

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, June 17, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order and roll call.
2. Approve meeting agenda.
3. PMA - Michael Hart & Steve Pumper
4. Consent Agenda Consider/Approve
 - 4.1 Minutes of regular board meeting on May 20, 2024.
 - 4.2 Student Activity Fund
 - 4.3 Treasurer's Report
 - 4.4 Donations: \$1,000 from Community Club to Drama for Family Fun Days, \$775 from Amber Leuthold to Elem. Panther Store (proceeds from Family Fun Days)
 - 4.5 Policies:
Second Reading of these policies: 301 (School District Administration), 303 (Superintendent Selection), 304 (Superintendent Contract, duties and evaluation), 305 (Policy Implementation), 306 (Administration code of ethics), 213 (School Board committees), 302 (Superintendent), & 621 (Literacy and the Read Act)
5. Administrative Reports
 - 5.1 Principal
 - a.
 - b.
 - 5.2 Superintendent
 - a. Staffing
 - b. Project status update
 - c. Budget update
 - d. Bus update
 - e. Superintendent transition update
6. Action Items:
 - 6.1 Consider/approve monthly bills
 - 6.2 Education Identity & Access Management
 - 6.3 MNTrust Resolution
 - 6.4 Resolution relating to general obligation school building bonds
 - 6.5 School Board election filing dates: July 30 - August 13 (Randy, Dustin, Lisa)
 - 6.6 Approve LTFM 10 year plan

- 6.7 Approve EMC Insurance
- 6.8 Approve MREA Membership
- 6.9 FY25 Budget
- 6.10 Call for bids for fuel oil & propane
- 6.11 Call for bids for dairy products

- 6.12 Personnel
 - a. Resignation - Preschool
 - b.

- 7. Buildings & Grounds:
 - a.
 - b.

- 8. Adjournment

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, May 20, 2024**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ryan Heikes at 6:00 p.m. A roll call revealed all members present. The Board of Education opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff present: Amy Labat, Robert Routh, Darcey Groen, Judy Huisman, Joy Porter, Lori Romans, & Craig Gaul.

Visitors: None

A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Jennigesto to approve the meeting agenda as presented with the addition of Apex. Motion carried.

Michael & Corey with Apex presented the phase 2 part of the contract. A motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Jenniges to approve the contract pending legal approval. A roll call vote was taken. The following voted in favor: Heikes, Lefdal, Jenniges, Lynn, Buntjer & Harms. The following voted against: None. Motion carried.

Lori Romans presented information on a work based learning curriculum that she plans to implement next school year. Students can begin this program as sophomores and be able to work at a job site during their senior year. She would like some assistance in developing a community advisory board for this program.

A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Harms to approve the Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on April 15, 2024
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Donations: \$1,000 from Community Club for Scoreboard, \$110 from Cliff's Auto Body for music shirts, \$25 from Jack Harms for music shirts, \$2,500 from Nobles Cooperative Electric for Sound System, \$250 from Community Club for Pizza party/teacher appreciation week.
- Second reading on these policies: 211 (Criminal or civil action against school district, school board member, employee, or student), 207 (Public hearings), 209 (Code of ethics), 210 (Conflict of interest - school board members), 205 (Open meetings and closed meetings), 206 (Public participation in school board meetings/complaints about persons at school considerations), 208 (Development, adoption, and implementation of policies), & 212 (School board member development)
- First reading on these policies: 301 (School District Administration), 303 (Superintendent Selection), 304 (Superintendent Contract, duties and evaluation), 305 (Policy Implementation), 306 (Administration code of ethics), 213 (School Board committees), 302 (Superintendent), & 621 (Literacy and the Read Act)

Lisa Lynn presented the following information from EPTO: Grandparent's Day went well, will provide freezies at the end of the year for all students, Preschool bags for next year, open house will be August 28, & discussed next year's events.

Ms. Labat's report included information on student count, staffing information, graduation, summer school August 5-16, summer preschool in June, READ act training has begun, field trips, end of the year events, teacher appreciation week, all school fair, senior trip, last day of school, and presented preliminary MCA results.

Mr. Routh expressed appreciation to Amy for her hard work during the month of May. Mr. Routh's report included information on the sound system, grant from Lyon County Riverboat Foundation for \$3,000, softball shed construction, preliminary FY25 budget information, industrial arts & ag positions, teacher licensing tiers explanation and insurance costs.

RESOLUTION CANVASSING RETURNS OF SPECIAL ELECTION CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES RELATING TO SPECIAL ELECTION

Issuer: Independent School District No. 514 (Ellsworth Public School), Minnesota

Governing Body: School Board

A regular meeting held on May 20, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the school library.

Members present: Ryan Heikes, Dustin Lefdal, Lindsay Jenniges, Lisa Lynn, Randy Buntjer & Jennifer Harms.

Members absent: None

RESOLUTION RELATING TO CANVASSING RETURNS OF SPECIAL ELECTION

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of the public corporation referred to in the title of this certificate, certify that the documents attached hereto, as described above, have been carefully compared with the original records of said corporation in my legal custody, from which they have been transcribed; that said documents are a correct and complete transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the governing board of said corporation, and correct and complete copies of all resolutions and other actions taken and of all documents approved by the governing body at said meeting; and that said meeting was duly held by the governing body at the time and place and was attended throughout by the members indicated above, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law.

WITNESS my hand officially as such recording officer on May 20, 2024.

School District Clerk

The Clerk presented affidavits showing filing, publishing and posting of notice, in accordance with the resolution adopted February 21, 2024, of the special election held May 14,

2024, to vote on the questions of approving the issuance of general obligation bonds of the School District in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$5,000,000. The clerk also presented the Official Returns and Summary Statements of Judges. The affidavits and the Official Returns and Summary Statements of Judges were duly examined, approved and ordered placed on file in the office of the Clerk.

Member Dustin Lefdal introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Member Randy Buntjer:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO CANVASSING RETURNS OF SPECIAL ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 514 (Ellsworth), Minnesota that the special election held in and for the School District on May 14, 2024, was in all respects duly and legally called and held, the returns thereof have been duly canvassed, and the votes cast at the special election for and against the questions submitted to the electors were as follows:

School District Question Approval of School Building Bonds

YES Shall the board of Independent School District No. 514 (Ellsworth), Minnesota be
NO authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, new HVAC and electrical systems, windows, roof and tuckpointing, and bus garage improvements?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A
PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

Votes	Votes	Spoiled, Defective or	TOTAL
YES	NO	Blank Ballots	VOTES
191	44	0	235

The ballot question, having (not) received the approval of a majority of the votes cast, is hereby declared (not) to have carried. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.63, Subdivision 3(f) and Section 205A.07, Subdivision 3a, the Clerk is hereby instructed to notify the Commissioner of Education of the results of the special election and to provide the certified vote totals for the ballot questions in written form within 15 days after the results have been certified by the Board. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Heikes, Lefdal, Lynn, Buntjer, Jenniges, & Harms; and the following voted against the same: None; whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Chairperson and attested by the Clerk.

School Board Chairperson

School Board Clerk

Craig Gaul presented these building updates: roof leak, sidewalk repairs, & tree removal.

Darcey Groen presented the bills. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lefdal to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Mr. Routh presented information for the public hearing on the tax abatement request. Member Randy Buntjer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ELLSWORTH #514
RESOLUTION NOBLES COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT 2024
A RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the Ellsworth School District to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Ellsworth School District has adopted the Nobles Home Initiative guidelines which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted for residential development; and

WHEREAS, Travis and Marla Jenniges are the owners of certain property within Nobles County, legally described as follows:

Parcel 06-0164-500: SECT-27 TWP-101 RANG-43 12.65 Acre Tract
SE ¼ SW ¼ Acres 12.65

WHEREAS, Travis and Marla Jenniges have made application to Nobles County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Travis and Marla Jenniges have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as the County's Nobles Home Initiative guidelines for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ELLSWORTH SCHOOL OF NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. The Ellsworth School Board does, hereby grant an abatement of Ellsworth School share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of a new single family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing on the first year of taxes payable for the assessed value(s) related to the capital improvements outlined in Paragraph 1.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record by December 30th of that calendar year.
4. The tax abatement shall be for the residential capital improvements only. Land values and the current base value are not eligible and will not be abated.

5. The abatement shall be null and void if construction is not commenced within 6 months of the approval of this resolution or if real estate taxes are not paid on or before the respective payment deadlines annually.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Jen Harms. Lindsay Jenniges abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Adopted by the Ellsworth School Board on this 20th day of May, 2024.

Attest:

Board Chair

Mr. Routh presented a resolution for membership in the MSHSL for the 2024-2025 school year. A motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Jenniges to approve the membership in the MSHSL for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

Mr. Routh presented an amended contract for Bill Strom, Superintendent, with a beginning date of July 5. A motion was made by Lefdal and seconded by Harms to approve the amended contract for Bill Strom. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented a contract with Meghan Mollberg as Instructor for the 2024-2025 school year. A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Lefdal to approve the contract with Meghan Mollberg. Motion carried.

Mr. Routh presented the acknowledgement of non-renewal of the Tier 1 contract. A motion was made by Lefdal and seconded by Buntjer to approve the non-renewal of the Tier 1 contract. Motion carried.

There being no further business Chairperson Ryan Heikes called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Lefdal and seconded by Jenniges to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk