

December



COMMUNITY NEWS

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

2023

Articles in this
Newsletter:

School Board
Minutes

Hill City
School News

Hill City
Minutes

Hill City
Activities

Lunch
Calendars



*It is truly an Honor to
present this Program for you
all, each and every year.*

Thank you for joining us and

Thank You for Your Service

Veterans Day 2023



2023 Graduate Tanner Harcey

Hill City School Board

Jay Zapzalka, Chairman jzapzalkaisd002.org	Joell Miranda, Clerk jmiranda@isd002.org	Sarah Kingsley, Treasurer sakingsley@isd002.org
Mark Meyer, Vice Chair mmeyer@isd002.org	Ron Saxton rsaxton@isd002.org	Jeremy Nelson jnelson@isd002.org

Committee Assignments for 2023

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 and Mark Meyer,
(Ron Saxton, Alt.)
Ron Saxton (Joell Miranda, Alt.)
Sarah Kingsley (Mark Meyer, Alt.)
Joell Miranda and Jeremy Nelson
(Ron Saxton, Alt.)
Ron Saxton (Joell Miranda, Alt.)
Sarah Kingsley and Ron Saxton
Jeremy Nelson
Jay Zapzalka, Mark Meyer and Ron Saxton
Mark Meyer and Jay Zapzalka
Jay Zapzalka and Sarah Kingsley
(Mark Meyer, Alt.)
Mark Meyer
Sarah Kingsley 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.



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

HILL CITY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

First Quarter 2023-2024

Grade 12	Grade 11	Grade 10	Grade 9
A	A	A	A
Charlize Bjorhus Adrianna Leverty-Taylor	Dylan Blaisdell Bellona Dunham Destiny Hobson Steven Meyer	Madison Barnes Mariah Dahl Callee Gerber Jasmine Kingsley	Taylor Washburn
B	B	B	B
Elijah Jenkins Joseph Swanson	Brielle Olson Matthew Washburn Abby Zapzalka	Mackenzie Benson Jacob Bockoven Reese Boleman Micah Pinksa Kaydince Saxton Madilyn Swanson	Christen Boleman Emily Casper DaNayah Cook-Stately Gage Dorn Franklin Goodrich Dani Hannula Coltyn Harcey Nathan Kinglsey James Roper Lilly Wooley
Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6	
A	A	A	
Avery Bailey Haley Barnes Kendel Humphrey Kyleah Kaslow Vanessa Kingsley Artemis Mercado Tyler Pearson Kayleigh Richards Martin Sersha	Alissa Hannula Pearl Johnson Benjamin Jurvelin Juniper Mercado Cassidy Rivard Jace Zapzalka	Savanna Holm	
B	B	B	
Hannah Barnes Natalie Bray Jaxon Caldwell-Paulley Reid Johnson	Darius Karjala-Holbein	Abram Boleman	



Congratulations!

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
HILL CITY, MINNESOTA

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2, Hill City, Minnesota, was called to order by Chairman at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 23, 2023.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call showed all of the members present except Sarah Kingsley and Jeremy Nelson.

1. Approved the Agenda.
2. Correction and Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023.
3. Approved the following:
 - *September 2023 bills presented for payment;
 - *Current bills through October 11, 2023;
 - *Investments and wire transfers
4. Recognitions: Homcoming was a success. Thank You Mrs. Holm and the SWARM for all their hard work putting together a fun week. Principal's Appreciation month. Thank You Mr. Erickson for all your hard work and dedication to Hill City Schools.
5. There were no comments from Visitors.
6. Curriculum Committee: None
7. Policy Committee: None to Report
8. School and Community Health Committee: None to Report
9. Fitness Center Committee: Report is attached to the Official Minutes and made a part thereof.
10. Safety Committee: None to Report.
11. AIPAC: None to report
12. Negotiations Committee: None to Report
13. Transportation Report: None
14. Community Education Report: Report attached to Official Minutes and made a part thereof.

15. Early Childhood Report: Report attached to the Official Minutes and made a part thereof.
16. Facilities Director Report: None
17. Principal's Report: Report attached to the Official Minutes and made a part thereof.
18. Superintendent's Report: None to Report.
19. Approved the final HCUE seniority list for 23-24 school year with corrections.
20. Approved the revised AFSCME seniority list for the 23-24 school year with corrections.
21. Approved Community Education annual report.
22. Approved hiring Allan White as Math Credit Recovery teacher.
23. Fundraisers and Fundraising calendar for 23-24 was tabled until next month.
24. Discussed Meeting to be attended and Meetings attended.
25. Approved to adjourn at 6:39 pm.

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.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
HILL CITY, MINNESOTA

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2, Hill City, Minnesota, was called to order by Chairman at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 30, 2023.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

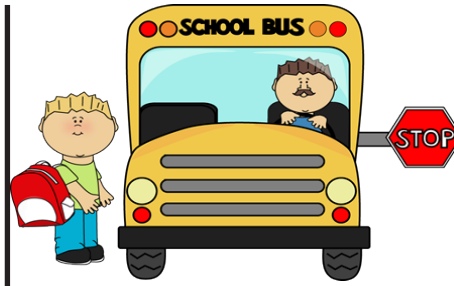
Roll Call showed all of the members present.

1. Approved the Agenda.
2. Adopted the MSHSL Resolution
3. Reviewed and Approved the Design

Development to proceed with the Construction Documents phase for the Construction Project.

4. Approved to adjourn at 6:56 pm.

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.



With the Wintery Weather upon us, just a reminder: The buses may be running a few minutes earlier each morning to accommodate for the driving conditions. So please as always, be at your stop and ready to go 5 to 10 minutes before your assigned time, to prevent missing the bus.

Thank You!



Is up & running in the Hill City Area

Hill City Campus Life is a youth group, open to all high school students, gathering locally twice a month in a safe, welcoming, Christ-centered atmosphere. Quarterly events take place, joining alongside other Campus Life groups from Bigfork, Deer River, Greenway, and Grand Rapids. Campus Life uses an active, lively holistic approach, focusing on the physical, mental, social, and spiritual aspects of teenage life.

HC Campus Life is a branch of the Itasca Area Campus Life. All staff receive training through the National Campus Life/Youth for Christ organization headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

Adolescence can be the 'best' of times and the 'worst' of times - yet is always a pivotal time in a young person's life.

As the old proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child." Your support and prayers are appreciated during this opening year of the Hill City Campus Life program.



Campus Life sees hope and potential in every young person.

For more information and insight contact Dennis or Mary Holsman.
dholsmanjr@gmail.com 218-360-0307
maryholsman@gmail.com 218-36-0811

Upcoming Concert Dates:

Elementary Christmas Concert:

Friday, December 15
at 1:30 pm

Hill City School Gymnasium

City of Hill City Minutes Work Session-5:00pm

October 24,2023

Hill City Community Room

Call to Order

Mayor Lange called the work session to order at 5:00 pm. Council present Mayor Dave Lange, City Council Sean Lathrop, Scott Brenny, and Tom Semler. Council Member Lin Benson was absent with notice.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Motion made by Brenny to approve the agenda as presented second by Semler. MPU

Minnesota Basic Code Review

1) Chapters 30, 31,32 & anything

corresponding to these chapters in Title 17

Clerk Meyer suggested the following changes and the council agreed to them.

- 30.04- remove 72 hours and add the Wednesday prior to the meeting.

- 31.01 -add or Public Safety Director filling the role as Police Chief.

- 31.26- remove 12-month probation and add 6-month probation. Remove the sentence referring to height, weight, education, mental and physical health. We will review chapters 50-54 Public Works at the next work session on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 5:00pm.

Adjourn work session at 5:23pm. MPU

City of Hill City Minutes Regular Council Meeting- 6:00 pm

October 24,2023

Hill City Community Room

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lange called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council present Mayor Dave Lange, City Council Sean Lathrop, Scott Brenny, and Tom Semler. Council Member Lin Benson was absent with notice.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Addition to new business 2. Scott Brenny resignation letter.

Motion made by Semler to approve the agenda with the above-mentioned addition second by Brenny. MPU

Guest Speaker

Harlan Kingsley- Vacating or variance for Maple Ave

Mr. Kingsley will be building a house in the Spring and asked the council about vacating some city streets or a variance. He had three options; 1. Vacate Maple Ave from Main St to Cedar St. 2. Vacate Cedar St. from Maple Ave to Spruce St. and 3. Ask for a 15' variance from Maple Ave and Cedar St. He had a survey done on his property so knows where all the property lines are.

The council set a public hearing for November 14 at 5:30pm. Clerk Meyer will get the letters sent out to the surrounding property owners.

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Brenny to approve the following consent agenda items; Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting 10/10/2023, Claim's, EFT's, & Transfer from 10/5- 10/19 \$99,109.24, and Monthly Council Pay -October second by Semler. MPU

Public Forum- 3-minute limit

No public spoke.

CEDARreport

- Priority List Results

Lisa Randall gave the results of the priority list that the council and three staff members did at the last meeting. There were 16 community projects on the list to prioritize. There was discussion on where to go from here. During the discussion on the electronic sign, Clerk Meyer brought up that we received quotes from Bolten & Menk for \$3,000 and from Northern Lights for \$1,500 to survey Bear Park.

Motion made by Brenny to go with Northern Lights to survey Bear Park second by Lathrop. MPU The Council would like to see a cost and timeline to do the items on the list.

Motion made by Lathrop to move forward with the priority list second by Brenny. MPU

Old Business

1) Baratto - sewer line/building permit

Mayor Lange, Andrew Beadell, and the Maintenance Staff met with the Baratta's at their house to discuss the options on the house addition location and the possibility of moving the main sewer line. Mayor Lange stated that he received a call from Baratta, and they are redesigning the house addition.

2) Maintenance Truck update

Casper informed the council that he picked up the new truck and that he is very thankful to the council for letting him purchase it. He received one quote so far on the crane and tommy gate and waiting for a second one. The crane is 7-months out on the 1st quote.

3) Sunny's lift Station update

Casper was incorrect at the last meeting. The VFD that went out was not the same one he replaced last Spring; it was a different one. He called the insurance agent, and they will be adding it to the claim from last Spring.

4) Dump Station report

At the last meeting Council Member Lathrop asked for a comparison report on the dump station. Clerk Meyer gave the council a 4-year comparison report. We have only received two payments so far this year from Sunny's. The dump station will be closed at the end of October and Meyer expects to receive a check next month for the remaining amount owed. She will send a follow-up report once all the money is received.

New Business

1) Brenna Rollins

Did not show up.

2) Scott Brenny resignation letter

Council Member Brenny turned in a letter of resignation from his position on the city council due to moving out of the area, effective December 31, 2023.

Motion made by Lathrop to accept the resignation and to post for a vacancy second by Semler. MPU

Up Coming Meetings/Events

1) November 1st- Events Committee 6 pm

2) November 10th- Veteran's Day Program

3) November 14th- Public Hearing 5:30pm

4) November 14th- Regular Meeting 6 pm

5) November 28th- Work Session- Basic Code Review

Adjourn

Motion made by Brenny to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm second by Lathrop. MPU

Young Working Families, have you heard?

3rd Space is coming in 2024!

The mission of 3rd Space is to fill the gap between school and home for working families with kids 4 years of age through 5th grade.

Practically, what does 3rd Space look like? 3rd Space, located at Hill City Assembly of God Church, will be open Monday through Friday when school is in session. Nor-tran will bus your kid(s) to the church where they will have a snack, homework help, story time, and a daily rotation of fun, engaging activity and learning stations.

There is no cost, but capacity is limited to 30 kids! If you are interested in more information or would like to sign your kid(s) up for 3rd Space, please fill out the 3rd Space Interest form, snap a picture of it, and email it to

CynthiaSchroeder25@gmail.com as soon as possible.

You Can Make a Difference!

There is so much satisfaction in knowing that you are making a difference in the lives of others.

If you agree and are 16 years and older, then the 3rd Space Volunteer Team might be for you!

We believe that every person has been given strengths, talents, and passion and that they can be used to impact the lives of others in powerful ways. It might be creatively, passing on knowledge, demonstrating compassion, or challenging kids to grow in multiple ways. And while you would be part of a team, how often you serve is customized to fit your schedule.

If you would like to learn more or are interested in being a part of the 3rd Space Volunteer Team, please fill out the 3rd Space Volunteer Interest Form, snap a picture of it, and email it to CynthiaSchroeder25@gmail.com as soon as possible, or if you do not have the means of sending it that way, please call

Cae Jordan at 612.210.1536 or Pastor Lisa at 218.256.1636.

3rd Space Family Interest Form*

Parent/Guardian Name(s)/Phone Number(s)

Mailing Address

Child(ren) Name(s)

Age/Grade

_____	____/____
_____	____/____
_____	____/____
_____	____/____

*This is just an initial form; there will be a more in-depth form to fill out before the 3rd Space launch day.

3rd Space Volunteer Interest Form*

Name/Phone Number

Mailing Address

Email Address

I am interested in serving

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- Twice a month

My days of availability are

M Tu W Th F

Please circle all that apply. (Circling all that apply does NOT mean that you will be scheduled for all of these days but rather helps our admin prepare the volunteer schedule.)

*This is just an initial form; there will be a more in-depth form to fill out before the 3rd Space launch day.

ElderCircle offers in-person exercise sessions in Hill City and Jacobson! Times and locations below.

Stay Active & Independent for Life (SAIL) is a low-impact fitness program designed specifically for older adults to build muscle strength, improve balance and increase flexibility to maintain or regain an active lifestyle.

Sessions are 90 minutes, held twice a week, led by trained volunteers.

Open to adults of all ages at no cost.



- Hill City Fire Hall

- Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00 - 10:30 am

- Jacobson Community Center

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays,
10:30 am-12:00 pm

If you are interested in either attending as a participant and/or serving as a volunteer, please contact:

Lori Whitted at lori@eldercircle.org or
218-999-9233 x278

CDS School Base Dental Clinics

Hill City School, Aitkin County Public Health, and Children's Dental Services collaborate to provide access to dental services to students, their families, and other community members. This year CDS will be at Hill City School every other month. If a student's parent or guardian completed the Children's Dental Services registration form at the beginning of the school year, that form is good for the entire year. CDS will set up appointments at Hill City School for children with completed registrations. CDS clinics alternate Hygiene and Restoration clinics, to provide services as the students and community members need them. If your child's exam and cleaning indicate a need for restoration, CDS will contact you about the work that needs to be done. If you have not completed the CDS registration form for your student but would like to, contact Stacey Durgin Smith, and she will send one out to you.

If you have signed your child up for CDS but they have not been scheduled for treatment, CDS may need more information from you, but has not been able to make contact you. Again, please contact Stacey Durgin Smith for assistance. You may call her directly at 218-927-7224, toll-free at 800-328-3744, or email her at stacey.durgin@co.aitkin.mn.us, and Stacey will help you troubleshoot the issue, so your child can be seen.

Now Providing Service for People of Any Age. Though Children's Dental Services started out providing services to children needing care, they have recently expanded their operations to include everyone, regardless of age. CDS provides **hygiene clinics**, at which dental exams, cleanings, and x-rays are completed, and they offer **restorative clinics**, during which the dental team provides fillings, extractions, and crowns. To make an appointment for yourself or a family member who does not attend school, call 612-746-1530, or toll-free at 866-543-6009.

Providing Access to Dental Care & Accepting YOUR insurance and Providing Help for Families without Insurance. CDS accepts all forms of insurance. If you need insurance and may be eligible, one of CDS' certified MNSure Navigators can help you apply for MN Medical Assistance right over the phone. If you do not have insurance and are not eligible for Medical Assistance, CDS offers an income-based, sliding fee scale for income-eligible families. Additional income documentation will be requested when you apply for the sliding fee scale. For more information about our sliding scale program, please email:

SlidingScale@childrensdentalservices.org, call the main line at 612-746-1530, or call toll-free at 866-543-6009.

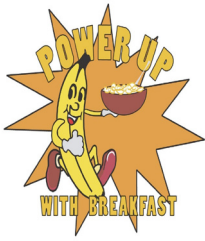
WINTER
in Bear Park
HILL CITY MN

Saturday, December 2, 2023


9:00-2:00 Treasures at Trinity Lutheran Church Craft Show
10:00-2:00 Hay Wagon Rides, Bonfire, S'mores, Hot Cocoa
11:00-1:00 Make & Take Kids Crafts at City Hall
11:00-3:00 Stop 'n' Shop Craft Show at Knuckleheads
1:00-3:00 Santa & Mrs. Claus and Elves in Bear Park
1:30-3:30 Scavenger Hunt Grades 6+, begins in Bear Park
7:00 Kids' PG-13 Christmas movie at the school

For more info, email:
SueKaslow@yahoo.com

Brought to you by:
Hill City Events Committee



ISD #2 Breakfast Menu December 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Cinnamon Roll Yogurt	2
3 Offer-vs-Serve Build a healthy Meal. Select a full or 1/2 serving of	4 Apple Frudel	5 Banana Muffin Cheese Stick	6 Biscuits w/ Sausage Gravy	7 Oatmeal, Cereal, Grahams	8 Cinnamon Roll, Cheese Stick	9 Fruit, Juice and Milk served Daily
10 fruit or veggie & a minimum of 2 other full meal components	11 Cereal Bar	12 Oatmeal, Cereal, Grahams	13 Breakfast Pizza	14 Nutri Grain Bar	15 Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt	16
17 4 meal compo- nents are offered daily. Students must select a	18 Muffins, Yogurt or Cheese Stick	19 Oatmeal, Cereal, Grahams	20 Cinnamon Roll, Cheese Stick	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23
24 One of the components must be a fruit or veggie.	25 	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30 Menu subject to change at anytime

ISD #2 Lunch Menu December 2023

Lunch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Offer-vs-Serve Build a healthy Meal. Select a full or 1/2 serving of					1 Cheese Burger Fries, Baked Beans	
fruit or veggie & a minimum of 2 other full meal components.	4 Corn Dogs, Peas & Carrots, Potato Bites	5 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Beans, Garlic Breadstick	6 Chicken Strips, Cali Veggies, Rice, Roll	7 Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, Veggies & Dip	8 Cod Bites, Jo Jo Potatoes, Coleslaw	Fruit & Milk Served Daily with Lunch
5 meal compo- nents are offered daily. Students must select a	11 Breaded Chicken Patty on a Bun, LTO, Tater Tots, Beans or Corn	12 Cheese Quesedilla w/ Fixings, Rice, Black Beans	13 French Toast, Boiled Eggs, Sausage Links, Grapes	14 Farm 2 School Farm Fresh Brats, Potato Salad, Purple Cabbage, Dessert	15 French Bread Pizza, Marinara Sauce, Steamed Broccoli	16
One of the components must be a fruit or veggie.	18 Chicken Poppers, Tater Tots, Green Beans	19 Turkey Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Squash, Gravy, Roll	20 Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Goldfish Crackers	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23
24	25 	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30

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



Erickson's Update



Dear Hill City Schools Families and Community,

I hope this update finds you all well. As we enter into the second quarter of the school year, I wanted to take a moment to touch base and update you on some important information. Students are working hard on daily lessons and activities. Across the K-12 setting, students have spent time completing hands-on experiences in STEAM, working with the DARE officer on responsible decision making, creating Japanese art, working hard on reading fluency and math automaticity, musical performances for our Veterans Day Program, and so many other important activities and learning. We have had a great quarter of learning.

I believe that family involvement is critical to the success of our school and our students. I would like to reboot the Parent Action Committee (PAC), which I believe will be a great way to get families involved and make a difference in our school community. As a member of PAC, you will have the opportunity to participate and lead in a variety of activities and events, such as fundraisers and volunteer opportunities. I want to welcome all parents, guardians, and family members to become members and help us achieve our mission. Please send me an email with your interest level, name, phone number, and email. Our introduction meeting will be Tuesday, November 28th from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Community Ed Room. Send all emails to zerickson@isd002.org

Our school hosted a Coffee with the Ericksons on November 9th and had a great turnout with very important discussions. Coffee with the Ericksons is for families of students to create community and learn how to support students in the school aged years. Mrs. Erickson, the school counselor, and myself will host the event each quarter in the Community Education Room. We look forward to welcoming our families and learning together over coffee! Our second session, Thursday, January 18th from 8:30-9:00, will cover body confidence, student self image, and social media with Hannah Colby from Aitkin County. If you have any questions, please reach out to me. We hope to see you there!

As we enter into the busy season of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years, I want to thank you once again for your unwavering support and commitment to your child's education. We are grateful to be able to partner with you in their learning journey, and we look forward to a successful second quarter.

Best, Zac Erickson Principal, Hill City Schools