Association of Metropolitan School Districts

2 Pine Tree Drive, Suite 380, Arden Hills, MN 55112 • 612-430-7750 • www.amsd.org

Legislative Committee Meeting
Friday, March 27, 2026, 7:30 – 9 a.m.
Hybrid meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present:	Sally Browne	Colin Cox	Jim DeMay
	Jeff Holmberg	Julie Nielsen	Cassandra Palmer
	Kent Pekel	Alison Sherman	Scott Thielman
	Tim Usset (alt.)	Kita Yang	
Staff Present:	Scott Croonquist	Kimberly Jansa	Troy Melhus
Guests Present:	Kris Amundson	Jim Grathwol	Lori Grivna

I. Approval of Minutes of February 27 Meeting

AMSD Vice Chair Alison Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:35a.m. Sherman asked members to review the minutes from the February 27 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

II. Executive Director's Report

Vice Chair Sherman invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to share his report. Croonquist began by noting that today is the policy pill deadline. Croonquist reported that the Senate Education Policy Committee approved an omnibus policy bill and he highlighted several of the provisions in the bill. Croonquist reported that there will likely not be a House omnibus policy bill.

Croonquist noted that Gov. Walz released his supplemental budget recommendations last week. Croonquist shared that not only does the proposal include no supplemental funding for school districts, but it would also increase the proposed $250 million cut to special education in the 2028-29 biennium to $300 million. Croonquist noted that the House and Senate will now develop their supplemental budget proposals with a deadline of April 17.

Croonquist reminded committee members about the AMSD/MASA Region 9 Day at the Capitol on Monday, April 13. He noted that leaders of the House and Senate Education Finance Committees – Sen. Kunesh, Sen. Kreun, Rep. Youakim and Rep. Bakeberg – will join us to share an overview of where things stand in the session. Croonquist encouraged committee members to invite others from their district to attend.

Croonquist invited committee members to review the Key Bills document, which highlights bills related to the issues on our legislative platform. Croonquist reminded members that a comprehensive bill tracker is available on our website.

Croonquist reported that the Minnesota Kids Rise initiative is moving forward. As a reminder, AMSD has joined the effort along with several other education groups. Croonquist noted that MSBA will be presenting on overview at our April Board of Directors meeting.

Croonquist reported that the MN P-20 Education Partnership is developing a statewide vision for dual enrollment and is currently seeking feedback on their mission and vision statement.

III. Discussion and Approval of AMSD Legislative Priorities

Executive Director Croonquist noted that our past practice has been to streamline the legislative platform into a Legislative Priorities document as the session progresses. Croonquist asked committee members for feedback on the draft of the Legislative Priorities and where our efforts should be focused. There was a suggested change in the order of bulleted items. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the AMSD Legislative Priorities as amended. The motion was approved.

Croonquist noted that there will be a footnote added to the document “Approved by the AMSD Legislative Committee March 27, 2026.” The document will be brought before the Board of Directors for approval at the April 10 meeting.

IV. Adjournment

There being no other business, Vice Chair Sherman reminded members of upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 8:34 a.m.