

Work Session will begin 15 minutes after adjournment of the Business Meeting.

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ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

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School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting - April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Call to Order

ITEM: Roll Call Attendance

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Helen Bassett	_____	_____
ReNae Bowman	_____	_____
Sharon E. Brooks	_____	_____
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker	_____	_____
Kim Holmes	_____	_____
Caroline Long	_____	_____
John Vento	_____	_____
Marti Voight, ex-officio Interim Superintendent	_____	_____



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Acceptance of Agenda
ITEM: 2. Acceptance of Business Meeting Agenda
COMMENTS BY: ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

Recommended Action: Approve Business Meeting agenda.

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____

School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.A. Action - Capital Projects Levy

COMMENTS BY: Marti Voight, Interim Superintendent
Virginia Verbrugge, Assistant Director of Finance

Recommendation: Approve one of the options outlined regarding the Capital Projects Levy.

	Yes	No	Abstention
Helen Bassett			
ReNae Bowman			
Sharon E. Brooks			
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker			
Kim Holmes			
Caroline Long			
John Vento			

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____



To: Board of Education
Date: April 2, 2024
Re: Requested information regarding Capital Projects Levy

In 2014 Robbinsdale Area Schools (Rdale) received a voter-approved Capital Projects Levy – a term used in state law – to fund specific technology and safety projects. This kind of levy helps fund an approved capital project, at a term of 10 years. Last year, Rdale collected **\$5.9 million** on the capital projects levy.

Rdale’s current Capital Project Levy authorizes the district to fund:

- Annual technology purchases
 - Replacement network hardware
 - Annual software subscriptions
- Recurring technology purchases
 - Devices for students (Chromebooks and iPads), teachers and non-licensed staff
 - Network infrastructure
 - Classroom technology
- Long-term technology projects
 - Replacement SMART boards

Supporting documents: [Replacement cycle](#) | [How the levy dollars have been spent](#)

Rdale’s proposed Capital Project Levy:

The existing percentage paid by taxpayers will remain at its current rate of **4.207%**, which will provide the district approximately **\$6.64 million** in FY 2024-25 and beyond, which will be used in two ways:

- To maintain current technology investments, the district will need \$4.64 million annually in capital levy funds.
- The remaining \$2 million in funds would be used to improve safety and security at our schools by providing capital improvements, including security cameras and safety-related building modifications, such as secure entrances.
- Funding the district receives from the Capital Projects Levy **must only** be used on projects and equipment that are detailed in the capital levy plan. Dollars cannot be redirected to the general fund or used elsewhere.

Recommendation:

Put the Capital Projects Levy renewal on the 2024 ballot **this November**. The levy would continue to fund technology, and the scope would be increased to add safety and security.

It’s important that the election be held this coming fall. In the event voters approve the levy renewal November of 2024, the property taxes would be collected starting in 2025 for the 2025-26 school year. If the levy election were to be delayed until 2025, assuming it’s approved, the funds wouldn’t be available until the 2026-27 school year, meaning we’d have a funding gap the 2025-26 school year of \$6.64 million.



Current Capital Projects Levy (expires this year; funds expire next year)			
2023-24SY (current)	2024-25SY (election)	2025-26SY	2026-27SY
\$5.9 million	\$6.64 million	\$0	\$0

The current levy expires this year, and the funding that comes from it will no longer be collected following the (next) 2024-25 school year. The renewal election should be held Nov. 5, 2024.

Approved Capital Projects Levy renewal (expires this year; funds expire next year)			
2023-24SY (current)	2024-25SY (election)	2025-26SY	2026-27SY
\$0	\$0	\$6.64 million	\$6.64 million

A levy renewal would be voted on by the community on Nov. 5, 2024, and if approved, would begin funding the technology and safety/security projects beginning the 2025-26 school year.

Costs of holding an election	
Nov. 2024 (this year)	Nov. 2025 (next year)
<p>Approximately \$51,300 \$49,400 in referendum vendors + \$900 in legal fees + ~\$1,000 in election costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morris Leatherman survey: \$24,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 40 questions; \$250 for each additional question added • DehlerPR: \$22,400 • PMA \$3,000 • Legal fees for resolution (question on the ballot): \$900 • Additional costs for conducting the election are shared with Hennepin County, which are yet to be determined, but less than \$1,000. 	<p>Approximately \$130,300 \$49,400 in referendum vendors + \$900 in legal fees + ~\$80,000 in election costs</p> <p>Conducting a Capital Projects Levy election in 2025, which is an off-year election, would result in more than \$80,000 in ADDITIONAL costs because we'd be holding the election by ourselves, and not sharing costs with Hennepin County. Those costs include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election judges • Ballot box rentals • Other election-related costs

Notes and impacts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of inaction or an election failure will result in the loss of the Capital Projects Levy funding beginning the 2025-26 school year. • The loss of the levy could result in the need to shift nearly \$6.64 million dollars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the election weren't held until Nov. 2025, the levy funds if it were to pass wouldn't be available until the 2026-27 school year, which means there would be a one-year gap where the district was short \$6.64 million.



<p>in annual technology needs to the general fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Device replacement is vital because the bulk of the district’s textbooks are digital and accessed via a device. • Purchasing books to replace digital tools isn’t feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and security improvements at the schools will not happen without a dedicated funding stream.
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Election timeline for a Nov. 5, 2024 levy election (provided via PMA):

Description	Date(s)
Conduct Morris Leatherman community survey	Drafting of questions, conduct survey: April - May Report to the board in June or July
Finalize project scope and finance plan	June / July, 2024
School Board approval, submittal of Review and Comment	July 8, 2024
Adopt resolution calling for election	Aug. 23, 2024
Publication of Review and Comment response	Aug. 23, 2024
Absentee ballots available	Sept. 20, 2024
Conduct election	Nov. 5, 2024
Adopt resolution canvassing results	Nov. 8-15, 2024
Notify commissioner of the results	Nov. 20, 2024

Supporting documents:

- [Executive Summary](#)
- [PMA Powerpoint](#)

School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.B. Action - Operating Referendum

COMMENTS BY: Marti Voight, Interim Superintendent
Virginia Verbrugge, Assistant Director of Finance

Recommendation: Approve one of the options outlined regarding the Operating Referendum.

	Yes	No	Abstention
Helen Bassett			
ReNae Bowman			
Sharon E. Brooks			
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker			
Kim Holmes			
Caroline Long			
John Vento			

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____



To: Board of Education
Date: April 2, 2024
Re: Additional information about operating referendums

Robbinsdale Area Schools is primarily funded by a combination of state funding and local property taxes. This includes an operating levy, approved by voters in 2014, that provides \$24.8 million to the general fund. This levy is set to expire in 2024.

Robbinsdale Area Schools uses the operating referendum to fund the general expenditures of the district, including:

- Salaries
- Staff benefits
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Routine maintenance
- Office supplies
- Instructional materials and supplies
- Technology, equipment and repairs

New legislation brings school districts into alignment with city and county governments, and allows Minnesota school boards to automatically renew a previous operating referendum. This can be done one time only, either this year or next year.

Recommendation:

The School Board should pursue Option 1 with regard to renewing the district’s operating levy.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Renew the current operating referendum at current level <i>(no election needed)</i>	Take Operating Referendum to the voters, at the current amount <i>(election needed)</i>	Take Operating Referendum to the voters, at a higher amount <i>(election needed)</i>	Do not renew the current referendum <i>(no election needed)</i>
Cost to the district if in 2024: \$250	Cost to the district if in 2024: \$1,100	Cost to the district if in 2024: \$1,100	Cost to the district: \$0
Legal costs to develop resolution if done by June 15, 2024	Dual purpose election costs and legal fees Cost to the district if delayed until 2025: at least \$81,200	Dual purpose election costs and legal fees Cost to the district if delayed until 2025: at least \$81,200	No election or legal review needed



	Why? Off year election, no partnership to share election costs	Why? Off year election, no partnership to share election costs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding impact: \$0, levy renewed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding impact: \$0 if renewed -\$24.8 million if fails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding impact: Millions in new funding, but an increase to property taxes -\$24.8 million if fails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding impact: -\$24.8 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would not go to the voters Legal counsel is required to develop the Resolution School Board Directors are required to vote to renew the operating referendum Provides the new Superintendent an opportunity to focus on listening to stakeholders, developing priorities, and settling into the position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referendum campaign launched On the ballot for the voters If it fails, there would be a catastrophic loss of \$24.8 million in funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referendum campaign launched On the ballot for the voters In Rdale, amount is limited to the state cap of \$54 additional funding per pupil If it fails, there would be a catastrophic loss of \$24.8 million in funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catastrophic loss of \$24.8 million in funding

School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.C. Action - Resolution for Non-Resident Student Enrollment Capacity Limits

COMMENTS BY: Marti Voight, Interim Superintendent
Virginia Verbrugge, Assistant Director of Finance

Recommendation: Approve the resolution for non-resident student enrollment capacity limits.

	Yes	No	Abstention
Helen Bassett			
ReNae Bowman			
Sharon E. Brooks			
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker			
Kim Holmes			
Caroline Long			
John Vento			

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____



To: School Board Members and Interim Superintendent Marti Voight
From: John Groenke, Executive Director of Student Services
Date: February 20, 2024
Re: Resolution: Non Resident Student Enrollment Capacity Limits

2024-2025 Non-Resident Student Enrollment Capacity Limits

Whereas, Minnesota Statute 124D.03 provides that a board of education may, by resolution, limit the enrollment of nonresident pupils in its schools or programs to a number not less than one percent of the total enrollment at each grade level in the district, and

Whereas, Robbinsdale Area Schools enrolls the number of non resident students that meet or exceed one percent of the total enrollment at each grade level in the district,

Now, therefore, it resolved that the superintendent or designee may close a grade, building or program for nonresident students as necessary due to space limitations.

Now, be it further resolved that the superintendent or designee may also limit the nonresident elementary enrollment so that 24-25 class sizes remain within the following range.

Class Size Range	K	1	2	3	4	5
Minimum Class Size	18	19	21	21	23	24
Maximum Class Size	25	26	28	28	30	31



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION:	Operations
ITEM:	3.D. Non-Action - Review of 2022-2023 School Board Meeting Schedule (Draft)
PRESENTER:	ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

The School Board will review the first draft of their meeting schedule for the 2024-2025 school year, and consider the addition of the following recommendations:

- Recommend adding scheduled closed sessions for labor negotiations strategy
- Recommend adding two scheduled closed sessions for receiving safety and security procedure updates



2024-2025 School Board Meetings

Meetings are typically held the first and third Monday of each month (except when the calendar does not permit) at the Education Service Center, 4148 Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope, MN, in the Boardroom on the third floor. School Board Work Sessions typically start ten minutes after the adjournment of the preceding School Board Business Meeting.

2024			
Monday	July 8	6 p.m.	Business Meeting/Work Session
Friday	July 19	6 p.m.	School Board Professional Development
Saturday	July 20	9 a.m.	School Board Professional Development
Monday	July 22	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session • Closed Session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 for Labor Negotiations Strategy
Monday	August 5	6 p.m.	Business Meeting/Work Session
Monday	August 19	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Wednesday	September 4	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	September 16	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session • Closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.05 subdivisions 2 (a)(3) and subdivision 3(d) to receive security briefings, and discuss all facilities' security systems and emergency response procedures
Monday	October 7	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Work Session



Monday	October 21	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting - <i>Safety and Security Report</i> • Work Session
Monday	November 4	5 p.m. 6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World's Best Workforce Public Hearing • Business Meeting • Work Session • Closed Session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 for Labor Negotiations Strategy
Tuesday	November 5		Election Day
Monday	November 18	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	December 2	5 p.m. 6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth in Taxation Public Hearing • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	December 16	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Extension (if needed) or Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session • Closed Session, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subdivision 3(a) for Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation

2025			
Monday	January 6	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Meeting/ Business Meeting • Work Session - <i>Safety and Security Data</i>
Tuesday	January 21	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	February 3	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Session
Tuesday	February 18	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting/Work Session
Monday	March 3	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	March 17	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	April 7	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	April 21	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	May 5	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	May 19	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session
Monday	June 2	6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting/Work Session
Monday	June 16	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening Time • Business Meeting • Work Session • Closed Session, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subdivision 3(a) for Superintendent Evaluation



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.E. Governance Policy Manual Task Force Update

PRESENTER: ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, School Board Clerk

Chair Bowman and Clerk Evans-Becker will provide an update on the progress of the review of the School Board Governance Policy Manual.*

**Recommendation: move this meeting to only the first Business Meeting of the month.*



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.F. Policy Update

PRESENTER: Governance Policy Committee Members

Members of the Governance Policy Committee will provide recommendations to policies they have been working on, and will be available to answer any questions.*

**Recommendation: move this meeting to only the first Business Meeting of the month.*



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.G. School Safety Update

PRESENTER: Ad Hoc Safety and Security Committee Members

Members of the Ad Hoc Safety and Security Committee will provide a school safety update.*

**Recommendation: move this meeting to only the first Business Meeting of the month.*



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.H. Student Achievement Update

PRESENTER: Dr. Cheryl Ulik, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment

Dr. Ulik will provide a high level overview of graduation data.



Graduation Rates 2023

Cheryl Ulik, PhD

Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment

Executive Summary: Graduation Rates 2023

- ❖ Robbinsdale Area Schools graduation rate decreased 3.3 percentage points from 84.6%, a ten-year high, to 81.3%
- ❖ Graduation rates increased for Hispanic, Multi-Racial and White students.
- ❖ Graduation rates decreased for American Indian and Black/African American students.
- ❖ District graduation rates surpass state graduation rates for five racial/ethnic groups as well as for Special Education students, English Learners and students who receive Free/Reduced Price Meals.
- ❖ The district graduation rate for Black/African American students continues to be higher than the rate for their statewide counterparts, which it has been for eleven years.
- ❖ The district graduation rate for Asian student and Hispanic/Latino students has been at or above the graduation rate of their statewide counterpart for nine of the last eleven years.

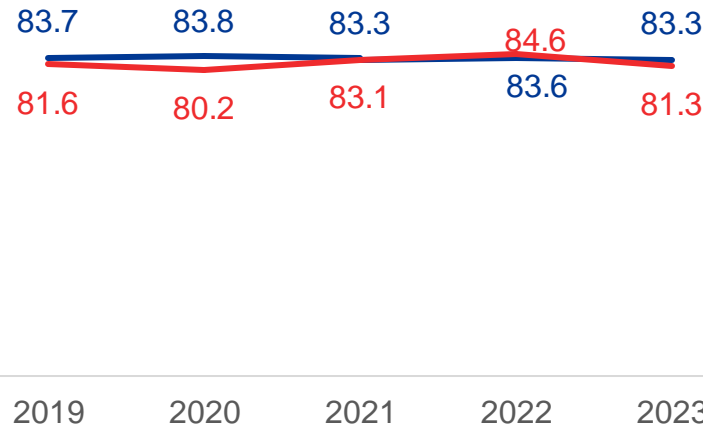
Four-Year Graduation Rate

Four-year graduation rate of 81.3 percent is 3.3 percentage points lower than the 2022 number of 84.6 but remains higher than the 2020 rate of 80.2 percent.

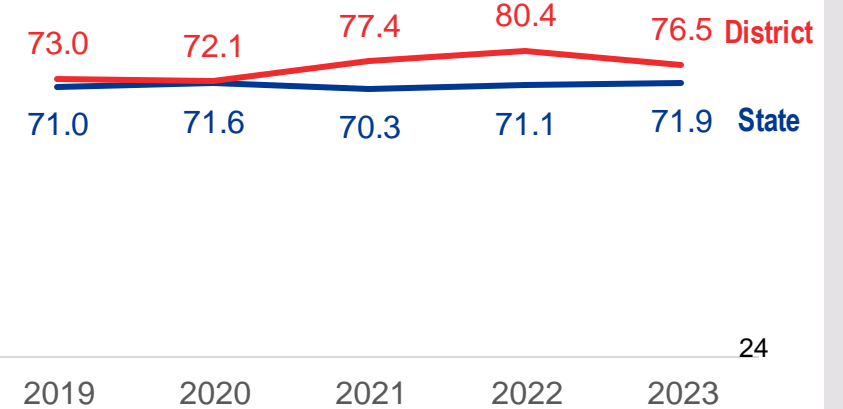
District graduation rates surpass state graduation rates for:

- Special Education students
- English Learners and
- Students who receive Free/Reduced Price Lunch

All Students

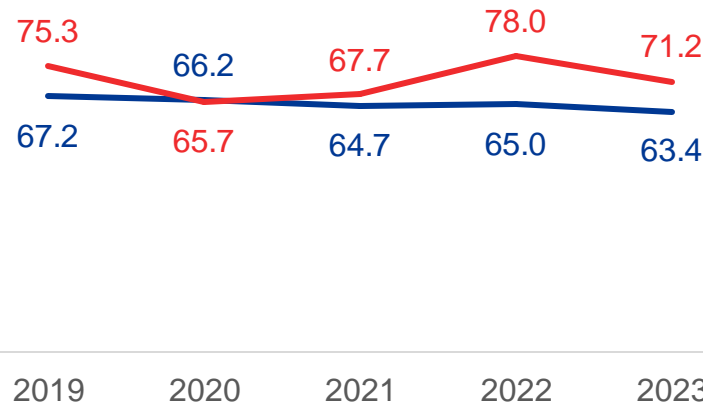


Students receiving FRL

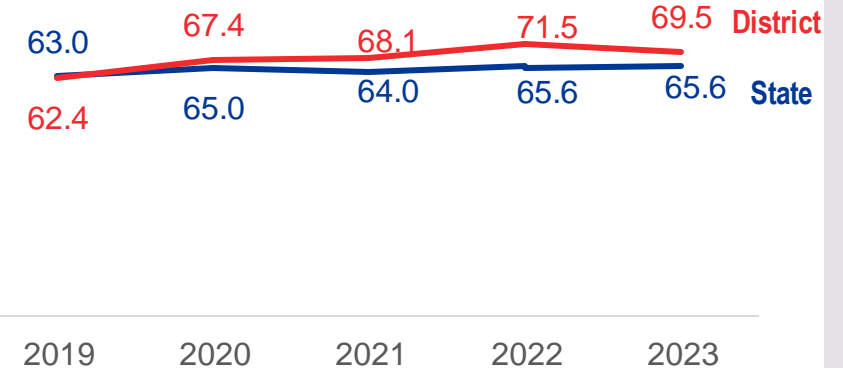


24

English Learners



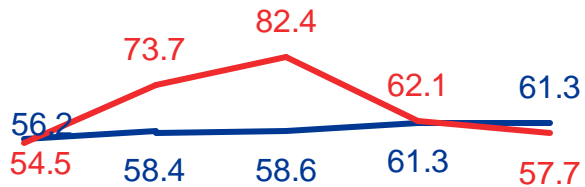
Special Education Students



Four-Year Graduation Rate

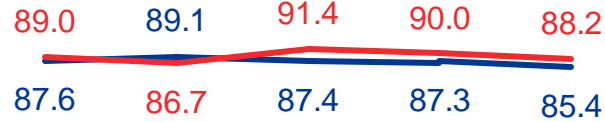
- ❖ Graduation rates increased for students Hispanic, Multi-Racial and White students.
- ❖ Graduation rates decreased for American Indian and Black/African American students.
- ❖ District graduation rates surpass state graduation rates for five racial/ethnic groups.

Am Indian Students (State Def)



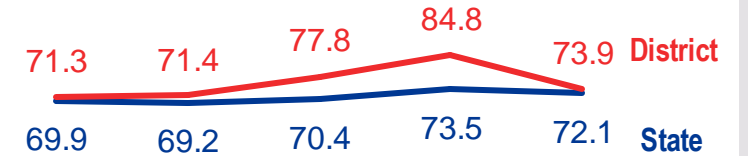
2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Asian Students



2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

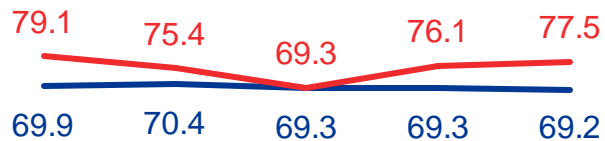
Black / African Am Students



2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

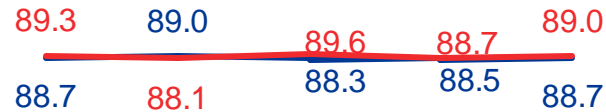
25

Hispanic/Latino Students



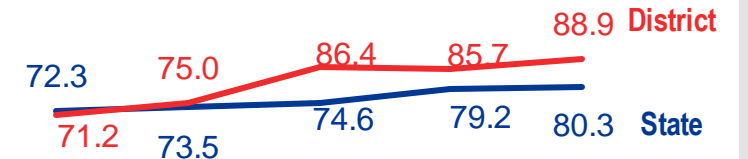
2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

White Students



2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Multi-Racial



2019 2020 2021 2022 2023



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.I. Transportation and Capital Infrastructure Update

PRESENTER: Ad Hoc Transportation and Capital Infrastructure Committee
Members

Members of the Ad Hoc Transportation and Capital Infrastructure Committee will provide an update.*

**Recommendation: move this meeting to only the first Business Meeting of the month.*



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Operations

ITEM: 3.J. Human Resources Update

PRESENTER: Amy O’Hern, Executive Director of Human Resources

Ms. O’Hern will be available to answer any questions in regard to the information in the executive summary provided here, as well as the Resolution - Proposal Terminating Probationary Teachers in the Consent Agenda.



To: Board of Education
Re: Human Resources Update
Date: April 2, 2024

The staffing update will look different this week. I want to explain why our hiring for contracted teaching positions ends on February 12 and permanent education assistants ends on March 1.

State statute 122A.41 states that a teacher must complete at least 90 days of teaching service each year during the probationary period. Therefore if a district hires a teacher after February 12 they will not be contracted for at least 90 days and their first year of teaching would not count towards their probationary period. The February 12 date will change each year based on the school calendar and the number of contracted teaching days.

The rationale for not hiring permanent educational assistants is different. All full-time and some part-time employees of Robbinsdale Area Schools are required to carry health insurance. The district contributes to an employee's insurance premiums each month. The insurance premiums for the months of June, July and August are allocated throughout the school calendar year. Therefore if an educational assistant is hired after March 1 and chooses to take family insurance benefits their salary will not cover the insurance costs after their cafeteria allocation for the summer months.



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Consent Agenda
ITEM: 4. Consent Agenda
PRESENTER: ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

Description: Consent Agenda items are considered routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which the item will be removed as a Consent Agenda item and addressed. Consent Agenda items include administrative, personnel matters and financial matters.

Recommended Motion: Approve the Consent Agenda items.

	Yes	No	Abstention
Helen Bassett			
ReNae Bowman			
Sharon E. Brooks			
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker			
Kim Holmes			
Caroline Long			
John Vento			

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____

***Approved April 2, 2024*

A Business Meeting of the School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools (RAS) was held Monday, March 18, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Robbinsdale Area Schools Education Service Center (ESC). A recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://www.rdale.org/discover/school-board> under "Watch School Board Meeting Webcasts."

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Directors present: Helen Bassett, ReNae Bowman, Sharon E. Brooks, Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, Kim Holmes (via Zoom), Caroline Long, and John Vento; and Marti Voight, Interim Superintendent. Director(s) absent: none. There was a quorum, and the meeting was called to order.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair Bowman asked for a motion to accept the Business Meeting agenda. Director Vento moved to accept the agenda, and Director Evans-Becker seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor 30 thereof: Directors Bassett, Bowman, Brooks, Evans-Becker, Holmes, Long, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.

Sharing the Success

- A. *Lakeview Elementary 2024 Destination Imagination (DI) Team - The Awesome Opossums*
Lakeview's DI team, The Awesome Opossums, were 1st place winners at the State DI Tournament for the Fine Arts Challenge at the Elementary Division. Wilbur Winkelman, Principal of Lakeview, introduced the coaches - Jennifer Hollander and Barb Little. The coaches introduced the students present, and mentioned the other students on the team. The Awesome Opossums will be attending the Global DI Tournament in Kansas City, MO on May 22-25, 2024.
- B. *Robbinsdale Middle School (RMS Destination Imagination Team*
RMS' DI team won 1st place in the Middle School Engineering Division at the State DI Tournament. Cedric Fuller, RMS Principal, mentioned that coach Rachel Buffington was unable to attend this evening. Mr. Fuller introduced the students present, who took turns talking about the experience. Though the team qualified for and was invited to attend the Global DI Tournament, they declined due to funding challenges.

Interim Superintendent Report

Interim Superintendent Voight reported the following:

- Achievement and Integration Cultural Nights occurring March 21, April 4 and April 11 at 5:30 p.m. at RMS - FREE event with dinner included - attendees can participate in drum/dance, sewing and beading
- Robins Physically Impaired (PI) team was runner up at the state championship, and three students on the team were named to the All-State Team
- RAS spring break is March 25-April 1 - school resumes Tuesday, April 2

Operations

- A. *Action: Resolution Accepting February 24 Donations in the amount of \$21,918.86*
MOTION: Director Evans-Becker moved approval, and Director Bassett seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Bowman, Brooks, Evans-Becker, Holmes, Long, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Said motion was declared duly passed.
- B. *Governance Policy Manual Task Force*
Chair Bowman and Clerk Evans-Becker have continued work with Interim Superintendent Voight and Molly Olson to index and format the School Board Governance Policy Manual by reviewing lists, looking for gaps and setting framework. It will be brought to the Board for review and feedback next month at a Work Session. They will be meeting again Thursday, March 21, 2024.
- C. *Policy Update*
Governance Policy Committee did not have a quorum at their meeting on March 13. Their next meeting will be on April 9 at 6:00 p.m.
- D. *School Safety Update*
The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Safety and Security Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 27 at 4:30 p.m. The School Resource Officer (SRO) updated bill was signed into law last week by Governor Walz. At the next meeting there will be discussion on next steps with the police chiefs of our district cities - and reviewing

language, contracts, policies and money for training. The SROs are not employed by the district - but contracted.

E. Student Achievement Update

John Groenke - Executive Director of Student Services, Dr. Cheryl Ulik - Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment (REA) and Matt Pletcher - Director of Secondary Curriculum and Multilingual Programs, provided an overview of the K-5 FastBridge growth data from fall of 2023 to winter of 2024. The team responded to questions afterwards, and noted that a deep dive into the complete information would be brought to a future Work Session.

F. Transportation and Capital Infrastructure Update

Director Bassett requested a discussion on infrastructure at a Work Session sometime soon, Interim Superintendent Voight noted she would bring it up at the agenda setting meeting tomorrow.

G. Human Resources (HR) Update

Amy O'Hern, Executive Director of HR, shared the district exit survey questions - noting that the first nine are rating, and the last two are open for giving any details they wish on why they are leaving and/or what would convince them to stay. They have received 113 of these this year, and the survey is required of those retiring and/or resigning.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items include administrative, personnel matters, and financial matters.

MOTION: Director Evans-Becker moved approval of the Consent Agenda, and Director Vento seconded the motion. 31 Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Bowman, Brooks, Evans-Becker, Long and Vento. And the following voted against the same: Director Holmes. Said motion was declared duly passed.

Board Reports

Each month Board Members share updates from their different committee assignments and attendance at district and community events. Before the Business Meeting, Director Bassett facilitated the listening time held at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Education Service Center. Ten individuals spoke in regard to: principal changes at Plymouth Middle School (PMS), the impact of staffing cuts at School of Engineering and Arts (SEA) on the students - and the importance of continued funding for the STEAM program, assistant principal layoff at Zachary Lane, request to keep sectionals in all district music programs, and PMS safety and learning environment concerns.

Announcements (posted announcements can be found on our website)

Adjournment

MOTION: Director Bassett moved to adjourn the Business meeting, and Director Evans-Becker seconded the motion. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Directors Bassett, Bowman, Brooks, Evans-Becker, Holmes, Long, and Vento. And the following voted against the same: none. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by:

Molly Olson

Assistant Clerk, Robbinsdale Area Schools

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and School Board

Signed:

 Date: April 2, 2024

Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, School Board Clerk, ISD 281

***Reviewed April 2, 2024*

A Work Session of the School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools (RAS) was held Monday, March 18, 2024 at 9:05 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Robbinsdale Area Schools Education service Center. Complete agendas, reports, and presentations are available at the office and on our website. A recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://www.rdale.org/discover/school-board> under "Watch School Board Meeting Webcasts." **Work session summary minutes are not approved by the School Board.**

Director(s) present: Helen Bassett, ReNae Bowman, Sharon E. Brooks, Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, Kim Holmes (via Zoom), Caroline Long, and John Vento; and Marti Voight, Interim Superintendent. Director(s) absent: none.

Capital Projects Levy

Marti Voight - Interim Superintendent

Virginia Verbrugge - Assistant Director of Finance

Interim Superintendent Voight and Ms. Verbrugge were available to respond to any questions regarding the information posted and provided on the Capital Projects Levy. Additional information was requested by the Board, which will be provided in the packets for the upcoming Business Meeting on April 2 - at which time the topic will be brought for vote.

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Resolution for Non-Resident Student Enrollment Capacity Limits

Marti Voight - Interim Superintendent

Virginia Verbrugge - Assistant Director of Finance

Interim Superintendent Voight and Ms. Verbrugge were available to respond to any questions regarding the information posted and provided on the Operating Referendum. Additional information was requested by the Board, which will be provided in the packets for the upcoming Business Meeting on April 2 - at which time the topic will be brought for vote.

Board Topics

• Superintendent Search Discussion

The Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Superintendent Search Team

Superintendent candidates were reviewed, and six were selected as semifinalists for Round 1 interviews on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

The stakeholder input plan was reviewed. It was agreed that there will be a total of 16 stakeholders randomly selected by the MSBA Superintendent Search Team from a pool of people who submitted a form for a chance at being selected to provide input during the Round 2 interviews of the finalists. The stakeholders will have from Thursday, March 21 through 5 p.m. on Friday, March 29 to submit their forms.

It was determined that the Board would question the candidates from their seats at the dais, with the candidate at a table in front of them, facing the Board. Anyone from the public present at the interviews will be seated in rows behind the candidate.

Reference check calls - Vice Chair Holmes and Director Brooks will conduct these using a set of predetermined questions. They will provide a verbal report at the deliberations after Round 2 interviews have concluded.

Contract - The last contract was vetted by three agencies. The Board will need to talk through financial, benefits, incentive pay (or not). They will review the last contract, versus the new MSBA model contract, and work to create a draft for the new superintendent contract on April 2, 2024 at the Work Session.

Interview questions were reviewed to determine which questions would be kept for Round 1, saved for Round 2 or discarded altogether.

Candidate names were revealed:

- Dr. Patrick Duffy, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, St. Louis Park Public Schools, MN
- Dr. Elizabeth Keenan, former Superintendent, Special School District of St. Louis County, MO
- Dr. Timothy McCray, Deputy Superintendent, Madison Metropolitan School District, WI
- Dr. George Nolan, Elementary Principal, Hopkins Public Schools, MN
- Bondo Nyembwe, Executive Director of Educational Services, Columbia Heights Public Schools, MN
- Dr. Noel Schmidt, Superintendent, Rock Ridge Public Schools, MN

The semi-finalists were selected from a pool of 14 applicants based on criteria established by the school board, as well as survey input provided by Rdale stakeholders.

The Board reviewed the interview training with the MSBA Superintendent Search Team.

Other

No items presented.

Work Session adjourned at 12:55 a.m. Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

Prepared and submitted by:

Molly Olson
Assistant Clerk, Robbinsdale Area Schools
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and School Board

***Approved April 2, 2024*

A Closed Session of the School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools, ISD 281, was held Wednesday, March 20, 2024 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office at the Robbinsdale Area Schools Education Service Center, 4148 Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope, Minnesota.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.

Directors present: Helen Bassett, ReNae Bowman, Caroline Long and John Vento

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Directors absent: Sharon E. Brooks, Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, and Kim Holmes

Other attendee: Joseph Langel from Ratwik, Roszak and Maloney, P.A.

2. School Board

A. Closed Session

Closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) and the attorney client privilege regarding pending litigation with the City of New Hope was held in the office of the superintendent.

3. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Signed: *Greta Evans-Becker* Date: *4-2-2024*
Dr. Greta Evans-Becker, School Board Clerk
Independent School District 281



Resolution: Proposal Terminating Probationary Teachers

WHEREAS, (said teacher) is a probationary teacher in Independent School District 281;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District 281 that pursuant to

Minnesota Statute 122A.40, subdivision 5, the teaching contract of (said teacher), a probationary teacher in Independent School District 281, is hereby terminated at the close of the 2023-2024 school year and is not renewed for the 2024-2025 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notice be sent to (said teacher) regarding termination and non-renewal of contract as provided by law, and that said notice shall be in substantially the following form:

We must notify you that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 281 held April 2, 2024, a proposed resolution was adopted to terminate your contract effective at the end of the current school year and not to renew your contract for the 2024-2025 school year. This action of the board is taken pursuant to Minnesota Statute 122A.40, subdivision 5.

You may officially request that the School Board give its reasons for the non-renewal of your teaching contract. Your request must be received within ten (10) days after receipt of this notice.

Thank you for your service to Robbinsdale Area Schools. Please call Erica Strand, Human Resources Program Director, if you have questions or concerns.

SCHOOL BOARD OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 281

Clerk of the School Board

Date



To: Members of the School Board
From: Amy O'Hern, Executive Director of Human Resources
Ukee Dozier, School Management Systems
Date: April 2, 2024
Re: Tentative Agreement - Nutrition Services

District Administration is recommending the approval of a two-year Nutrition Services contract with effective dates of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. The following items have been negotiated and the contract has been ratified.

Financial Highlights:

- The two-year agreement calls for a salary schedule increase of \$2.25 2023-2024 and 5% 2024-2025
- The two-year agreement calls for an increase into the employees cafeteria plan of \$107 year one and \$100 dollars year two
- Career Increment changes of \$100 increase in year one and \$100 increase in year two
- Deferred Compensation increase of \$100 year one and increase \$100 year two
- Training, Conventions and Seminars Up to \$220 toward state or national conference registration per school year


Additional Highlights:

- Employees have the right to request and be allowed payroll deduction for the Union and for the Union's political action committee. The District will commence deductions within thirty days of receiving notice from the Union of the authorized deduction(s). The District will remit deductions to the Union within thirty days of the deduction.

The notice will include certification from the Union that the Union has and will maintain a signed authorization from the employee for whom deductions will be made. A valid signed authorization includes, but is not limited to, an electronically signed authorization. The District may require a copy of the signed authorization form only if a dispute arises about the existence or terms of the authorization. The dues deduction authorization remains in effect until the District receives notice from the Union that an employee has changed or canceled their authorization in writing in accordance with the terms of the original authorizing document.

The Union will indemnify the District for any successful claims made by an employee for unauthorized deductions made in reliance upon certification or information received from the Union.

- Within ten (10) calendar days from the date of hire of an employee, the District will provide the following contact information to the Union: name, job title, worksite location (including location within a facility when appropriate), home address, work telephone number, home and personal cell phone numbers on file with the District, date of hire, work email address, personal email address on file with the District, wage, number of hours normally scheduled in a day, number of duty days contracted for, and whether the position is a nine (9) month or twelve (12) month assignment. The District will provide this information to the Union in a format acceptable to the Union.



On request and every 120 calendar days the District shall provide to the Union in an Excel file or similar format agreed to by the Union the following information for all bargaining unit employees: name; job title; worksite location, including location within a facility when appropriate; home address; work telephone number; home and personal cell phone numbers on file with the District; date of hire; and work email address and personal email address on file with the District.

The District must notify an exclusive representative within ten (10) calendar days of the separation of employment or transfer out of the bargaining unit of a bargaining unit employee.

- Orientation meetings will be in pay status. The District will provide at least ten days notice in advance of an orientation. Orientation will be held in person.

The School District will provide the Union steward with the name and work location of each new employee when that employee begins work with the school district. The School District will also provide the union steward's name and work location to each new employee.

The District will allow a Union designated representative to meet in person with newly hired employees for thirty minutes within thirty calendar days from the date of hire, during new employee orientations or (if the District does not conduct new employee orientations) at individual or group meetings. All employees participating in these meet the union steward may meet the new employee 30 minutes before or after the orientation session. If the union steward is unable to meet with the new employee, they may meet virtually.


- The District will allow the Union to communicate with bargaining unit members using their employer-issued email addresses regarding collective bargaining, the administration of the collective bargaining agreement, the investigation of grievances, other workplace-related complaints and issues, and internal matters involving the governance or business of the Union, consistent with the District's generally applicable technology use policies.

The District will allow the Union to meet with bargaining unit members in District facilities regarding collective bargaining, the administration of the collective bargaining agreement, grievances and other workplace-related complaints and issues, and internal matters involving the governance or business of the Union, provided such use does not interfere with the District's business operations.

- Nutrition services employees will be granted one day of sick leave per month from September through May of each school year. Unused sick leave shall be allowed to accumulate to an unlimited amount. A day of sick leave shall be for the same number of hours as the employee is regularly scheduled to work.

A nutrition services employee may be required to submit a physician's certification of illness for absences of three consecutive days or more prior to returning to work. The final determination as to the eligibility of an employee for sick leave is reserved for the school district:

Sick leave may be used by an employee for illness, or for medical and/or dental appointments for immediate family members as defined in Minnesota Statute 181.9413 or legal guardian. Requests to have such family care leaves deducted from sick leave are to be directed to the Executive Director of Human Resources. The leave may be defined as Family Medical Leave of Absence (FMLA). The district does require that FMLA be deducted from accrued sick leave. For the purpose of sick leave usage, immediate family is defined as an employee's child



(including stepchild, biological child, adopted child, and foster child), adult child, spouse, domestic partner, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild (grandchild includes step-grandchild, biological grandchild, adopted and foster grandchildren), grandparent or stepparent.

- Pursuant to MN Statute 181.9413, employees may use accumulated sick leave benefits for absences due to safety leave for the employee's child, adult child, spouse, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent for reasonable periods of time as the employee's attendance may be necessary and on the same terms upon which the employee is able to use sick leave benefits for the employee's own illness or injury.
 - b. Safety Leave: assistance to the employee or assistance to the relatives of an employee for the purpose of providing or receiving assistance because of sexual assault, domestic abuse, or stalking. (MN Statute 181.9413).
 - c. The District may limit the use of safety leave benefits provided by the District for absences due to a safety leave for relatives as outlined above, to no less than one-hundred sixty (160) hours in any twelve (12) month period. This does not apply to the illness or injury of a child, as defined by MN Statute 181.940, subdivision 4.
- Nutrition services employees will receive ten (10) paid holidays and paid days off. Paid holidays and paid days off include: Friday of Teachers Convention, Thanksgiving, day after Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Jr. birthday, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday and Memorial Day and two (2) floaters scheduled on non-work days. Paid holidays cover all employees who work fourteen (14) hours or more per week.
- Eligibility for a paid holiday requires working the scheduled workday before or the scheduled work day after a holiday. Example: A Monday holiday requires attendance on Friday or Tuesday, and a Tuesday holiday requires attendance on Monday or Wednesday, except in case of serious illness. Employees who work summer feeding and Adventure Club program(s) shall also receive July 4th and Juneteenth as paid holidays if they work the day before or the day after Juneteenth or the Friday before or the Monday after the 4th of July week.

LICENSED STAFF - April 2, 2024

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Name	Building	Title		Effective Date
Palm, Tim	CHS	Physical Education		6/6/2024
Vandermeuse, Leslie M	MLE	Media Specialist		6/6/2024

NON-LICENSED STAFF - April 2, 2024**NEW HIRE**

Name	Building	Title	Step/Lane	Effective Date
Chanthorabout, Scott	ESC	Program Assistant	LV10, Step 5	03/25/2024
Holthus, Frederick	PMS	Service Employee	CU2, Step 3	04/02/2024
Mueller, Benjamin	SEA	Adventure Club EA	LV2, Step 3	04/08/2024
Ojo, Jasmine	RMS	Program Assistant	LV4, Step 6	03/25/2024

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Name	Building	Title	Effective Date
Newbern, Lesia	NPE	Special Ed EA	03/19/2024
Smith, Jr., Reginald	NOE	Tutor EA	03/22/2024

TERMINATION

Name	Building	Title	Effective Date
Gyetin, Marielle	PMS	Service Employee	03/22/2024
Yang, Rosie	RMS	EL EA	03/20/2024



March 20, 2024

Smart engineering of
roofs, walls, windows,
pavements
and waterproofing

Ms. Beth Schmiesing
Robbinsdale Area Schools
4148 Winnetka Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55427

RE: 2024 LTFM - Site Paving at the School of Engineering and Arts

Dear Ms. Schmiesing:

On March 14, 2024, competitive bids were received for the above-referenced project. Of the eleven bids received, Northwest Asphalt, Inc. submitted the lowest Base Bid in the amount of \$686,100, as well as the lowest combined bid for the Base Bid and Alternate No. 1, totaling \$712,700.

Our personnel contacted Mr. Charles Beauchamp from Northwest Asphalt, Inc. and he indicated that they would be able to perform the work as specified for the submitted bid amount. We have personal experience working with Northwest Asphalt, Inc. and feel that they are competent and qualified to perform the specified work.

Based on the above information, we recommend that Northwest Asphalt, Inc. be awarded the 2024 LTFM – Site Paving project at the School of Engineering and Arts.

Feel free to contact our office with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

INSPEC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Boelter".

Brent Boelter, P.E.
Project Manager

BB/bap

cc: Ms. Alissa Pier, Robbinsdale Area Schools
Ms. Valerie Milinkovich, Robbinsdale Area Schools

Enclosure: Bid Tabulation

5801 Duluth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55422
Ph. 763-546-3434
Fax 763-546-8669

Chicago

Milwaukee

Minneapolis

www.inspec.com

BID TABULATION

*Preliminary Bid Tabulation -
Bids are Contingent Upon Further
Review*



OWNER: Robbinsdale Area Schools

PROJECT: 2024 LTFM - Site Paving at the School of Engineering and Arts

BID DATE / TIME: March 14, 2024 at 2:00 PM Project # 215730

CONTRACTOR	Attachments		Bid Security	Base Bid	Add Alternate E1	Unit Price 1 (Per C.Y.)
	A	A-1				
Northwest Asphalt	✓	✓	✓	\$686,100.00	\$26,600.00	\$37.00
Park Construction	✓	✓	✓	\$798,061.00	\$8,137.00	\$46.00
GMH Asphalt	✓	✓	✓	\$780,300.00	\$25,900.00	\$55.00
MN Utilities & Excavating	✓	✓	✓	\$787,450.00	\$30,700.00	\$60.00
New Look Contracting	✓	✓	✓	\$799,450.00	\$28,000.00	\$28.00
Veit & Company	✓	✓	✓	\$819,920.00	\$31,340.00	\$32.00
MN Roadways	✓	✓	✓	\$838,500.00	\$23,430.00	\$47.00
Bituminous Roadways	✓	✓	✓	\$837,170.00	\$27,480.00	\$60.00
Meyer Contracting	✓	✓	✓	\$848,028.80	\$27,519.45	\$97.84
Omann Contracting	✓	✓	✓	\$849,950.00	\$27,165.00	\$38.50
Urban Companies	✓	✓	✓	\$1,105,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$30.00

Announcements | April 2, 2024

Superintendent Interviews - Semifinalists - Round 1

Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 8:00 a.m.

Governance Policy Committee

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

No School - Compensatory Day

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Superintendent Interviews - Finalists - Round 2

Thursday, April 11, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.

*Visit the district calendar on our website for additional details on these meeting/events.
Visit our school websites for activities and sporting event details.*



School Board of Robbinsdale Area Schools

Business Meeting – April 2, 2024

AGENDA SECTION: Adjournment

ITEM: 6. Adjournment of Business Meeting

COMMENTS BY: ReNae Bowman, School Board Chair

Recommended Action: Adjourn the business meeting.

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Abstentions: _____