

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Independent School District No. 820  
Sebeka, MN 56477  
Regular meeting February 9, 2026

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Jeannie Arthur, Rodney Huttunen, Cheri Kangas, Eric Nelson (virtually) and JoAnn Olson. Absent: Nathan Erickson and Kayla Frame. Also present were Superintendent Dave Kerkvliet; Principal Amie Westberg; staff member Melissa Koch and Review Messenger Reporter Dave Hanson.

NOTE: All motions will be by roll call vote due to Eric Nelson attending virtually.

Kangas moved, Arthur seconded to approve the agenda with the following additions: 6.3 Discussion of Adding Capital Note Sale to the LTFM Sale; 7.5.2 Approve Resignation Homecoming Co-Advisor Melissa Koch; and 9.5 Approve Motion to Direct the Superintendent to Provide an Amended Resolution for the 2026 Bond Issue. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Under Visitor Comments, Simon Pettersson from “Subject” Online school virtually presented information on “Subject” noting that it is a 6th-12th grade curriculum source for an online option. He explained that “Subject is a 6th-12th full course curriculum with four different pillars including 1) an initial credit for 6th - 12th grade students; 2) invoicing based on seat numbers; 3) certified teacher of record; and 4) every course comes in different languages.

Business Manager Holly Paulson reported that W-2s were available online through SmartER for those that had consented and paper copies have been given to employees and were mailed out; working on ACA Forms 1095 for health insurance coverage for calendar year 2025 to employees; Minnesota Paid Leave Plan through Madison National Life has been implemented and is currently processing claims; submitted for reimbursements for Title I (\$43,346.17) Title II (\$6,271.26) & Title IV (\$3,723.73 for expenditures through December 2025 noting that all funds have been received and attended a Quarterly Business Manager meeting at Freshwater and will be attending the Quarterly Payroll Networking meeting at Freshwater on February 19th.

Jon Lillquist’s AD report included the following: the school received a MSHSL Grant Type A in the amount of \$1726; resignation of Jerome Meyer as Co-Head Softball Coach; and Spring Sports Coaches: Track - Head Tom Smith, Assistants Ed Heltunen and Thor Johnson; Baseball - Head Jeff Lake, Assistant Reggie Kiser, Jr High Jason Steinke and Tanner Burgau; Softball - Head Coach Jon Lillquist, Assistant Madison Kurzenberger, Jr High Ryan Tuorila; and Golf - Head Tim Wurdock, Assistants Becca Pulju.

Principal Westberg reported on Career Week the week of February 9th taking place with seniors doing job shadowing or college visits all week; juniors will either job shadow or do a college visit on Wednesday; sophomores visiting Moorhead and M/State; freshmen visiting M/State in Wadena, Kern Laser and the Perham Stockyards and 7th & 8th graders participating in a STEMbound expo; and Thursday will be the Career Exploration Day; Mrs Kern and Mrs. Westberg presented at the February state Lead CTE Network and reviewed information regarding the Regional Health Science Career Academy through Sourcewell and attended the annual MESPA Institute conference.

Superintendent Kerkvliet noted that the Sebeka Foundation presented their organization at the homecoming coronation and informed the board that their intent is to support the school however they can; reviewed MREA’s legislative platform, meetings attended at the MSBA winter conference; and MASA continues to lobby for continued support at the federal level in regards to Title program funding; working with custodial staff to discuss possibilities for their department; attended the Region 5 MASA meeting at Sourcewell; reviewed Freshwater’s budget revision and an assessment manual revision; received a report from PELSB that we had no violations on the STAR report; and Tom Smith acquired \$4,699 of Perkins funding for a DFT (Direct to Film) printer for our Industrial Technology area.

Under Discussion Items, Mrs. Westberg provided an update on the online school planning status and noted that after meeting with “Subject” (the online school platform), that this will support and fit our system better and relieve some teacher curriculum design pressure; Superintendent Kerkvliet and board members who attended the MSBA convention in January reviewed some of the meetings they attended; and Superintendent Kerkvliet discussed adding a Capital Note Sale to the LTFM sale to help cover the cost of buses.

Olson moved, Kangas seconded to approve the following consent agenda items with the exception of 7.5.1 Resignation of Math Instructor Wade Hudriede and 7.5.2 Resignation of Homecoming Co-Advisor Melissa Koch: January 12th Reorganizational and regular meeting minutes; Treasurer and Investment report for February 2026; monthly bills at \$679,597.73; and K-12 enrollment of 413 students. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Olson moved, Arthur seconded to approve the resignation of High School Math Instructor Wade Hukriede and thanked him for his years of service to Sebeka School. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Olson moved, Kangas seconded to approve the resignation of Melissa Koch as Co-Homecoming Advisor and thanked her for her years of service to the Homecoming program. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Arthur moved, Kangas seconded to approve the following donations: \$500 from Community First Bank of Menahga and Sebeka to the Track Program; \$500 from Rose Haven Assisted Living, Inc to the Track Program; \$200 from C&C to Choir for Santa Day performance; and Homecoming: Community First Bank of Sebeka and Menahga - \$125; Review Messenger - out of state newspaper subscription; Hub 71 - \$100 in gift cards; Kinnunen Agency - \$50; AIM Chiropractic - \$100; West Central Telephone Association - 4 insulated tumblers (\$200 value); Anderson Homes - sweatshirt and stocking hat (value unknown); Civic and Commerce Association of Sebeka - \$250; Subway of Wadena - two party platters to feed royal court (unsure of \$ amount); Olson Ag - two shirts and gift certificates (I think the gift cards were a total of \$50, not sure of shirts); Zack Kreklau/Ameriprise - \$50; Johnson and Son Well Drilling - 3 insulated tumblers and 3 caps (unsure of \$ value) and Super One of Wadena - \$25 gift card. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Olson moved, Arthur seconded to approve the resolution for the district's proportionate share of LTFM to Freshwater Education District #6004 noting that ISD 820's proportionate share is \$3,815.10 for pay as you go projects. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Kangas moved, Arthur seconded to approve the first reading of the 2026-2027 school calendar Option C noting that school will start on Tuesday, September 8th and the last student day will be on May 28th with graduation on May 28th. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Olson moved, Kangas seconded to approve the updated online school plan of "Subject" as presented by Simon Pettersson under 3.0 Visitor and Delegation comments. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Arthur moved, Olson seconded to approve a motion to direct the superintendent to provide an amended resolution for the 2026 bond Issue to help pay for buses. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Arthur moved, Kangas seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:41p.m. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson (virtually) and Olson; against: none; absent: Erickson and Frame; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

JoAnn Olson,  
Clerk of Sebeka School District