Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, May 1, 2026, 7:30 – 9 a.m.
Quora Education Center, 70 West County B2, Little Canada, MN
Hybrid Meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present: Nineteen members attended the meeting in person and 46 participated virtually.

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Alison Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Sherman welcomed everyone in person and online.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of April 10 Meeting

Chair Sherman asked members to review the minutes from the April 10 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Executive Director's Report

Chair Sherman invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist began by sharing that Wednesday, May 6 there will be a joint hearing of the Senate Education Finance and Policy Committees to recognize the semiquincentennial. The chairs are inviting school leaders, teachers, and students to testify to share what they are doing in their district to recognize this occasion.

Croonquist thanked everyone that attended last month's Day at the Capitol event and noted that it was a great turnout.

Croonquist noted that we are just over two weeks away from the mandatory adjournment day of May 18. He shared that the Senate Education Committees have passed an Omnibus Education Policy Bill and an Omnibus Education Supplemental Finance Bill, but the House has not. Croonquist reported that normally there would be several conference committees meeting at this point in the session, but not this year. The Governor and Legislative leaders have begun meeting to identify issues where agreement could be within reach. Croonquist encouraged members to contact Governor Walz and legislative leaders to urge them to address AMSD's priority issues.

Croonquist reported that the House and Senate have bills proposing a constitutional amendment to increase distributions from the permanent school fund. This has moved through all committees in the House and Senate with strong bipartisan support. Croonquist reminded board members that this is one of AMSD's priorities and if it is approved, it will be critical that we educate voters about the amendment. AMSD is working with MSBA and other education organizations to develop a marketing campaign plan in support of the amendment.

IV. Guest Speakers

Chair Sherman introduced Andrew Krech, Deputy Director, Head of Active Strategies, and Sara Bruggeman, Deputy General Counsel, from the Minnesota State Board of Investment to give a presentation of the Permanent School Fund Task Force Report. Following their presentation, Krech and Bruggeman answered several questions from board members. Denise Dittrich, MSBA Director of Government Relations, who has also been instrumental in this work, added some comments and insight.

V. Guest Speakers

Chair Sherman introduced Rep. Bryan Lawrence and Rep. Kari Rehrauer. After sharing their backgrounds, the legislators engaged in a question-and-answer session with board members, discussing topics such as school safety, compensatory funding, and special education funding.

VI. Adjourn

Chair Sherman reminded board members of upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 8:41 a.m.