



## Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, February 3, 2023, 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 7:35 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 December 2 Meeting

Chair Brakke asked members to review the minutes from the December 2 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

### III. Guest Speakers

Chair Brakke introduced Cathy Erickson, director of the school finance division, and Adosh Unni, director of government relations, from the MN Department of Education. Mr. Unni and Ms. Erickson presented an overview of Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan's education budget proposal. Following their presentation, Erickson and Unni answered questions from board members.

### IV. Executive Committee Report

#### A. Election of New Executive Committee Members

Chair Brakke reported that the Executive Committee had nominated the following AMSD board members to complete the terms of Kelsey Dawson Walton and Mary Frances Clardy:

Thomas Brooks, School Board Member, Osseo Area Schools  
Lucy Payne, School Board Member, Mahtomedi Public Schools

A motion was made and seconded to elect Brooks and Payne to the executive committee. The motion was approved.

### V. Legislative Committee Report

#### A. Review and Approval of Position Paper on School Safety

Chair Brakke reported that the position paper on Guns on School Property has been revised to encompass a more comprehensive position on school safety. The paper addresses student mental health, school facilities and gun safety measures and includes data from the recent Minnesota Student Survey. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Position Paper on School Safety. The position paper was approved.

## **VI. Executive Director's Report**

Brakke invited Executive Director Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist welcomed Superintendent Paul Peterson from Mankato Area Public Schools, AMSD's newest member.

Croonquist shared that the Together We Make a Difference statewide student conference was held on January 13 at Park Center High School. The Minnesota State High School League and Forbes Solutions hosted over 750 students representing 75 schools. Croonquist thanked Superintendent Cory McIntyre for hosting the event. Paula Forbes and her team are synthesizing the data and will be sharing more information soon.

Croonquist noted that it has been an unusual and very fast start to the session! There have been a record number of bills introduced and committee reports processed. Croonquist highlighted a few of the significant bills.

Croonquist noted that February 28 is the deadline for the February Budget and Economic Forecast to be delivered.

Croonquist reminded board members that AMSD's Day at the Capitol is scheduled for March 8 and reminded board members to RSVP to AMSD Office Manager Kimberly Jansa with the names of those from your district who will be attending. This event is well-timed, as the first committee deadline is March 10. Croonquist also shared a few other important dates: March 24 is the second committee deadline, April 4 is the third committee deadline, April 5-10 there will be a legislative break and the session must adjourn by May 22.

## **VII. Adjourn**

Chair Brakke reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Brakke adjourned the meeting at 9:01 a.m.