



## Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, September 9, 2022, 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.  
Quora Education Center, 70 West County B2, Little Canada, MN  
Hybrid Meeting – In person and via Zoom

### I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Crystal Brakke called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. Brakke welcomed everyone and asked if there were any introductions. A few introductions were made.

### II. Routine Business

#### A. Approval of Minutes of August 5 Meeting

Chair Brakke asked members to review the minutes from the August 5 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

### III. Executive Director's Report

Chair Brakke invited Executive Director Croonquist to share his report. Croonquist reported that AMSD joined sixteen other local government associations in submitting a joint letter to the Governor and legislators urging them to convene a special session to complete the unfinished work of the 2022 session. However, Croonquist reported that there is a very slim chance of a special session with legislators now focused on the November election.

Croonquist urged members to visit the AMSD Board of Directors meeting page on the website for several resources, including the 2022 Election Guide. The guide includes helpful information to engage in the electoral process including education facts, trends, and sample candidate questions. Croonquist encouraged board members to share the guide with staff, parent groups, and others who might be interested

The summary of responses of the legislative platform survey is also available on the website. Croonquist reminded members that the 2023 session will be a budget-setting session. Croonquist shared that it is not too late to share feedback as work will continue on the platform over the next several months. A draft of the platform will be brought to the November Board meeting, with a final adoption needed at the December meeting. Croonquist asked members to share any thoughts or ideas with him.

Croonquist reported that a survey of member districts shows that eight AMSD districts have referendum questions on the November ballot.

Croonquist provided an update on the Together We Make a Difference Initiative to address racial harm incidents in school activities. MN High School League Executive Director Erich Martens send a letter to school superintendents, activities directors and high school principals last week providing an update on the process, goals, and planned action steps. Students on the steering

committee have been trained by Forbes Solutions and will host the World Café style regional meetings that will be held in September at various locations across the state. Registration information for the regional meetings was sent to school leaders. Each high school can bring ten students to the regional meetings. This initiative will culminate in a statewide student conference in November.

#### **IV. Guest Speakers**

Chair Brakke introduced AMSD Board Members Dr. Lucy Payne and Dr. Steve Unowsky, who also serve on the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB). Dr. Payne and Dr. Unowsky shared an overview of actions PELSB has taken to address the teacher shortage as well as an overview of the proposed amendments to the Standards of Effective Practice. Following their presentation, Dr. Payne and Dr. Unowsky answered questions from board members.

#### **V. Guest Speakers**

Chair Brakke introduced Dr. Bill Morris and Peter Leatherman of The Morris Leatherman Company. Mr. Morris and Mr. Leatherman shared results from their recent public opinion survey which was conducted at the end of August. Their survey sample size was 800 people statewide, with a confidence interval of plus or minus 3.5 percent. Following their presentation, Dr. Morris and Mr. Leatherman engaged in a question-and-answer session with board members.

#### **VI. Adjourn**

Chair Brakke reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Brakke adjourned the meeting at 8:58 a.m.