

- I. The board recognized Grif Sadow, Theater Coordinator, along with some of his students who created the "I Love You Guys SRP" training video. The video supports the I Love U Guys Foundation and its Standard Response Protocol (SRP), a widely adopted school safety framework used to guide responses to emergencies. The fact that this student-created production will be used in districts and schools worldwide is a tremendous accomplishment.
- II. Public Comment: No speakers.
- III. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:52 p.m.
- IV. Roll Call: Present: Sarah Grcevich, Katie Hockert, Pete Kelzenberg, Chris Lauer, Robert Parker, Alison Sherman, Andrew Thelander.
- V. Pledge of Allegiance
- VI. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Sherman, second by Thelander, carried 7-0.
- VII. Student Report: Nothing to report.
- VIII. Superintendent Report: The district is facing significant financial challenges, including a \$5 million shortfall. This marks the third consecutive year of budget reductions. The largest cost drivers continue to be staffing, transportation, and employee benefits. Despite these challenges, our priority remains unchanged: supporting our students and maintaining the long-term stability of the district. As decisions are made, we are committed to communicating with clarity, accuracy, and care, recognizing that these reductions will impact members of our community. Addressing this situation will require support beyond our district. State funding levels and requirements play a major role in our financial outlook. We strongly encourage you to reach out to your legislators to advocate for the resources and flexibility our schools need.
- IX. Board Chair Report: Thank you to our staff for the continued dedication and hard work you demonstrate every day. It is evident that there has been thoughtful collaboration across working groups, and we recognize that the decisions being considered are both difficult and important.
- X. Consent Agenda: A. School Board Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2026; B. School Board Meeting Minutes, February 2, 2026, 2026; C. Payment of Invoices, January 31-February 13, 2026; Gifts & Donations and Treasurer's report December 2025; D. Amendment to Terms and Condition-Technical Support Group, Emergency School Closing Language; E. Human Resources Personnel Report. Motion by Hockert, second by Lauer, carried 7-0.
- XI. Strategic Direction A: Ensure the Learning Process is Adaptable to Meet Individual Student Needs. Nothing to report.
- XII. Strategic Direction B: Foster a Safe, Welcoming and Inclusive Environment for all Staff and Students. Nothing to report.
- XIII. Strategic Direction C: Utilize Systems and Align Resources in an Efficient Manner to Support Learning.
  - A. Motion by Sherman to approve the Resolution Awarding the Sale of General Obligation School Building, Facilities Maintenance and Refunding Bonds, Series 2024A, second by Thelander, carried 7-0.
  - B. The board reviewed and approved the preliminary budget guidelines and assumptions for the 2026–27 school year as part of the district's priority-based budgeting process. Motion by Sherman, second by Hockert, carried 7-0.
  - C. The district will implement a range of efficiency measures aimed at reducing transportation costs while continuing to provide safe and reliable service for students. These changes are planned for the 2026-27 school year.
  - D. The board was provided with an update on negotiations.
  - E. The board received a construction update on bond-funded projects, including the new Lake Elmo Elementary School and Bayport Elementary School, Oak-Land Middle School, and the districtwide multi-site security upgrades.

- F. Motion by Sherman to approve the furniture for the new elementary schools and Oak-Land Middle School, second by Thelander, carried 7-0.
- G. Motion by Hockert to approve the multi-site security upgrades, second by Kelzenberg, carried 7-0.
- H. Motion by Sherman to approve Lily Lake Elementary Renovation 2026 as part of the LTFM plan, second by Lauer, carried 7-0.

XIV. Strategic Direction D: Develop Strong Partnerships with the Communities We Serve. Nothing to report. Nothing to report.

XV. Adjourn

- A. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Grcevich, School Board Clerk