

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 195
Randolph, Minnesota 55065

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2026

- 1) The Randolph School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:00 a.m. in Conference Room 1. Gary Moorhouse called the meeting to order. Directors present: Cory Lorenzen, Scott Otte, Regina Wernimont, Leah Radman, Jason Podritz and Gary Moorhouse. Administrators present: Michael Kelley, Matt Rutledge, Mike Schmidt and Trina Bilderback.
- 2) A motion to approve the agenda, with the addition of overnight FFA Trip requests, a donation, and a new paraprofessional hire was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Leah Radman. All members voting in favor.
- 3) Gary Moorhouse was nominated for the position of School Board Chairperson for 2026 by Jason Podritz. There were no other nominations. Leah Radman moved that the nominations cease, Cory Lorenzen seconded the motion. All members voting in favor. A motion was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Scott Otte to approve Gary Moorhouse as the School Board Chairperson for 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 4) Cory Lorenzen was nominated for the position of School Board Clerk for 2026 by Leah Radman. There were no other nominations. Scott Otte moved that the nominations cease, Regina Wernimont seconded the motion. All members voting in favor. A motion was made by Regina Wernimont, seconded by Leah Radman to approve Cory Lorenzen as the School Board Clerk for 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 5) Regina Wernimont was nominated for the position of School Board Treasurer for 2026 by Cory Lorenzen. There were no other nominations. Jason Podritz moved that the nominations cease, Scott Otte seconded the motion. All members voting in favor. A motion was made by Cory Lorenzen, seconded by Leah Radman to approve Regina Wernimont as the School Board Treasurer for 2026. All members voting in favor.

6) A motion was made by Regina Wernimont, seconded by Jason Podritz to establish the following School Board Committees for 2026:

Finance - Jason Podritz, Regina Wernimont, Leah Radman
Building and Grounds – Jason Podritz, Gary Moorhouse, Cory Lorenzen
Transportation - Gary Moorhouse, Jason Podritz, Scott Otte
Curriculum and Instruction/Graduation Standards - Cory Lorenzen, Leah Radman, Scott Otte
Meet and Confer – Jason Podritz, Leah Radman, Cory Lorenzen
Negotiations/Personnel - Gary Moorhouse, Cory Lorenzen, Regina Wernimont
MSHSL - Cory Lorenzen, Leah Radman, Scott Otte
Community Education and Recreation Liaison – Jason Podritz, Cory Lorenzen, Scott Otte
Legislative Liaisons - Gary Moorhouse, Regina Wernimont
Intermediate School District #917 Representative – Lisa Ehleringer
Wellness – Regina Wernimont, Scott Otte

All members voting in favor.

7) A motion was made by Scott Otte, seconded by Jason Podritz to approve the following consent agenda items:

7.1) Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held December 15, 2025, as presented.
7.2) December, 2025, check register/cash & investments.

All members voting in favor.

8) Member, Regina Wernimont, introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

WHEREAS the following have been generously donated:

- Josh & Ashley Kane – approximately 50 new reading books for Randolph Elementary School
- Jenny Safranski – non-stick pans, approximate \$300.00 value, for Randolph FACS Classroom

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member, Leah Radman.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Randolph School Board to gratefully accept these gifts.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Jason Podritz, Leah Radman, Regina Wernimont, Cory Lorenzen, Scott Otte, Gary Moorhouse

and the following voted against the same: None

whereupon said resolution was declared and duly passed and adopted.

9) Member, Regina Wernimont, introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION
TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS
IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS
THEREFOR.**

* WHEREAS, the financial condition of the school district dictates that the school board must reduce expenditures immediately, and

** WHEREAS, there has been a reduction in student enrollment, and,

WHEREAS, this (reduction in expenditure*) and (decrease in student enrollment**) must include discontinuance of positions and discontinuance or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 195, as follows:

That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions (to effectuate economies in the school district and reduce expenditures*) and, (as a result of a reduction in enrollment**), make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member, Scott Otte, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following

voted in favor thereof: Jason Podritz, Leah Radman, Cory Lorenzen, Regina Wernimont, Scott Otte, Gary Moorhouse

and the following voted against the same:

None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

NOTE:

* To be used where decrease in expenditures is reason.

** To be used where decrease in enrollment is reason.

- 10) A motion was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Leah Radman to approve the 2025-2026 Final Seniority List as presented by the Administration. All members voting in favor.
- 11) The School Board reviewed the January 2026, K-12 student enrollment. Enrollment is down 8 students from the start of this school year with a current total K-12 enrollment of 846, which is down 19 students from January 2025.
- 12) Rio Severson. Special Education Director, gave a report on Randolph Schools' Special Education Services and Finance Overview.
- 13) Matt Rutledge, Elementary School Principal, reported on Reading Curriculum – Read Act delayed purchase – committee looking into options; Olivia Kraemer's English Class created a book and read it to the 6th graders; Community Ed tournaments; SRO will be coming into elementary classrooms.
- 14) Mike Schmidt, Assistant HS Principal/Activities Director, reported Allie Gillette NLI signing on January 13th to play basketball at North Iowa Area Community College; Aidan's Light Presentation on April 13 for suicide prevention; Leadership Academy will run True Blue Week activities February 17-20; copying update – trying to reduce overage charges – costs are down; Master Schedule update – ready with help from AI; wrestling meet at Randolph School was successful.
- 15) Trina Bilderback, Business Manager, reported on Paid Family Medical Leave Act – 3 have been approved out of 9 possible.
- 16) Michael Kelley, Superintendent, reported we will soon be purchasing a new school bus - \$148,000; E-Learning Day on March 6 – due to 700 students coming for Large Group Music Contest; February 18 – FFA Trip to Riverview Farms in Morris, MN; Liv Tennesen scored 1,000 points during the Chatfield basketball game.

- 17) The School Board reported on the MSBA Convention - January 15th.
- 18) A motion was made by Leah Radman, seconded by Jason Podritz to approve Christine Mann's leave of absence request from January 5th, 2026 through March 27, 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 19) A motion was made by Regina Wernimont, seconded by Leah Radman to approve hiring Jaxson Leifeld for an Elementary Title Paraprofessional position starting February 2, 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 20) A motion was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Leah Radman to approve hiring Heather Beeler for an Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional position starting January 9, 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 21) A motion was made by Scott Otte, seconded by Jason Podritz, to approve the following spring coaches as assigned for the 2025-2026 school year:

Head Baseball Coach – Chris Stanton
Assistant Baseball Coaches – Braxton Lindow and Carlton Lindow
Junior High Baseball Coaches – Rich Qualey and Kevin Landry
Head Softball Coach – Dennis Trom
Assistant Softball Coaches – Gabby Geissler and Mackenna Otte
Junior High Softball Coaches – Marissa Nelson and Kaila Johnson
Prom/Post Prom Coordinator – Kate Esser
Math Masters – Marissa Knapp
Head Spring Play/Musical – Deanna Shellen
Spring Assistant Play/Musical – Salena Leonard and Olivia Nyman
Head Boys Golf – Barret Freeland
Assistant Boys Golf – Darby Grengs
Head Boys & Girls Track and Field – Damien Foster
Assistant Boys & Girls Track and Field – Mike Seelig
Junior High Boys & Girls Track and Field – Kristal McNamara

All members voting in favor.

- 22) A motion was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Leah Radman to approve Mike Silk for a spring volunteer coach for softball for the 2025-2026 school year. All members voting in favor.
- 23) A motion was made by Regina Wernimont, seconded by Scott Otte, to approve the FFA overnight trip request from Sara Wagner to send 2-3 FFA members to the State FFA Agricultural Policy Experience in St. Paul on March 1-3, 2026. All members voting in favor.

- 24) A motion was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Scott Otte, to approve the overnight trip request from Chris Stanton, Marissa Knapp and Jared Rowan to take the sixth grade class to the 52nd Annual Overnight Campout on May 26-28, 2026 at the Cannon River Boys Scout Reservation. All members voting in favor.
- 25) A motion was made by Leah Radman, seconded by Jason Podritz, to approve the FFA overnight trip request from Sara Wagner for the General Livestock Team to go to the Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines, IA from February 13 to February 14, 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 26) A motion was made by Scott Otte, seconded by Regina Wernimont, to approve the FFA overnight trip request from Sara Wagner for the General Livestock Team to go to the SDSU Little General Livestock Contest in Brookings, SD on March 26-27, 2026. All members voting in favor.
- 27) A motion to adjourn was made by Jason Podritz, seconded by Leah Radman. All members voting in favor.

Clerk: Cory Lorenzen