



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, April 5, 2024, 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-nine members attended the meeting in person and 51 participated virtually.

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Marcus Hill called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m. Hill welcomed everyone in person and online. A few introductions were made.

II. Routine Business

A. Approval of Minutes of March 1 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the March 1 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Guest Speakers

Chair Hill introduced the guest speakers, Rep. Sandra Feist and Rep. Ben Bakeberg. Reps. Feist and Bakeberg provided an overview of key education issues in the 2024 session as well as some of the bills they are working on this session. As part of their presentation, the speakers responded to several questions and comments from board members.

IV. Guest Speaker

Chair Hill introduced the next guest speaker, Erin Doan, Assistant Transition Director with the new Department of Children, Youth and Families Implementation Office. The new agency will be established on July 1, 2024, with a commissioner appointed by the Governor. Doan encouraged board members to contact her with any questions and noted that there will be further opportunities to provide input in the coming weeks.

V. Legislative Committee Report

A. Review and Approval of 2024 Session Priorities

Executive Director Scott Croonquist shared that our past practice has been to streamline the legislative platform into a one-page Session Priorities document. This document helps to focus advocacy efforts for the remainder of the session. Croonquist asked board members to review the document, recently approved by the Legislative Committee, which focuses on advocating for \$100 per pupil in one-time funding to help districts implement the Read Act and other new programs and requirements adopted last session. Another top priority is to urge state policymakers to refrain from enacting new mandates. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2024 Session Priorities. The motion was approved.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Chair Hill invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to give his report. Croonquist reported that the fiscal deadline is coming up on April 19, when committees in both bodies must vote on major appropriation and finance bills. Croonquist shared that there have been some new mandates proposed this session and that the advocacy efforts of AMSD members will continue to be important.

Croonquist reported that the Governor and House and Senate Leaders had reached agreement on joint supplemental budget targets that allocate \$43 million for education spending for the 2024-25 biennium. The agreement also sets spending targets for the 2026-27 biennium with an education target of \$18.05 million.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Hill reminded members of the upcoming meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair Hill adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.