

2023

# COMMUNITY NEWS

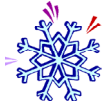


*Serving Northern Minnesota Communities  
Hill City, Jacobson, and Swatara*



Articles in this  
Newsletter:

School Board  
Minutes



School News



Student News

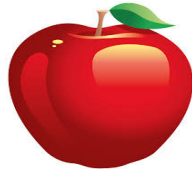


Hill City  
Community News



Lunch  
/Activity  
Calendars

## MS. HUUSKO'S



## MINUTE..



We made it through quarter one and well into midterms of quarter two, and I still love my job!



The Veteran's Day Program was a success. The students were very well behaved and the speaker was amazing. I am very proud to be part of a school with such a wonderful program. Thanks to Laurie Holm and the Swarm for doing a great job at organizing the event.

The winter sports season is underway and I am looking forward to attending boys and girls basketball games. Good luck this season!

Thank you to the elementary students and Mrs. Canella for working hard and getting ready for the Christmas Concert.

After Christmas break we are going to ask that ALL parents in grades 2-12 drop and pick up their child in the commons area unless special arrangements are made with the principal.



Have a safe and Happy Holiday!!

Jay Zapzalka, Chairman  
67880 353rd Ave  
Hill City, MN 55748

Joell Miranda, Clerk  
PO Box 253  
Hill City, MN 55748

Bambi Lange, Treasurer  
505 Ione Ave  
Hill City, MN 55748

Mark Meyer, Vice Chair  
PO Box 42  
Hill City, MN 55748

Ron Saxton  
33528 St. Hwy 200  
Hill City, MN 55748

Rich Kingsley  
67889 353rd Ave  
Hill City, MN 55748

## Committee Assignments for 2022

### Committee

MSHSL

Negotiations Committee

Curriculum Committee

Community Education Advisory Council  
Meet and Confer

Staff Development

School and Community Health Team

Recertification Committee

Comparable Worth

Safety/Transportation Committee

Athletic Advisory Committee

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative

Policy Committee

### Representative

Mark Meyer

Jay Zapzalka, Mark Meyer,  
(Rich Kingsley, Alt.)

Joell Miranda (Bambi Lange, Alt.)

Mark Meyer (Bambi Lange, Alt.)

Bambi Lange and Joell Miranda  
(Ron Saxton, Alt.)

Joell Miranda and Jay Zapzalka

Joell Miranda and Ron Saxton

Bambi Lange

Jay Zapzalka

Mark Meyer and Jay Zapzalka

Jay Zapzalka and Mark Meyer  
(Rich Kingsley, Alt.)

Bambi Lange and Mark Meyer

Bambi Lange and Ron Saxton

## For School Closings and Emergency Information Broadcasts

### **RADIO STATIONS**

RADIO USA	99.9 FM
KOZY Grand Rapids	1320 AM
	93.1 FM
KMFY Grand Rapids	96.9 FM
WTBX Grand Rapids	93.9 FM
KAXE Grand Rapids	91.7 FM
KBAJ	105.5 FM

### **INSTANT ALERT**

**Infinite Campus' Voice  
Messenger system will  
call parents between  
5:00 - 6:00 a.m. for  
school closings.**

### **TV STATIONS**

WDIO/WIRT  
KDLH  
KBJR  
WCCO

### **Community Newsletter Deadline**

Just a reminder, if you would like an article put in the Community Newsletter, it must be turned in to the school office by the 15th of the month to be put in the following months' newsletter. Newsletters are usually uploaded to the website around the 25th of the month. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact Jessica at (218) 697-2394, ext. 101.



the communities we serve. Free and confidential 24 hour Crisis Line:

**Call 218-326-5008 or 1-866-747-5008**

MEDICAL/LEGAL SUPPORT & FOLLOW-UP PEER  
COUNSELING COMMUNITY REFERRALS & EDUCATION

Support Within Reach serves Aitkin county residents. Our mission: To reduce the impact and harm of sexual violence in

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2  
HILL CITY, MINNESOTA

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2, Hill City, Minnesota, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24, 2022.



The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call by Clerk showed the following members present: Bambi Lange, Joell Miranda, Rich Kingsley, Ron Saxton, Mark Meyer and Jay Zapzalka. Board Members absent: None.

1. Approved the Agenda as presented.
2. Approved the following:
  - \*Correction and Approval for Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 5th and September 24, 2022
  - \*Current bills through September 2022
  - \*Investments and wire transfers;
  - \*Reviewed Cash Receipts including donations.
3. Recognitions: None
4. Retirement bells and thank you's were mailed out.
5. Transportation Report: Busses have been going smoothly. Down 1 driver who is recovering and doing well. Bus Safety went well.
6. Curriculum Committee: Teachers are getting samples of curriculums that they like. Looking at textbooks with online access. Gathering samples to see what is out there. Hope to be making a decision in Feb./March. Discussion about internet access using hotspots. Looking at a good hybrid option.
7. Policy Committee: Meeting on Thursday October 27, 2022.
8. School and Community Health Report:

None to report

9. Safety/Transportation Committee: None to report
10. Negotiation Committee: None to Report
11. Community Education Report: None to Report
12. Early Childhood Report: None to Report
13. Building & Grounds Director Report: Report attached to Official Minutes and made a part thereof.
14. Principal's Report: Ms. Huusko gave a report. Wrapped up Book Blast. Fundraiser went really well. Suicide presentation, kids behaved great and seemed to enjoy it and had good feedback from kids. School forest with Mr. Alleva's science class and saw the improvements there. The evacuation went well, need to figure out a better system for the reunification process with parents. Feedback from Aitkin County was good. PD day was busy with positive feedback. 3 year process of getting reading scores up and discussed plan to help the process. Started teacher observations.
15. Superintendent's Report: The Audit seemed to go well. ARCC has been extremely helpful. Substitute shortages has hit us hard. We had to fill rate of 39% in September and 42% in October. Looking into possibly hiring a full-time sub to have in the building every day. Elections are coming up. Hill City has 3 open spots and 3 candidates. Veterans Day is coming up. Mrs. Holm is planning a program with the help of SWARM. Researching new website programs for the school website. The evacuation went well. Conferences are scheduled for November 15 & 16. Discussed compensatory funding and the increase from previous years. Having the parents fill out the free and reduced lunch forms is important for more than just free and reduced lunch, as those numbers are used for other reports and grants the school can qualify for. ESSER funds expire in September 2024. Discussed other grants

that are in the process to help with funding student field trips and other things to help and inspire students.

16. Approved the final seniority list for the 2022-23 school year with corrections.
17. Approved hiring Mark J Meyer as full time custodian with a starting date of October 25, 2022. This will be at a janitor rate of pay, per the current AFSCME contract until a Special Engineering Boilers License is obtained.
18. Approved hiring Amanda Rutanen as Math Credit Recovery Teacher.
19. Approved hiring Jonathan Gowell as Assistant Boys Basketball coach for the 2022-23 school year as per the HCUE contract. JH boys basketball coach has also been posted and hope to have it filled by the next Board Meeting.
20. Approved FY22 Committed for Severance.
21. Meetings to Attended and Meetings Attended: Next Regular Board Meeting, November 18, 2022; Policy Committee Meeting October 27, 11 am; Special Meeting to canvas votes on November 14, 2022 at 6 pm; Phase I training - virtual training in December 2022; The 2023 MSBA Leadership Conference is currently scheduled to be an in-person event on January 12 & 13, 2023, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Please contact Adam or Stacey if you want to get registered to attend.
22. Approved to adjourn the Meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Joell Miranda, Clerk

Complete Minutes of the above Board Meetings and all Board Meetings are on file in the administration office and may be viewed at any time during regular business hours.



Is continued learning on your list of goals for the new year? Blandin Foundation scholarships can help you reach those goals with \$1,000 to \$5,000 per year you're in school! Blandin Foundation scholarships can be used for a variety of learning opportunities including certificate programs, trade schools and 2- and 4-year colleges and universities.

Blandin Foundation is accepting scholarship applications for the 2023-24 academic year beginning January 3. Anyone under age 25 who has not yet completed a bachelor's degree is encouraged to apply. Applications must be completed by March 1, 2023. Apply at [www.blandinfoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.blandinfoundation.org/scholarships). Questions? Reach out to Jen Alger at [scholarships@blandinfoundation.org](mailto:scholarships@blandinfoundation.org) or by calling 218-326-0523

**YOU'RE INVITED**

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**Donuts with Dawn**

Let's explore what we can help you with to successfully live independently in your home. What opportunities we have for volunteering and or employment.

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Helping seniors and disabled adults in Aitkin County to live independently, and to provide support to those who care for them

Dawn Harrison 218-927-1383 ext 5

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We would like to send a huge thank you to the Hill City Thrift Shop and the Lions Club for their donations to make the trip happen. It was a fabulous day watching A Christmas Carol, this year is the 48th year they have produced the play. The costumes, special effects and acting were amazing and we had a long but amazing day!



**2023**



*April 29<sup>th</sup>*

## **HILL CITY WINTER CARNIVAL**

January 27, 2023

School Gyms | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

This is a family event, so please be sure to accompany your child and join in on the fun!

SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY ED AND ECFE



# SWARM UPDATE:

Goal this year: truly empower the kids to be leaders, be that support and let them drive the activities

*Some of those Activities Include:*



*A Kindness Campaign:*

~They are going to be applying for a grant through the United Way

~The kids really feel this is a priority, working on building and promoting kindness and a positive school climate

~They have plans to give back to the Community by maybe shoveling, clean-up and a Community Dinner

Among other things; The Swarm is really working hard this year, as always.



The Hill City School Garden construction is underway. The garden is located behind the softball field in the disc golf area in front of the school forest entrance. The Hill City Construction class is building the shed and will finish the fencing this spring. Planting will be in May.



# Homework

# Help

# Available:

## Tuesdays & Thursdays



## Right after School until 4:30

## In the Turn Around Room Room 208

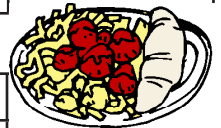



# ISD #2 Breakfast Menu January 2023



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	2 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	3 Cereal Bar	4 French Toast, Sausage Links	5 Oatmeal, Cereal, Graham Crackers	6 Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt	
<u>Offer-vs-Serve</u> Build a healthy Meal. Select a full or 1/2 serving of	9 Muffins, Cheese Stick or Yogurt	10 Oatmeal, Cereal, Grahams	11 Turkey Bacon Pizza	12 Apple Frudel	13 Cinnamon Roll, Cheese Stick	14 Fruit, Juice & Milk Served Daily with Breakfast
fruit or veggie & a minimum of 2 other full meal components	16 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	17 Nutigrain Bar	18 Oatmeal, Cereal, Graham Crackers	19 Breakfast Burrito, Salsa	20 Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt	21 
4 meal components are offered daily. Students must select a	23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	24 Oatmeal, Cereal, Graham Crackers	25 French Toast, Sausage Links	26 Strawberry Cream Cheese Bagel	27 Cinnamon Roll, Cheese Stick	28 Menu subject to change at anytime
One of the components must be a fruit or veggie.	30 Waffle, Cheese Stick	31 Oatmeal, Cereal, Grahams				

# ISD #2 Lunch Menu January 2023



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<u>Offer-vs-Serve</u> Build a healthy Meal. Select a full or 1/2 serving of	2 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	3 Chicken Nuggets, Rice, Cali Veggies, Garlic Breadstick	4 Pepperoni Pizza, Mixed Veggies	5 Breaded Chicken Patty, Bun, Tater Tots, Green Beans	6 Beef Taco w/ Fixings, Corn, Salsa	7
fruit or veggie & a minimum of 2 other full meal components.	9 Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Baked Beans	10 Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese, Goldfish, Veggies & Ranch	11 Shrimp Poppers, Wild Rice, Cali Veggies, Roll	12 Chili, Corn Bread, Carrot Sticks	13 Hot Dog or Brat Bun, Beans, Potato Salad	14 Fruit & Milk Served Daily with Lunch
5 meal components are offered daily. Students must select a	16 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	17 Chicken Strips, French Fries, Carrots, Peas, Roll	18 Chicken Veggie Noodle Soup, Hot Ham & Cheese Cucumbers, Peppers	19 Lasagna, Mixed Veggies, Garlic Bread	20 Stuffed Crust Pizza, Salad Bar	21
One of the components must be a fruit or veggie.	23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	24 French Bread Pizza, Marinara Sauce, Green Beans, Corn	25 Chicken Fajita w/ Fixings, Rice, Salsa	26 <b>FARM 2 SCHOOL</b>	27 Cheese Burger on a Bun, Baked Beans, Fries	28
29	30 Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Steamed Broccoli & Cauliflower	31 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Green Beans				




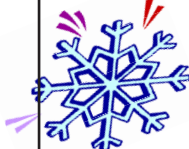
**This institution is an equal opportunity provider.** For the Full Non-Discrimination statement see:  
<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/FNS/CivilRight/048413>

Independent School District No. 2  
 500 Ione Avenue  
 Hill City, MN 55748

Hill City, MN 55748  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 3  
 ECRWSS

## Local Boxholder Hill City, MN 55748

# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 NO SCHOOL	3 GBB vs Southridge AB 78 AWAY 5:45 BBB vs MIB AB JH HOME 5:45	4 OPEN GYM 7-9	5 GBB vs Northwoods AB 78 AWAY 5:30	6 BBB vs Bigfork AB JH HOME 5:45	7
8 OPEN GYM 6-8	9 GBB vs Blackduck AB 78 AWAY 6:00	10 BBB vs Lakeview AB JH AWAY 5:45	11 OPEN GYM 7-9	12 AB 78 GBB vs Nash-Kee HOME 5:45 AB JH BBB vs LaPorte HOME	13 GBB vs Mille Lacs AB 78 AWAY 5:45	14 BBB vs Cook County AB JH HOME 12:30
15 OPEN GYM 6-8	16 GBB vs Chisolm AB 78 HOME 5:45 NO SCHOOL	17 GBB vs Hinkley-Finlayson AB 78 HOME 5:45	18 OPEN GYM 7-9	19 AB GBB vs Fon du Lac HOME 5:45 AB JH BBB vs Greenway AWAY 5:45	20 BBB vs LFBF AB JH HOME 5:45	21 GBB Tournament 7 & 8 9:00 am
22 OPEN GYM 6-8	23 NO SCHOOL BBB vs Floodwood AB JH AWAY 5:45	24 GBB vs Nash-Kee AB 78 AWAY 5:45	25 OPEN GYM 7-9	26 BBB vs Ogilvie AB AWAY 5:45	27	28 
29 OPEN GYM 6-8	30 	31 BBB vs Nash-Kee AB JH HOME 5:45				This information and more is also available on our Website : <a href="http://isd002.org">isd002.org</a> <b>rSchools</b>