

Minutes  
Sleepy Eye ISD #84  
Board of Education  
August 13, 2025, 5:30PM  
Conference room

**Responsible Everywhere. Respect Everyone. Respond Safely Every Time.**

Call to order: Attendance: Dan Marti (virtual), Joleen Dittbenner, Darla Remus, Casey Coulson, Adam Barka, Sheila Wurtzberger. Absent Brian Nelson

Good News Items: Teachers reported, Community Ed's Seussical was awesome.

Recognition of visitors: Press and Staff

Approve Agenda

M Casey Coulson 2nd Joleen Dittbenner M/C

Approve board retreat minutes from July 14, 2025, and July 16, 2025 board meeting minutes

M Joleen Dittbenner 2nd Adam Barka M/C

Approve financial transactions and reports

M Casey Coulson 2nd Joleen Dittbenner M/C

Reports

Board: none

Elementary Principal: Migrant Program - officially wrapped up for the summer

a. Nadia Crooker was a rockstar and we couldn't have had the positive impact we had without her hard work.

b. 100 students served. Enrollments done, teacher schedules created, Misc. maintenance projects getting completed in time for the first day (computer lab remodel for robotics/ Social emotional learning classes), Leadership team formed. The first elementary staff meeting went well. It has been a good workshop week so far with punctual staff and some good sessions. Open House - very well attended in my opinion. Anecdotal feedback/ debriefing revealed most teachers had over half (and up to 75%) of their students seen on Aug 12th for Open House. As the new principal, it was fantastic to meet the students and interact with the families. Very fortunate to have interviewed a well qualified para with 8 yrs of DCD experience. Sam W will fill the vacant 1st grade teacher position. In contact with River Bend regarding sped situations. First day of school is Aug 18th for grades 1-6, First day of school for Kindergarten will be Aug 20th, and PreK begins on Aug 25th — Looking forward to a great school year ahead!

Highschool Principal: Summer school went well. We had 35 students. All but one junior high student met expectations to advance in grade level. That individual can repeat 8th grade, but we will encourage Riverbend. We had 12 high school students earn high school credits to progress toward graduation on time with classmates through our credit recovery program. We had new teacher training on 8/4 and 8/5. We had an open house last night with meetings for incoming 7th grade, 9th grade and 12th grade students as well as an activities meeting. The first day of school is August 18th. This will be for 7th grade students only. August 19th all students will be in the building. The first home football game is August 28th.

Superintendent: Enrollment numbers as of 8/13/25: elementary: 277, HS: 234: total **511 last year we started 529**. Teacher workshop info: uploaded to board file. Welcome back PowerPoint uploaded to the board file.

Approve resolution stating the intention of the school board to issue general obligation facilities maintenance bonds, series 2026A, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$2,560,000 and taking other actions with respect thereto

M: Casey Coulson 2nd: Adam Barka Roll call: Dan Marti, Joleen Dittbenner, Darla Remus, Casey Coulson, Adam Barka, Sheila Wurtzberger, none against. M/C

Action items:

Approve Education Identity and Access management Board resolution designating John Cselovszki as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for Education Identity and Access Management

Approve Sleepy Eye Public School's E-Learning Plan for the 2025-26 school year

Approve fundraiser requests

Approve resignation of Jessica Thomas as elementary SPED paraprofessional effective July 31, 2025

Approve resignation of Tami Lopez as elementary SPED paraprofessional effective immediately

Approve Liberty Nelson as VPK long term substitute at \$31.07/hr

Approve Sheryl Marie Peter as ECFE Parent Educator @\$26/hr 18 class days 2.5 hrs per class

Approve the 2025-26 fall coaching assignments

Approve MREA membership renewal

Approve the following donations: \$100 to the Elem. Library, \$100 to the HS Library from the Sleepy Eye Woman's Club

Approve AIA agreement with Bray associates-Architects Inc, to design and manage the LTFM roof project

Addendum

Sleepy Eye, ISD #84

Board of Education

August 13, 2025

Action Items Continued:

Approve MSEA contract for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027( Adam abstained)

Approve resignation of Jewel Forstner as 7-8 grade Volleyball coach

Approve hiring of Megan Colvin as Elementary Paraprofessional for the 2025-26 school year @ \$16.52 an hr for 6.5 hrs per day

Approve Gabriela Rodriguez as ECFE Educator @\$20/hr 18 class days 2.5 hrs per class

M Casey Coulson 2nd Joleen Dittbenner M/C

Next meeting is Wednesday September 10, 2025 at 5:30PM

Adjourn. Time: 6:06 p.m.

M Casey Coulson 2nd Adam Barka M/C

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Wurtzberger/Clerk