



RIVER BEND EDUCATION DISTRICT

1315 S Broadway Street
New Ulm, MN 56073
ph. (507) 359-8700
fax (507) 359-1161

Board Minutes Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Members present: Darla Remus, Ashley Latzke, Ken Briese, Ryan Lais, Richard Spitzner, Shannon Sykes,
Members absent: Melissa Sunderman
Others present: Doug Hazen, Bradley Carlton, Stephanie Ross, and Katie Wheelock

Chairperson Darla Remus called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Shannon Sykes, second by Ryan Lais to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Ryan Lais, second by Ashley Latzke to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Shannon Sykes, second by Ashley Latzke to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Ashley Latzke, second by Shannon Sykes to approve the 2026-2027 Adopted Budget for River Bend. Motion carried 6-0.

Director Doug Hazen, Program updated the Board on General Information and Stephanie Ross and Katie Wheelock updated the Board on programs and services.

Consent Agenda – Personnel Approval
Approval of Joe Ness resignation at the end of the 25-26 school year.
Approval of Memorandum of understanding regarding cell phone damage reimbursement
MN Paid Leave – Morgan Klingler starting May 18 – July 6, 2026
Overload request made for Heather Huebner starting May 18, 2026, until the end of the school year and again At the start of the 26-27 school year until the end of November.
Tuition Reimbursement for Holly Sieg and Jessica Kuehn for the spring semester/
Lane Changes for Jessica Kuehn, Briana Chimal, and Elise Cronin to go into effect June 1, 2026
Approval of the ASD Consultant job description.
Approval for the ECSE Department to attend the DEC2026 Conference
Approval of Summer 2026 Contracts for Credit Recovery and ESY

Motion by Rich Spitzner, second by Shannon Sykes to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Motion approved 6-0.

Informed board members of the following:

- a. Nikki Dobmeier, River Bend's School Counselor was given the MAAP STARS Advisor of the Year Award during this year's MAAP STARS Spring Events Conference.
- b. The following dates have been chosen for strategic planning.

August 5th and 8th, 2026 with River Bend Administration
Survey Timeframe – September 8 – 18, 2026
In-Person meeting at District 88 Conference Room at 6:00 p.m.
October 1, 2026
October 26, 2026
November 23, 2026
January 7, 2027

- c. Stephanie Ross and Kristen Franke were chosen by South Central Service Coop as Spotlight Employee Award winners.

Motion by Ken Briese, second by Ashley Latzke to approve policies 514, 604, 606, 606.5, 625 recommended by MSBA. Motion approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Paula Williamson
Accountant