Medford Area Public School District
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Medford Area School District Office
October 26, 2026

The regular meeting of the Medford Area Public School District Board of Education was called to order by President Dave Fleegel, on Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office Board Room.

Roll Call
Roll call indicated that Board Members Dave Fleegel, Kurt Werner, Brian Hallgren, Steve Deml, Aemus Balsis, John Zuleger, Heidi Haynes, and Don Everhard were present. Laura Lundy, District Administrator, was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Meeting Compliance
Dave Fleegel stated, "This meeting has been posted in accordance with the state open meeting law.**"**

Period of Public Comment: None

MASH Student Council Report: None
Recognitions & Good News: Each building gave an update on good news that has been happening.
Legislative Update: Registration opens November 3rd. The board was asked to let Nickie Gebert know by 10/30/2026 if they plan to attend.

Consent Agenda
Motion (Haynes/Zuleger) to approve the consent agenda: Approval of Agenda; Secretary's Report; Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2026; Approval of treasurer's report, personnel reports, and approval of student overnight / out of state travel. Motion carried.

Regular Business

1. **Consideration of Board Vacancy:** Review of the appointment process was discussed. A majority vote of at least 5 votes is needed to appoint a new board member. Motion (Everhard/Zuleger) to follow the 2B process which states the Board completes and retains signed ballots. They are subject to disclosure under the public records law. Motion carried. The three candidates were Amanda Lange, Adam Rodman, and Ben Koch. They each spoke a few words and then voting took place. Round 1 of voting: 4 votes Amanda Lange, 4 votes Adam Rodman, 1 vote Ben Koch. Round 2 of voting: 4 votes Amanda Lange, 4 votes Adam Rodman. Round 3 of voting: 4 votes Amanda Lange, 4 votes Adam Rodman. Round 4 of voting: 5 votes Amanda Lange, 3 votes Adam Rodman. Amanda Lange will take Corey Dassow's vacancy on the school board until the April 2027 election.

Amanda was sworn in and took her seat at the school board.

2. **Update on Rural Virtual Academy (A Day in the Life of an RVA Student):** RVA showed a video of a day in the life of an RVA student.

3. **Update on Staff Survey:** Laura Lundy presented on the staff survey results. 193 staff members took the survey in October 2026. Overall 82% strongly agree/agree that they are satisfied with their experience working in our district. After reviewing the data the 2026-2027 goals to address staff culture concerns will stay the same and be as follows:
    - Addressing staffing gaps and workload balance
    - Reinforce Behavior systems and student accountability
    - Increase administrative visibility and communication
    - Refine Professional Development
    - Review Compensation & Benefits

4. **Consideration of Resolution for the MAPSD Board of Education Authorizing the Retention of Legal Counsel to Represent the Board in Litigation against Certain Social Media Companies because of Significant Harm to Students' Mental Health Caused by Their Products.** The purpose: The lawsuit alleges that social media has contributed to high rates of anxiety, depression, self-harm, and suicidal ideation among school-age children, leaving districts with insufficient funding to address students' mental health needs.
   Motion (Deml/Zuleger) to adopt resolution for the MAPSD Board of Education authorizing the retention of legal counsel to represent the Board in litigation against certain social media companies because of significant harm to students' mental health caused by their products. Motion Carried.

5. **Update on Finance Meeting:**
    a. **Approval of the 2026-27 Revised Budget and Approval of the Tax Levy:** Audra Brooks presented the budget which is a balanced budget of $42,263,524. Motion from finance to approve the amended budget as presented. Motion carried.
       Audra Brooks presented on the tax levy.
       Motion from Finance to approve the tax levy at $5.78/thousand for a total all fund tax levy of $9,499,579 for the 2026-27 school year. Roll Call Vote: Yes, Heidi Haynes, Dave Fleegel, Kurt Werner, Don Everhard, Aemus Balsis, Steve Deml, John Zuleger, Amanda Lange, Brian Hallgren. Motion carried 9-0.
    b. **Consideration of CD Renewal:** Audra presented on the CD renewal. Our CD was renewed at 4.56% for 9 months.
    c. **Update on Construction:** Laura Lundy presented an update on construction. Motion from finance to approve the additional furniture costs out of fund 49. Motion carried.

Contemplate Adjourning to Closed Session:

1. Under Wisconsin Statutes to discuss and take action, if appropriate regarding Administrator Employment, Resignation, and Contract Non-Renewal [pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c)

Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and Wis. Stat. §118.24].

Motion (Everhad/Balsis) to adjourn to closed session. Roll Call Vote: Yes, Heidi Haynes, Dave Fleegel, Kurt Werner, Don Everhard, Aemus Balsis, Steve Deml, John Zuleger, Amanda Lange, Brian Hallgren. Motion carried 9-0
The meeting adjourned to closed session at 7:30 p.m.

A short five minute break was taken to clear the board room. The closed session meeting was reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

Adjourn
Motion to adjourn (Zuleger/Halgren). Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Nicole Gebert
Recording Secretary_____

Steve Deml
Clerk_____