

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
February 3, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Secondary Building, Forum Room
Crosby, MN

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Special meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Forum Room, at 6:30 p.m. on February 3, 2025 with Chair Laura Lee presiding.

Members Present: Barb Neprud, Beth Hautala, Tommy Sablan, Laura Lee, Mark Taylor, Hannah Wesner and Superintendent Jamie Skjeveland.

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approve Agenda-Motion by Wesner, second by Neprud to approve the agenda. All voting aye, and the motion carried.

Discussion –

Public Input Activity – The public was provided with an opportunity to move around the Forum Room to review budget reduction suggestions provided through public input last year and to add additional suggestions or comments for this year. The Board will review the updated lists as the budget reduction continues.

Budget Reduction Target – The Board reviewed the previously identified budget reduction target of \$600,000. This amount is two-thirds of the amount of the anticipated budget deficit for 2025-2026 of \$884,000. There was discussion about the need for a two-year plan to demonstrate that lesser budget reductions in this year will result in higher budget reductions for next year, stressing the need for the importance of staying focused on the \$600,000 amount. There was concern that it would be difficult to reach that target, with a more likely attainment of between \$400,000 and \$500,000. The target remained at \$600,000.

Budget Reduction List – The School Board focused on a list of six budget reduction suggestions which included: reduce funding for all extra-curricular activities, elementary teacher combination room for 1st and 2nd grade, social worker, part-time Social Studies, ACT Prep and National Honor Society. Several of these are defunding suggestions, with other funding sources being sought from the community to keep some activities operating. An ad hoc committee of the Board will start to work on resource generation while the finance committee continues to work on finalization of the budget reduction list. Another special board meeting to discuss the outcomes from both committees will be planned for March 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

The next regular Board meeting will be February 24, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Forum Room.

Adjourn-Motion by Hautala, second by Wesner to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. All voting aye, and the motion carried

Recorded by Wm Tollefson

Tommy Sablan, Clerk