Minutes of Regular Meeting

Board of Education
Mahtomedi Public Schools

A **Regular** meeting of the Board of Education of the Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Monday, December 15, 2025,** beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center - Community Room.

1. COMMENTS TO THE BOARD

   Visitors attending the meeting who wish to address the school board on any issue that is on the agenda may do so at this time. Please refer to the last page for the procedure that has been established for public comments.

   Name(s) of visitor: *Topic:*

   No Comments.
2. CALL TO ORDER

   The meeting was called to order by Chair Stacey Stout at 7:00 p.m.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE.

   Present: Ryan Domin, Paul Donna, Jenny Peterson, Kelly Reagan, Stacey Stout and Drew Whitson.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

   Domin motioned, Whitson seconded, Approval of the Agenda. Carried 6-0.

6. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA - See #14 for Consent Agenda Items

   Peterson motioned, Reagan seconded, Approval of the Consent Agenda. Carried 6-0.

7. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

   A. Mahtomedi High School – Ann Garry

      Justin Hahn, Principal of Mahtomedi High School, recognized Teacher Ann Garry for her dedication and work for Mahtomedi High School and the staff. Student Ruby

Stembridge also expressed her gratitude regarding Mrs. Garry's being her Spanish teacher.

Kelly Reagan left at 7:20 p.m.

8. REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

A. Matt Studenski reported the following: Family movie night was a huge success, with the movie "Bad Guys 2"; SLC hosted the Winter Parents' Night Out, which was Candyland-themed; and Bingo was held during Thanksgiving Break. Middle School. The Zephyr Service Project is underway, and wrapping will happen this week with SLC students. At the High School, Mr. Lane had a "Day in the Life of a Sophomore student" for the day, and Studenski noted the article on Instagram about Bird watching and thanked Alice Seuffert, Director of Communications, and Nora Slawick, MAEF Executive Director, for the post.

9. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin reported the following: Duffrin recognized Matt Studenski's work in encouraging students to speak during staff recognition, which was a goal of Studenski's. Around the District included a student and staff focus group on Portrait of a Graduate; The Zephyr Service Project had a record donation of $8600; and the Winter-Spring 2026 Community Education Catalog has been recently mailed out. Duffrin noted that the number of students recognized for State Choir Awards, and that the Mahtomedi Middle School production of *Into the Woods* received state-level honors in Achievement in Musical Theatre and Outstanding Technical Production. The Mahtomedi City Council recognized the State Championship Mahtomedi Girls Soccer Team, as well as Senator Karin Housley, at the State Capitol. Upcoming events include the school's dates when Mahtomedi will not be in session and the Kindergarten Open House on January 22, 2025.

10. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Board Member Calendar of Events

School Board member calendar was reviewed.

11. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Donations/Grants for October 2025 totaling $36,961.24 and November 2025 Totaling $100,734.13.

Peterson motioned, Domin seconded, Approval of Donations/Grants for October 2025 totaling $36,961,24 and November 2025 Totaling $100,734.13. Carried 5-0.

1. White Bear Rotary Foundation for Interact Club Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $150.00 (October Donation)
2. Ludus Technologies for Theatre Donations to Mahtomedi High School - $81.83 (October Donation)
3. Private Parties for HS Choir Butterbraid Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $6467.00 (October Donation)
4. Private Parties for HS Choir Butterbraid Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $5594.00
5. Chipotle for Girls Tennis fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $141.33 (October Donation)
6. Chipotle for Girls Soccer fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $200.30 (October Donation)
7. Athletic Rehab & Performance LLC for Girls Soccer donation to Mahtomedi High School - $250.00 (October Donation)
8. Rhianon LLC for Girls Soccer donation to Mahtomedi High School - $100.00 (October Donation)
9. Goldwood Kennels for Girls Soccer donation to Mahtomedi High School - $250.00 (October Donation)
10. MMI Inc. for Girls Soccer donation to Mahtomedi High School - $250.00 (October Donation)
11. Parchment an Instructure Company for HS fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $ 217.52 (October Donation)
12. Mahtomedi Softball Booster Club for Softball bow net bags to Mahtomedi High School - $43.98 (October Donation)
13. Blackbaud Giving Fund for Matching Gift Program to District Wide - $112.50 (October Donation)
14. Gertens for DC Trip Fundraiser to Mahtomedi Middle School – $2284.64 (October Donation)
15. Private Parties for 2nd Grade field trip donations to Wildwood Elementary - $1802.00 (October Donation)
16. Private Parties for 1st grade special events to Wildwood Elementary - $1653.00 (October Donation)
17. Private Parties for Kindergarten Special Events to Wildwood Elementary - $1540.00 (October Donation)
18. Panera LLC for Fundraiser Night to District Wide - $79.45 (October Donation)
19. Private Parties for Kindergarten Special Events to Wildwood Elementary - $810.00 (October Donation)
20. Private Parties for 1st Grade special events to Wildwood Elementary - $810.00 (October Donation)
21. Private Parties for 5th Grade donations to O.H. Anderson Elementary - $120.00 (October Donation)

22. Jeanne and James Blasena to Hall for Fame donation to Mahtomedi High School - $50.00 (October Donation)
23. Private Parties for Football Coupon Card Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $1995.00 (October Donation)
24. Snap Mobile Inc for Girls Soccer fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $11,192.80 (October Donation)
25. MAEF for Backpack snack program to District Wide - $500.00 (October Donation)
26. Chipotle for DC Trip Fundraiser to Mahtomedi Middle School - $507.89 (October Donation)
27. Private Parties for Kindergarten Special Events to Wildwood Elementary - $255.00 (October Donation)
28. Private Parties for 2nd grade field trip donations to Wildwood Elementary - $63.00 (October Donation)
29. Darren and Jessica Carlson for Boys Basketball fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $2274.30 (October Donation)
30. Blackbaud matching gift fund for Boston Scientific donation to O.H. Anderson - $59.16 (November donation)
31. Private Parties for Kash 4 Kidz Fundraiser to Mahtomedi Middle School - $1839.59 (November Donation)
32. Blackbaud matching gift fund for Matching gift donation to District Wide - $45.00 (November Donation)
33. CF Cossak Foundation for High School Gym upgrades to Mahtomedi High School -$87,191.36 (November Donation)
34. Private Parties for 2nd Grade Fieldtrip to Wildwood Elementary - $101.00 (November Donation)
35. Evening Star Quilters for Community Education Building donation to Community Education - $1000.00 (November Donation)
36. Private Parties for Kash 4 Kidz fundraiser to Mahtomedi Middle School - $3093.48 (November Donation)
37. Private Parties for 2nd grade field trip to Wildwood Elementary - $150.00 (November Donation)
38. Region 4AA MN State HS League for Swim Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $1000.00 (November Donation)
39. Stillwater Elks Lodge 179 for Boys Wrestling fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $750.00 (November Donation)
40. Forest Heights Improvement Inc for Football Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $500.00 (November Donation)
41. Lisa O'Donnell for HS Band Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $250.00 (November Donation)
42. Jonathan and Jodi Bjorkman for Girls Soccer Donation to Mahtomedi High

School - $75.00 (November Donation)

43. USTA Northern for Girls Tennis Fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $500.00 (November Donation)
44. Darren and Jessica Carlson for Boys Basketball fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $1155.24 (November Donation)
45. Henseler & Kocian Orthodontics PA for Boys Basketball fundraiser to Mahtomedi High School - $250.00 (November Donation)
46. Woodchuck Tree Care for Gymnastics Donation to Mahtomedi High School - $500.00 (November Donation)

B. Truth-in-Taxation Presentation Hearing

Tim Erickson, Director of Business Services, presented to the School Board the Truth and Taxation for taxes payable in 2026, funding the 2026-2027 School Year. Erickson reviewed the levy deadline process that included notifying MDE with election results, the deadline for Schools to adopt the final property tax levy and submitting the Certificate of Truth in Taxation Compliance to the Department of Revenue by December 30. for compliance. Erickson discussed the tax levies that include voter approved levies, such as operating referendum and building improvement and discretionary levies, consisting of Long-Term Maintenance, Safe Schools and Lease levies. Erickson spoke on the November 4 Voter approved operating referendum that will now be $575 per pupil, will raise about $2M to help cover inflationary costs and to keep programming and class sizes. The approved bond referendum will fund security at all buildings, middle school front office construction, multiple projects at the High School including a wider handprint hallway, new weight room, flexible learning space and performing arts projects. The installation of new turf and lights will also be done on Field 1. Erickson then spoke about levy drivers of change that include enrollment, revenues and expenditures, MDE corrections in reports and the passing of the operation referendum. The proposed Pay 2026 levy will be around $20.4M, which includes the new operating and bond addition. Erickson displayed a chart for residential tax impact on a $527,300 home and how it will raise taxes by $475 dollars. Erickson then reviewed the Preliminary Budget from June 2025 that was already approved. Erickson then asked the School Board to approve the final levy certification at $20,413,120.81.

1. Truth-in-Taxation Public Comment

   No public comment

2. Approval to Certify Pay Levy 2025-2026

   Domin motioned, Whitson seconded; Approval to Certify Pay Levy 2025-2026. Carried 5-0.

C. Approval of Resolution Stating The Intention of the School District To Issue General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2026A, In The Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of $28,535,000; And Taking Other Actions With Respect Thereto.

Jody Zesbaugh, Senior Municipal Advisor from Ehlers Financials Inc, walked through the Presale Report with the School Board. Zesbaugh reviewed the Summary of Proposed Debt, including the Proposed Issue to split the voter-approved authority of $28,535,000 into two issues, with $14M issued in early 2026 and the remaining $14,535,000 issued later. This was suggested due to the draw schedule from World Architects, which states that most work would be done in 2027. The split issue would save approximately $500,000 in debt service. Zesbaugh then reviewed the debt issuance schedule, which includes the Pre-sale report, the sale of bids on January 5, a suggested date to Ratify the Award of Sale of Bonds, and the estimated closing. Zesbaugh then reviewed the series of attachments, including the estimates from the Review and Comment schedule for the Sources and Uses Fund under the Voter-Approved School Building Bonds. Zesbaugh also reviewed the Debt Service Schedule, the Estimate Prior to Bond Sale for Tax Rates, and the 20-year bond buyer index. The recommendation is to split with two issuances on January 5, 2026, being the date to go out for bid at a 4.5% rate or less. The school board gave directions to change the date after January 5 with two issuances

Domin motioned, Peterson seconded, Approval of Resolution Stating The Intention of the School District To Issue General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2026A, In The Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of $28,535,000; And Taking Other Actions With Respect Thereto. Carried 5-0.

12. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) Board

School Board Director Paul Donna reported from the meeting on December 5 where he sent out the notes. Donna spoke on their legislative platform and how Stillwater banned cellphones from bell to bell.

B. Mahtomedi Area Educational Fund (MAEF)

Superintendent Duffrin noted that there was not a meeting since the last November meeting due to weather.

C. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Legislative Liaison

School Board Director Jenny Peterson had no report. Chair Stacey Stout mentioned that if you want to attend the MSBA Conference, to make sure you advise Leslie Lovas

D. Northeast Metro 916 Board

School Board Director Stacey Stout will send out talking points at a later date.

E. Other Items/Reports

Community Education- Director Paul Donna reported about the new Community Education Winter Spring Catalog, the fee schedule change, and Alice Seuffer, Director of Communications, being a mentor to Nori Ness, Communications and Engagement Coordinator.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Domin motioned, Peterson seconded, Adjournment. Carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

14. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Items Approved Under #6)

A. Approval of Minutes

1. November 10, 2025 – Regular Meeting

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

C. Approval to Pay Bills

1. AP Check Register – Check No. Check No. 424125 to 424332 and 9800016469 to 9800016581

D. Approval of Wire Transfer Transactions

E. Personnel

1. Approval of Contracts and Work Agreements
   a. Shelby Korluka – Kindergarten Teacher – LTS – Wildwood Elementary (01/05/2026-03/27/2026)
   b. Katie Malek - Receptionist - O.H. Anderson Elementary (12/11/2025)
   c. Rachel Whitehurst -SPED Paraprofessional - Wildwood Elementary (12/22/2025)
   d. MEA Teacher Contract 25-27
2. Approval of Leaves of Absence
   a. Emily Duffy - Grade 1 Teacher - Wildwood Elementary (01/13/2025-06/05/2025)
   b. Robert Hammer - Custodian - O.H Anderson Elementary (11/24/2025 - 12/22/2025
3. Approval of Resignations/Terminations/Nonrenewal/Retirements
   a. Addison Burke - Preschool Associate - Wildwood Elementary (12/18/2025)
   b. Analise LaFrinier - Social Worker - Mahtomedi High School (12/19/2025)
   c. Brent Skaja - Lunchroom Paraprofessional - O.H. Anderson Elementary

(12/23/2025)

d. Tonya Voight - Receptionist - O.H. Anderson Elementary (12/12/2025)

F. Approval of Student Overnight Trips

1. Boys Hockey, Cloquet, Eveleth, Hibbing, MN - December 19-20, 2025
2. Youth in Government, Minneapolis, MN - January 8 - 11, 2026

Paul Donna, Acting CLERK