Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, December 5, 2025, 7:30 – 9 a.m.
Quora Education Center, 70 West County B2, Little Canada, MN
Hybrid Meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present: Twenty-three members attended the meeting in person and 62 participated virtually.

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Jim DeMay called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. DeMay welcomed everyone in person and online.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of November 7 Meeting

Chair DeMay asked members to review the minutes from the November 7 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Guest Speaker

Chair DeMay introduced Josiah Litant, Executive Director of Minnesota P-20 Education Partnership. Litant provided an overview of the MN P-20's dual enrollment project and the results from the recently completed survey. Following his presentation, Litant answered questions from board members.

IV. Stillwater Area Public Schools Presentation

Chair DeMay invited Superintendent Mike Funk, Board Chair Alison Sherman, Chief of Staff Carissa Keister and Principal Rob Bach of Stillwater Area Public Schools to share their presentation on Stillwater's Journey to Phone-Free Schools. Following their presentation, the presenters answered questions from board members.

V. Legislative Committee Report

A. Approval of AMSD 2026 Legislative Platform

Chair DeMay invited board members to review the proposed 2026 Legislative Platform. Executive Director Scott Croonquist reminded board members that the process to develop the platform began with a survey back in August. Using the survey results, the Legislative Committee has been working on the platform over the past several months. Croonquist reviewed the highlights of this year's platform, including immediate and ongoing priorities. A motion was made and seconded to approve the platform. The 2026 Legislative Platform was approved.

B. Approval of Updated Position Papers

Chair DeMay reminded board members that AMSD has position papers that are reviewed and updated each year. At its last meeting, the legislative committee approved the position papers on Student-Centered State Accountability Assessments, Compensatory Revenue, English Learner Funding, and School Board Renewal of a Capital Projects Referendum. Croonquist provided an overview of the changes to each of the papers. Croonquist noted that most of the changes were to reflect new demographic data, recent research, and legislation adopted during the last session. He noted that the assessment paper includes more significant changes developed by the Student-Centered Learning Working group over the past year. Chair DeMay asked if there were questions about any of the updated papers. There were no questions, and a motion was made and seconded to approve the updates to the four position papers. The position papers were approved.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Chair DeMay invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist reported that the November State Budget and Economic Forecast was released yesterday. He noted that while the short-term outlook is positive, a significant shortfall is projected for the 2028-29 biennium. Croonquist shared that an updated forecast will be released at the end of February and that is the one the Governor and legislators will use to make any adjustments to the biennial budget.

Croonquist shared that there are two more special elections coming up in January. He also noted the list of legislative retirements continue to grow – 12 are retiring and 13 are running for another office.

Croonquist shared a brief update on some of the working groups/task forces currently meeting.

Croonquist invited Supt Zena Stenvik to share some information about the Dignity Index. Stenvik asked board members to mark their calendars for a keynote address given by the Dignity Index following the AMSD Session Preview at Quora on February 6. More information will be sent soon.

VII. Adjourn

Chair DeMay reminded board members of upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.