



TO: Northeast Metro 916 Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Val Rae Boe
DATE: April 6, 2026
RE: April 1 Board of Education Meeting Talking Points

Members present: Knisely-12, Jones-14, Forsberg-16, Bock-621, Nitardy-622, Clark-623, Thompson-624, Stout-832, and Thelander-834. Members absent: Palmer-13, Striker-282, Rebelein-831, and Dols-833.

Presentation: From Pilot to Practice: The Implementation of Ukeru at 916

Jenna French-Greff, behavior analyst at 916, shared the basics of Ukeru, pad blocking intending to create space while being grounded in trauma-informed practices, and the timeline of the initial pilot. Jenna highlighted some of the data and feedback that has been collected through debriefs during the pilot including reduction in restrictive procedures, enhanced staff safety and confidence, and effective de-escalation and redirection. She ended with sharing highlights from the ongoing collaboration and consultation, as well as some of the challenges that have been shared as areas of continued growth and learning.

Presentation: First Reading of Board Policies

The Board was presented with first reading of Policies 529, 604, 606, and 618. These policies will be brought back to the May meeting for approval.

Approval of School Board Policies: The School Board approved Policies 203.2, 213, 303, 501, 503, 506, 520, and 619.

Approval of Karner Blue Play Area Project: The School Board approved expansions to the Karner Blue play area. These expansions, including installation of a rubberized safety surface and addition of accessible, inclusive play equipment, will support the accessibility and developmental needs of the students. This project is being funded through medical assistance revenue.

Approval of the 2026-27 School Calendars: The School Board approved the 2026-27 Staff and Student calendar for 916 sites. Additionally, stretch calendars for 916 Mahtomedi Academy and Bellaire Education Center were also approved.

Long Term Facility Maintenance: The school board voted to approve a resolution that allows member districts to contribute levy dollars to Northeast Metro ISD 916's long-term facilities maintenance (LTFM). LTFM pays for expenditures such as fire safety, asbestos removal, roof

systems, indoor air quality, and other projects that benefit students from all member districts. This was approved for the 2027-28 School Year in the amount of \$600,500.

Renewal of Insurance Policies: The School Board approved the renewal of the Workers' Compensation Insurance with Risk Administration Services, Liability Insurance with Hanover Insurance Group, Cyber Liability Insurance with Beazley, and Property Insurance with Chubb Insurance Company.

Approval of United Educators Local 3748 and Behavior Analysts Local 3748 Contract: Both the United Educators Local 3748 and Behavior Analysts Local 3748 contracts were approved for the effective dates of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.