

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA
APRIL 21, 2025**

A regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, was held in the High School Media Center on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.)

OPEN FORUM – Lauren Berglund talked about a new non-profit organization that she leads. It is called “Girls Who Code” and consists of 6 girls in 5th/6th grade. They meet two times per week for one hour and she is hoping to expand the program next year.

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK Crystal Studer, Dean Meshke, Brady Hullopeter,
Jon Sunde, Melissa Stoen, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, High School Principal, High School
Associate Principal, Elementary Principal, Members of the BPTA,
Members of the Press, & Student Representatives

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Reports given by Mr. Schwarz, Mr. Worke, & Ms. Mach.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

**A. Minutes, Bills, Treasurer’s Report, Resignations/Terminations,
Maternity/Paternity/Medical Leaves, and Donations**

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve items in the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

B. Employment

Motion by Crystal Studer and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve Annalise Hullopeter as a long-term substitute teacher for Hannah Hessler while she is out on maternity leave. Placement will be at BA Step 0 of the master contract with a start date of April 14, 2025.

Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay-Hullopeter Abstained)

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve Taylor Wagner as a Special Education Teacher for the 2025-26 school year. Placement will be at BA Step 5 of the master contract. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

C. Volunteer Coaches

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Brady Hullopetter to approve Mark Lee as a volunteer baseball coach this spring. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

D. Resolution for MSHSL

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the MSHSL Resolution for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

E. Title I Resolution

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve the Title I Resolution for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

F. Student Insurance Program

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve participating in the “Student Assurance Services, Inc.” voluntary insurance coverage program for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye /0 Nay)

G. Education Identity & Access Management Resolution

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the Education Identity and Access Management Board Resolution. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

H. Speech Therapy Service Contract

Motion by Crystal Studer and seconded by Brady Hullopetter to approve the Speech Partners, LLC contract at a rate of \$88.79 per hour for the 2025-26 school year (3.5% increase). Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

I. Roof Top Unit #2 – Elementary

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Brady Hullopetter to approve working with MMC to install the Daikin unit to replace our current roof top unit #2 at the elementary school. Motion carried with a roll call vote. (7 Aye: Studer, Meshke, Hullopetter, Sunde, Stoen, Krell, Braaten/0 Nay)

J. Steele County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative Grant Application – FY26

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve the FY26 grant for \$58,240 from Steele County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative to fund a school mental health worker. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

K. Pre-School Fees

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve the increase in Pre-School fees. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

L. Sports Fees

Motion by Crystal Studer and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve the family max increase for extracurricular fees from \$400 to \$450. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

M. Buy-Back Program (Apple Devices)

Motion by Brady Hullopeter and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve entering into an agreement with Mac of All Trades to buy back our Apple devices. Motion carried with a roll call vote. (7 Aye: Studer, Meshke, Hullopeter, Sunde, Stoen, Krell, Braaten/0 Nay)

N. Additional Building Project Contract Approvals

None at this time.

O. Acceptance of Bids

None at this time.

P. Rejection of Bids

None at this time.

Q. Equipment Purchases

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve working with Wenger Corporation to purchase various furniture and equipment for the Performing Arts Center totaling \$51,297.05. Motion carried with a roll call vote.

(7 Aye: Studer, Meshke, Hullopeter, Sunde, Stoen, Krell, Braaten/0 Nay)

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Brady Hullopeter to approve the Centruy Fencing quote of \$43,515 for outfield fencing and sideline fencing for our new baseball and new softball fields. Motion carried with a roll call vote. (7 Aye: Studer, Meshke, Hullopeter, Sunde, Stoen, Krell, Braaten/0 Nay)

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

A. Radon Testing

IEA conducted radon testing one month ago in our facilities. All tests came back with no issues.

B. Pre-School Enrollment

We have 14 students on the waitlist for 4-year-old Pre-School. We are hoping to add a second section to accommodate these students.

C. Building Project Financial Report

Final funds will go towards the roofing at the elementary school.

D. Committee Reports

A committee report was given for the following committees: Education Foundation, Steele County Collaborative, and ZED.

E. Enrollment Data

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year per JMC as of April 15, 2025 was 334 at the elementary school (grades K-4) and 519 at the intermediate/high school (grades 5-12) with approximately 12 PSEO students.

F. Dates to Note

April 17	No School/Teacher Inservice
April 18	Easter Break

April 21	Easter Break
April 22	No School/Teacher Inservice
May 23	Graduation Practice/Last Day for Seniors at 12:15 p.m.
May 30	Last Day of School - Students Dismissed at 12:45 p.m. Graduation 6:30 p.m.
June 2	Teacher In-Service (1/2 Day)

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

-Melissa & Crystal will meet to potentially update our current committee lists.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Dean Meshke to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.
Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 6:00 a.m. in the High School Board Room.

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Meeting will be on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center. (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).

A complete copy of the official minutes may be found in their entirety in the official minute book located in the superintendent's office at the high school; however, they will not be available until approved by the School Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Stoen
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota