

## **OFFICIAL MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING**

Board of Education

Independent School District No. 423

March 31, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Garrett Luthens called to order the special meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 423, Hutchinson, MN, at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers at City Center.

**ROLL CALL** - Members present: Diane Jankowski, Erin Knudtson, Garrett Luthens, Michael Massmann, Danny Olmstead, and Sara Pollmann. Dan Deitte, Superintendent; Rebecca Boll, Director of Business Finance, Michael Scott, Director of Teaching and Learning; and Tina Vorliceck, Recording Secretary, were also present. Members absent were: none.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No public comments were received.

**2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR** - Moved by Danny Olmstead, seconded by Sara Pollmann, to approve the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar as presented. Diane Jankowski, Erin Knudtson, Garrett Luthens, Danny Olmstead, and Sara Pollmann voted aye and Michael Massmann voted nay. Motion approved. Note: Although the Board prefers to eliminate eLearning days (because not all students receive the same educational experience as in-person learning), there are currently added expenses from the State's Earned Sick and Safe Time leave. In a budget reduction year, the majority of members did not want to increase the reductions more than necessary.

**EXTENDED FIELD TRIPS** - Moved by Erin Knudtson, seconded by Michael Massmann, with all members present voting aye, to approve the extended field trips for Varsity Baseball (Fergus Falls, Mn, April 11-12, 2025) and REACH (Duluth, Mn, May 9-10, 2025).

**2024-2025 BUDGET REVISION** - Moved by Sara Pollmann, seconded by Danny Olmstead, with all members present voting aye, to approve the 2024-2025 budget revisions as presented by Becky Boll, Director of Business and Finance.

**RESOLUTION REDUCING AND DISCONTINUING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS** - Board Chair Garrett Luthens introduced the following resolution:

### **Resolution Reducing and Discontinuing Educational Programs and Positions**

WHEREAS the School Board of Independent District No. 423 adopted a resolution on January 13, 2025 directing the Administration to make recommendations regarding the reduction and/or discontinuance of programs and positions, and

WHEREAS, said recommendations have been received and considered by the School Board,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent District No. 423, as follows:

That the following programs and positions, or portions thereof, be discontinued:

1. 1.0 Business Teacher - High School
2. .33 English Teacher - High School

The motion for adoption of this resolution was made by Sara Pollmann and duly seconded by Danny Olmstead, and upon a roll call vote being taken, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Diane Jankowski, Erin Knudtson, Garrett Luthens, Michael Massmann, Danny Olmstead, and Sara Pollmann. And the following members voted against the motion: none. Whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**RESOLUTION PROPOSING PLACEMENT OF TEACHERS ON UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE** - Board Chair Garrett Luthens introduced the following resolution:

## Resolution Proposing Placement of Teachers on Unrequested Leave of Absence

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes section 122A.40, subdivision 10, states that the School Board and the exclusive bargaining representative of the teachers must negotiate a plan providing for unrequested leave of absence ("ULA") without pay or fringe benefits for as many teachers as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes caused by consolidation of districts; and

WHEREAS, Article XIV of the collective bargaining agreement ("CBA") between Independent School District No. 423, Hutchinson ("District") and Education Hutchinson ("Union") contains a plan providing for ULA without pay or fringe benefits for as many teachers as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes caused by consolidation of districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent District No. 423, Hutchinson, as follows:

1. Pursuant to the CBA and Minnesota Statutes section 122A.40, subdivision 10, the School Board proposes to place the following continuing contract teachers on ULA without pay or fringe benefits, effective June 30, 2025, because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, and financial limitations: Julie Olson and Dennis Piechowski.
2. The Superintendent or a designee is directed to give Julie Olson and Dennis Piechowski written notice of their proposed placement on ULA along with a copy of this Resolution. If possible, the documents must be hand-delivered.
3. Within fourteen calendar days after receiving notice of this action, Julie Olson and Dennis Piechowski may request a hearing to challenge their proposed placement on ULA. If they do not request a hearing within the fourteen-day period, they will be deemed to have acquiesced to the School Board's action.
4. The Superintendent or a designee is directed to place a copy of the written notice and this Resolution in the personnel files of Julie Olson and Dennis Piechowski along with a declaration stating how the notice and the Resolution were provided.

The motion for adoption of this resolution was made by Michael Massmann and duly seconded by Erin Knudtson, and upon a roll call vote being taken, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Diane Jankowski, Erin Knudtson, Garrett Luthens, Michael Massmann, Danny Olmsted, and Sara Pollmann. And the following members voted against the motion: non. Whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**COMMUNITY SURVEY PROPOSAL DISCUSSION** - Two proposals were received: School Perceptions and The Morris Leatherman Company. Board members should review the proposals for either further discussion or action at the April 14, 2025 regular meeting (if no action is taken at the April 14, 2025 meeting a decision will be made at the April 28, 2025 work session). Administration will put together a summary page comparing the two proposals (including pros/cons from five reference checks). Board members also requested sample questions, the results from the last community survey, and a recommendation from Administration.

**ADJOURN** - Moved by Michael Massmann, seconded by Erin Knudtson, with all members present voting aye, to adjourn the special meeting at 6:29 pm.



Garrett Luthens, Chair

4/14/2025  
Date



Michael Massmann, Clerk

4/14/2025  
Date