

## Minutes

Sleepy Eye ISD #84

Board of Education

Conference Room

May 12, 2026, 5:30PM

Responsible Everywhere. Respect Everyone. Respond Safely Every Time.

Call to order: Attendance: Dan Marti, Joleen Dittbenner, Brian Nelson, Darla Remus, Adam Barka, Sheila Wurtzberger, Casey Coulson arrived at 5:34p.m.

Good News Items: Congratulations to Alexandria Confer the 2026 Miss Sleepy Eye. The boys golf team are conference champions and the girls golf team are co-champions. FFA did a great job at the State Convention.

Recognition of visitors: Press, Staff and FFA students

Approve Agenda M Brian Nelson 2nd Joleen Dittbenner M/C

Approve minutes of April 8, and April 22, 2026 special board meeting M Dan Marti 2nd Brian Nelson M/C

Approve financial transactions and reports M Joleen Dittbenner 2nd Adam Barka M/C Reports

Board: BCPH attended the Mental Health Clinic that was held on May 6th at the Event Center, there were a lot of great topics and speakers. The crisis committee met and went over the drills that we had and when and who will be trained to use the new AED's, The CAT committee met and talked about scheduling and the READ act. We had a social studies presentation and they told us what they needed for expenses. Math is next year. Facilities met and went over the roofing project and Community Ed went over the summer offerings.

Elementary Principal: 8 days left. Many classes met their MCA testing goals and the 3rd-6th grades taking trips as rewards. Compared to March– office referrals increased in April and have decreased in May to less than 1 per day, 37% of all this year's referrals came out of Kindergarten, we will be restructuring Kindergarten learning model next year to be more developmentally appropriate and play-based learning for improved growth of social skills and fewer behavior office referrals. Next year, the Behavior Team will continue efforts on this front and we will be Revamping the PBIS across the school, more teachable moments and skills instruction ("Houses" system). Ben will be moving on and we appreciated his time.

High School Principal: Completing paraprofessional evaluations, Beginning to set up IGDP meeting with teachers, Conducting interviews; still a few positions to cover, Master schedule is getting closer; will be a 7 period day (classes 46 minutes/advisory and intervention 41 minutes), Attended a Region 2 MSHSL meeting, Had a presentation from County Attorney, Assistant County Attorney and Investigator Bohnen focusing on AI on April 29, Had our final crisis team meeting of the year, High school goals are the PLC goals for 2025-26. Concert on 5/20 and Commencement on 5/22 at 7 PM.

Superintendent: Teacher appreciation week 5/4-5/8 Thank you to all the donors that made this event possible. End of the year data collection and goal setting process with Cabinet members

(planning on presenting information at the July retreat). Elementary Principal hiring process update: 9 total applicants. The committee reviewed and offered 4 candidates an interview opportunity. Interviews will take place on Wednesday from 3:00PM-7:00PM. The Candidates are Jason Toupen fromer Teaching and Learning Coordinator in New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva Public School, McKenzie Wagelie Agriculture Teacher FFA Advisor in Granada Huntley East Chain Public School , Joel Timmerman Elementary Principal in Kimball Public School, Mark Jacobs Assistant Principal Vista Education Center Fridley Public School.

SMS Update: Todd Netzke sold his company to The Center for Effective School Operations (CESO). Services will continue uninterrupted during the process. MASA Legislative update: The key education provisions include \$24 million for a one-time compensatory revenue hold-harmless, The bill's path forward, however, is uncertain. There is no House companion, and with the two chambers divided, it is difficult to know how budget differences will be resolved. This week the Senate also passed legislation outlining the Senate DFL gun violence prevention priorities. The bill includes a ban on semi-automatic weapons and several education-related provisions, including \$19 million for school safety aid for public schools. Like other bills, the prospects for this bill in the House are uncertain, given the divide over gun Control. The House and Senate passed the constitutional amendment on the Permanent School Fund distribution this week. The House bill passed unanimously with no amendments, but the Senate bill had a different outcome. The Senate bill was amended to require any future statutory changes to the distribution formula be approved by a two-thirds vote in both bodies. The Senate then passed the bill 59-8. Because the House and Senate versions differ, the two chambers will need to reconcile the differences before final passage.

Presentation: A: Sleepy Eye FFA Chapter state convention recap, they were named Superior and Gold chapter and Top Charter for Land and Service and Ag. Literacy  
Presale Report for 2026A General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds by Ehlers Jen Chatman was here reporting. Paid for by your real estate taxes.

Action items:

Approve the hiring of Sydney Geiger and Cory Haala as Co- Activities Directors for the 2026-27 school year Darla Remus abstained

Approve hiring of Abigail Schmitz as K-12 Vocal Music Instructor for the 2026-27 school year @46,488

Approve Alexis Garza as Multi-Lingual Learner instructor for the 2026-27 school year @46,488

Approve resignation of Mara Pauling as of June 30, 2026

Approve resignation of Kathryn Serra as of May 8, 2026 Thank you Kathryn.

Approve child care leave request for Breanna Kelly

Declare the following items as surplus and offer it to the public for sale

Approve Summer PreK Staff

Approve Samantha Whittington as JH Volleyball Coach at \$2,093

Approve Paul Hendrickx as JH Volleyball Coach at \$2,093

Addendum

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Action Items Continued:

Approve 26-27 SE & St. James Literacy Lead Agreement

M Brian Nelson 2nd Adam Barka M/C

Next meeting is Wednesday June 10, 2026 @5:30PM

Adjourn. Time: 6:21 p.m. M Casey Coulson 2nd Brian Nelson M/C

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Wurtzberger/Clerk