

Fillmore Central School
Board of Education
Special Meeting
August 6, 2025

The special meeting of the Board of Education for Independent District #2198, Preston, Minnesota was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the evening of Wednesday, August 6, 2025, in the Fillmore Central Elementary School meeting room by Chairperson Pickett. Present: Superintendent Heath Olstad, Business Manager Darla Ebner, Board Members: Britton, Mathison, Michel, Pickett, Sikkink and Topness. Absent: Schwarz. Visitors: none.

Recognition of visitors: none.

Sikkink moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Topness. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Britton moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution AMENDING RESOLUTION Establishing Combined Polling Places For Multiple Precincts And Designating Hours During Which The Polling Places Will Remain Open For Voting For School District Elections Not Held On The Day Of A Statewide Election

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board (the Board) of Independent School District No. 2198, State of Minnesota as follows:

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for school district elections are those precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. This Board hereby confirms those precincts and polling places so established by those municipalities.
2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, this Board may establish a combined polling place for several precincts for School District elections not held on the day of a statewide election. Each combined polling place must be a polling place that has been designated by a county or municipality.
3. Pursuant to a resolution adopted on December 17, 2024 (the Combined Polling Places Resolution), the Board established the combined polling places to serve the precincts specified for all School District special and general elections not held on the same day as a statewide election as the Fillmore Central District Office and the Fillmore Central High School.
4. Subsequently, the School District was informed by Fillmore County that the High School is not a designated polling place and, as such, the High School cannot be a combined polling place. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 205A.11, no designation of a new or different polling place becomes effective less than 90 days prior to an election unless a polling place “becomes unavailable for use.” For the November 4, 2025 election, this means any change must occur on or before August 6, 2025.
5. After conferring with the Secretary of State’s office, the School District filed a petition in Fillmore County District Court for correction of an error related to an election pursuant to

Minnesota Statutes 204B.44. The petition requested approval to change the High School polling place to the Harmony Community Building. A hearing on that petition was held August 6, 2025.

6. The Court granted the School District's petition on August 6, 2025, approving the choice of the Harmony Community Building as a combined polling place and ordering the School District to provide notice of that designation by:

- a. Sending a notice to every affected household with at least one registered voter in the form a nonforwardable mailed notice;
- b. Posting a written notice at the School District Office at the high school;
- c. Publishing the Notice of Special Election (with the correct combined polling place information) in the School District's official newspaper for two consecutive weeks prior to the special election;
- d. Posting the Notice of Special Election at the School District Office.

7. Accordingly, the Board hereby amends the Combined Polling Places Resolution to establish the following combined polling places to serve the precincts specified for all School District special and general elections not held on the same day as a statewide election:

Combined Polling Place(s)

Fillmore Central ISD #2198 District Office, 700 Chatfield St, Preston, MN 55965

This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 2198 located in the City of Preston, City of Fountain and Chatfield, Carrolton, Fountain, Preston, Forestville, Carimona Townships, in Fillmore County, Minnesota.

Harmony Community Building, 225 Third Ave. SW, Harmony, MN 55939

This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 2198 located in the City of Harmony and Amherst, Bristol, Canton, Harmony, and York Townships in Fillmore County, Minnesota.

8. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.09, the polling places will remain open for voting for School District elections not held on the same day as the statewide election between the hours of 3:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.

9. The clerk is directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the county auditors of each of the counties in which the School District is located, in whole or in part, as soon as possible after its adoption.

10. As required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204B.16, Subdivision 1a, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to give written notice of new polling place locations to each affected household with at least one registered voter in the School District whose School District polling place location has been changed. The notice must be a nonforwardable notice mailed at least twenty-five (25) days before the date of the first election to which it will apply. A notice that is returned as undeliverable must be forwarded immediately to the appropriate county auditor, who shall change the registrant's status to "challenged" in the statewide registration system.

11. The School District's election clerk is hereby authorized and directed to perform all actions necessary to comply with the Court's order.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Topness.

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Britton, Mathison, Michel, Pickett, Sikkink, Topness

and the following voted against: None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Michel moved to approve the replacement of 15 windows at the elementary school by Yoder's Contracting LLC (\$22,480.00). Motion seconded by Sikkink. Motion carried unanimously. (*Other quote(s) received from Nolan Lumber*)

Topness moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere JZ950M ZTrak lawn mower from Preston Equipment (\$10,395.00). The quote received includes the trade-in of the district's current zero turn mower. Motion seconded by Sikkink. Motion carried unanimously. (*Other quote(s) received from Run Right Power Equipment*)

Sikkink moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mathison. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Topness
Clerk, Independent School District #2198

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