



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, December 1, 2023, 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-five members attended the meeting in person and 57 participated virtually.

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Marcus Hill called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m. Hill welcomed everyone in person and online.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of November 3 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the November 3 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Legislative Committee Report

A. Review and Adoption of 2024 Legislative Platform

Chair Hill asked members to review the 2024 Legislative Platform. He noted that only a few minor changes had been made from the draft presented at the November meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the platform. The 2024 Legislative Platform was approved.

B. Review and Adoption of Updated Position Papers

Chair Hill reminded board members that every year, the position papers are reviewed and updated to reflect new demographic data, research, or actions taken during the previous legislative session. Hill reported that the Legislative Committee had approved updates to the position papers on Early Childhood Education, English Learner Funding, Special Education, and Taxpayer Subsidies for Nonpublic K-12 Education. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 4 updated position papers. The motion was approved.

IV. Guest Speaker

Chair Hill introduced Megan Dayton, Senior Demographer at the Minnesota State Demographic Center. Dayton shared a comprehensive overview of demographic trends in Minnesota, including population change, age distribution, diversity, and impacts on the labor force. Following the presentation, Dayton answered questions from board members.

V. Executive Director's Report

Chair Hill invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist reported that the special election to fill the House District 52B seat left open following the resignation of Rep.

Ruth Richardson is Tuesday, Dec. 5. It will be a three-way race between District 196 Board Member Bianca Virnig, who won the DFL primary election, Republican candidate Cynthia Lonquist, and Libertarian candidate Charles Kuchlenz. Croonquist also noted that there is talk around the Capitol of another potential legislative seat opening up as a result of Congressman Dean Phillips' announcement that he is not going to seek reelection, due to his run for the presidency. At least one state senator, Sen. Kelly Morrison, has announced her intention to run for the congressional seat.

Croonquist reported that the State of Minnesota's November 2023 Budget and Economic Forecast will be presented on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Croonquist shared that a survey conducted by MDE shows that total unemployment claims are estimated at about \$40 million for about 18,000 eligible filers. The bulk of the claims came from school districts at roughly \$37.5 million. Intermediate districts were just over \$1 million, charters just under \$800,000, and cooperatives were just over \$700,000.

Croonquist asked board members to mark their calendars for the Session Preview scheduled for Friday, Feb. 2. AMSD will be sending out a Save the Date to legislators next week, but Croonquist encouraged members to extend a personal invitation to their local legislators for the event.

VI. Adjourn

Chair Hill reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Hill adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.