custodial staff, fall activities and athletics, new carpet in the auditorium, and referendum information.

Principal's Report: Moravetz reported on back-to-school family connections conferences, ML family orientation day, elementary playground updates, and new staff in the elementary. Ortman reported on staff updates, PSEO numbers for fall, and new flexible seating in the MSHS.

Curriculum, Teaching, & Learning Report: Pease reported on Synergy training, Capti training, Reading Assessment Done Right, new teacher in-service, back-to-school in-service, teachers beginning LETRS training this fall, and local literacy plan/district literacy lead

New Business: First Reading of Policy 624 - Online Instruction - non-action.

Board Action:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 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, Minnesota Statutes 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." and

WHEREAS, 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 Pipestone Area Schools, ISD 2689, gratefully accepts the following donations to **high school activities and the school** as identified below:

Brad & Kris Carson	\$1,000	Band Instruments (school)
Pipestone Community Foundation	\$2,500	Band Instruments (school)
Anonymous Donor	\$10,000	Band Instruments (school)
Arrow Booster Club	\$4,750	Donation to Hungry Athlete Program (HS Act)
Mark's General Machine	\$200.00	Donation to FFA (HS Activities)
Pipestone Floral, LLC	\$100.00	Donation to FFA (HS Activities)
Steve Everett (Everett Tire & Auto)	\$50.00	Donation to FFA (HS Activities)
Gorter Clay & Dairy	\$200.00	Donation to FFA (HS Activities)
Whip's Auto Sales	\$25.00	Donation to FFA (HS Activities)

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution made by Member Hiniker, and duly seconded by Member Likness, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Carson, Wiese, Likness, Hiniker, Taubert, DeBates.

and the following voted against the same: None.

The foregoing resolution passed 6-0.

SB/RES/2026-25

August 17, 2026

Minutes approved and dated by the board September 28, 2026

- Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, to retire policy 560- Administrative Restrictive Procedures. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, to approve policy 524.5 - Personal Electronic Communication Devices. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING SUPERINTENDENT TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADJUSTMENTS IN CURRICULUM, PROGRAMS AND STAFF FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL YEAR (2027)

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 2689, State of Minnesota as follows:

HEREBY, we direct the Superintendent of Pipestone Area Schools to make recommendations for adjustments in curriculum, programs, and staff up to \$1.2 million for the following school year.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly motioned by Brad Carson, and seconded by Chrissy DeBates.

In favor; Carson, Wiese, Likness, Hiniker, Taubert, DeBates.

against; None.

whereupon said resolution was declared passed 6-0.

Vice Chair Katie Wiese called for a brief recess at 7:15 PM. The meeting resumed at 7:34 PM.

Wiese - After conferring with legal counsel, board policy and state statute does not allow us to enter into closed session regarding this matter. Therefore, we move to 11.5 for action and a motion. A reminder we cannot discuss private personnel in open meeting.

- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker, to approve separation agreement with Kathryn Baker. Motion carried 4-2 with Wiese and Likness voting against.
- Motion by Carson, second by DeBates, to approve the 2026-2027 MSHS Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker, to approve the 2026-2027 Employee Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by Likness, to approve the 2026-2027 Crisis Management Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion by DeBates, second by Hiniker, to approve the transportation contract with SWMN Christian for 2026-2027. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Carson, second by Wiese, to approve the teacher sub rate of pay for 2026-2026 at \$185.00 flat rate per day. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Hiniker abstaining.
- Discussion was held on hiring a Public Relations firm to help with the Operating Referendum.
- Motion by Likness, second by Hiniker, to approve the renewal of food service management company cost reimbursable contract for 2026-2027. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn:

- Motion by Carson, second by Hiniker, to adjourn the meeting (7:53 PM). Motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Tyler Fruechte
Tyler Fruechte, Chairman

/s/ Daphne Likness
Daphne Likness, Clerk

Approved and dated by the board September 28, 2026
Submitted, Deb Peschon