

MINNETONKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #276
Service Center
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, Minnesota

Minutes of September 9, 2021 School Board Special Meeting

The School Board of Minnetonka Independent School District #276 met in special session at 7:35 a.m. on Thursday, September 9 in the Community Room at the District Service Center, 5621 County Road 101, Minnetonka, Minnesota. Chairperson Chris Vitale presided. Also present were Board members Mark Ambrosen, Katie Becker, John Holcomb, Mike LeSage and Lisa Wagner. Absent: Superintendent Dennis Peterson, ex officio.

Chairperson Vitale called the meeting to order and asked that everyone stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1. AGENDA

LeSage moved, Holcomb seconded, that the School Board approve the agenda, as presented. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

2. SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY—REVIEW OF CANDIDATES AND NEXT STEPS

Vice Chairperson Ambrosen began the discussion by noting that the following seven individuals had applied for the vacant School Board seat: David Befort, Paul Gilles, Patrick Lee-O'Halloran, John Odom, Dan Olson, Meghan Selinger, and David Struck. He also noted that three of the individuals (Patrick Lee-O'Halloran, Dan Olson and Meghan Selinger) were also running in the general election this fall. Chairperson Vitale noted that he had checked with the District's legal counsel and was assured that individuals could both run in the general election and apply for the vacancy.

After discussion, Wagner moved, Holcomb seconded, that the Board interview all seven individuals for the vacant seat. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

Ambrosen then moved, LeSage seconded, to form a Board subcommittee composed of Board members Wagner and Holcomb to develop interview questions and reference questions. Board member Wagner proposed, through a friendly amendment, that all seven candidates be required to provide written reference letters. Board member Ambrosen accepted the friendly amendment. Upon vote being taken thereon, the revised motion carried unanimously.

Board member Wagner then discussed the proposed interview structure:

- Welcome and introductions

- Applicant opening statement
- Board questions (each member will ask questions)
- Applicant closing statement
- Wrap up and next steps

The timeframe for each applicant will be roughly 40 minutes, including transition time. After discussion, it was agreed to interview the candidates in alphabetical order, with interviews taking place in the evenings on September 20 and 21 here at the District Service Center. Vice Chairperson Ambrosen agreed to contact all the interviewees and finalize the schedule.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

Holcomb moved, Wagner seconded, adjournment at 8:05 a.m. Upon vote being taken thereon, the motion carried unanimously.

John Holcomb, Clerk