

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756  
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA  
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

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, November 18, 2024, at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.)

**OPEN FORUM** – United Way is offering a new uplift program which includes educational engagement and parent help. Smith Schafer presented the audit.

**I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL - CLERK** Jenny Thurnau, Melissa Stoen, Rodney Krell,  
Kelly Braaten, Crystal Studer, Dean Meshke

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools, High School Principal, High School Associate Principal, & Members of the Press

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jon Sunde

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

Reports given by Mr. Worke and Ms. Mach.

**VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED**

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

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve items in the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**B. Employment**

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve Sandra Basness as a high school paraprofessional. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve Rodney Lund as the intermediate/high school night custodian. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve Tanya Fennell as the piano accompanist for the 2024 musical, “Beauty and the Beast”. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve Alex Miller as the JH Boys Basketball Coach. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**C. Volunteer Coaches**

None at this time.

**D. District Audit**

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the 2023-24 district audit. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**E. Health Insurance Carrier/Bids**

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve our health insurance carrier as United Healthcare for calendar year 2025. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**F. Health Insurance MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding)**

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Crystal Studer to approve the health insurance MOU's. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**G. Annual Election Resolution**

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the annual election resolution establishing polling places. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**H. Additional Building Project Contract Approvals**

None at this time.

**I. Acceptance of Bids**

None at this time.

**J. Rejection of Bids**

None at this time.

**K. Equipment Purchases**

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the purchase of a new combi oven through Hubert Company. Motion carried with a roll call vote. (6 Aye: Thurnau, Stoen, Krell, Braaten, Studer, Meshke/0 Nay)

**VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY**

**A. 2025-26 Calendar**

The 2025-26 calendar was discussed and will be on the December agenda for approval.

**B. Achievement & Integration**

The report was submitted two weeks ago. We will look at how our programming supports us in STEAM and Ag.

**C. World's Best Workforce/Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness**

The focus is on five goals that we look at from year to year. We are on track and meeting our goals. We are showing growth and improvement and the science scores have increased.

#### **D. Building Project Financial Report**

There is still a positive fund balance to wrap up all the little things.

#### **E. Committee Reports**

A committee report was given for the following committees: Education Foundation & Wellness.

#### **F. Enrollment Data**

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year per JMC as of November 12, 2024 was 327 at the elementary school (grades K-4) and 522 at the intermediate/high school (grades 5-12) with approximately 12 PSEO students.

#### **G. Dates to Note**

Nov 14	School Board Work Session at 6:00 a.m.
Nov 18	School Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Nov 25	Blood Drive
Nov 27	Teacher Inservice/No School
Nov 28	Thanksgiving Holiday/No School
Nov 29	Thanksgiving Holiday/No School
Dec 6	Elementary Holiday Concert
Dec 12	School Board Work Session at 6:00 a.m.
Dec 16	School Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m.
Dec 20	Teacher Inservice/No School
Dec 23-Jan 1	Christmas Holiday Break
Jan 2	Classes Resume

### **VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS**

- Thanked John Bruns for his JV Softball Coach dedication.
- Thanked Kari, Nicole, & Aimee for making the audit go smoothly.
- Looking for an elementary paraprofessional.
- The first listening session with staff was held for the first rounds of strategic planning. Eight more listening sessions are scheduled at this time.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Dean Meshke and seconded by Melissa Stoen to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.  
Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

**Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 6:00 a.m. in the High School Board Room.**

**Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Meeting will be Monday, December 16, 2024 at 5:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center. (Open Forum begins at 5:00 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