

Clerk's Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Members present: Jerry Frederick, Leona Johnson, Margaret Sunnarborg, Steve McConnell, Todd Rengo, Rob Johnson and Superintendent Aaron Fischer.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Jerry Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- Approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025, regular School Board meeting.
- Checks.

Date	Check #s	Total
9/19/25	113151-113251	\$649,097.83
9/25/25	113252-113307	\$287,873.79
10/2/25	113308	\$200,000.00
10/8/25	113309-113377	\$95,125.43
*10/10/25	113378	\$350.00

*Pending Treasurer's Approval.

- Personnel.
 - Approve Kristy Steveler as Freshman Forum advisor replacing Jeremy Zywicki for the 2025/2026 school year.
 - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA15 to MA30 from Nichole Schmidt, Semester I FY26.
 - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA to MA15 from Christine Nielsen Ringat, Semester I FY26.
 - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA15 to MA30 from Ben Haugen, Semester I FY26.
 - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA to MA30 from Emily Martin Thompson, Semester I FY26.
- Donations/Grants.
 - Buffalo Valley in the amount of \$250 for Cheerleading.
 - Birch & Pine Counseling in the amount of \$250 for Cheerleading.
 - Arrowhead Waller Insurance Agency in the amount of \$100 for Cheerleading.
 - National Bank of Commerce in the amount of \$100 for Cheerleading.
 - Samantha Krsiean in the amount of \$30 for School Patrol.
- Fundraising Request.
 - Esko Softball – spaghetti dinner and silent auction on November 3, 2025.
 - All Night Grad Party – picnic dinner during homecoming on October 3, 2025.
- Treasurer's Reports.
 - September 2025.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 99

ESKO, MINNESOTA

TREASURER'S CASH REPORT

Month Ending September 30, 2025

Date of Report: 10/6/2025

	BALANCE	CASH	CASH		SUNDRY	BALANCE
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FUND	8/31/2025	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	JOURNAL	9/30/2025
01 General	5,782,997.58	1,532,343.48	(706,397.82)	(673,888.96)	9,701.72	5,944,756.00
02 Food Service	761,361.26	8,915.08	(21,259.86)	(11,058.38)	215.76	738,173.86
03 Transportation	(129,837.52)	2,089.28	(14,251.79)	(21,510.71)	518.66	(162,992.08)
04 Community Service	701,881.20	63,925.80	(39,519.37)	(24,582.78)	(5,110.36)	696,594.49
05 Capital Expenditure	(382,060.97)	0.00	(22,034.72)	(305.84)	0.00	(404,401.53)
06 Building Construction	270,011.79	0.00	(304,775.33)	0.00	480.49	(34,283.05)
07 Debt Service	601,497.52	60,775.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	662,272.62
11 Student Activity	54,652.63	14,422.00	(8,525.42)	0.00	4,537.70	65,086.91
18 Custodial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	7,660,503.49	1,682,470.74	(1,116,764.31)	(731,346.67)	10,343.97	7,505,207.22
45 OPEB Trust	959,507.00	10,222.87	(2,541.65)	0.00	3,200.20	970,388.42
TOTAL District Cash	8,620,010.49	1,692,693.61	(1,119,305.96)	(731,346.67)	13,544.17	8,475,595.64

BANKS	AMOUNT
National Bank of Commerce	219,265.32
Other Banks (CD's & MN Trust)	7,286,795.00
OPEB Trust	969,535.32
TOTAL OF BANK BAL.	8,475,595.64

This report reflects CASH balances of the district, NOT fund balances.

Electronic Transfer Report September			
Date	Account Transferred From	Account Transferred Into	Amount
09/11/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	\$500,000.00
09/19/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	\$700,000.00
09/26/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	\$700,000.00
09/29/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	\$200,000.00

Payrolls September						
<u>Date</u>	<u>Payroll Type</u>	<u>Check's</u>	<u>Direct Deposits</u>	<u>Electronic Payments</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>	
09/15/25	Regular	124779- 124784	\$3,311.73	\$251,623.99	\$444,585.40	\$699,521.12
09/30/25	Regular	124785- 124795	\$5,088.23	\$255,472.73	\$287,476.62	\$548,037.58

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Minnesota State High School League Form A and Form B Resolutions

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve the Minnesota State High School Leagues Form A and Form B Resolutions, copies on file in the District office. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2025/2026 Winter Coaching Staff

Moved by Rob Johnson, second by Leona Johnson to approve the 2025/2026 winter coaching staff pending return of clear background checks. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2025/2026-2026/2027 Master Agreement between ISD No. 99 and the Esko Education Association

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the 2025/2026-2026/2027 Master Agreement between ISD No. 99 and the Esko Education Association. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Superintendent Fischer as EDIAM (IOwA) for Esko Public Schools

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve Superintendent Fischer as EDIAM (IOwA) for Esko Public Schools. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve National Insurance Services/Madison National Life as the District's Benefit Administrators for Minnesota Paid Family and Medical Leave

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve National Insurance Services/Madison National Life as the District's private benefit administrators for Minnesota Paid Family and Medical Leave. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve a Request from Emily Peterson for Childcare Leave

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve a request from Emily Peterson for Childcare Leave from 11/19/25 through 12/19/25. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept a Letter of Resignation from Matthew Berger

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to accept a letter of resignation from Matthew Berger as a Driver Education Instructor, effective immediately. The Board thanks him for his years of service. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letters of Resignation from the Following Paraprofessionals

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to accept letters of resignation from the following Paraprofessionals:

- Jeanine Lofgren, effective 10/3/25.
- Teresa Solomon, effective 10/24/25.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Scott Johnson as Varsity Baseball Coach

Moved by Rob Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to approve the hire of Scott Johnson as the Varsity Baseball Coach beginning the 2025/2026 season. Clear background check on file. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of the Following Cool Kids Program Assistants and Paraprofessionals

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to approve the hire of the following, effective October 14, 2025, clear background checks on file.

- Jodi Monahan as a Cool Kids Program Assistant for 10 hours per week at \$18.96 per hour.
- Hope Czerwinski as a Cool Kids Program Assistant for 10 hours per week at \$18.96 per hour.
- Billi Jo Sielaff as a Paraprofessional for 6.75 hours per day at \$20.45 per hour.
- Rebecca Haapanen as a Paraprofessional for 6.75 hours per day at \$20.45 per hour.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

Principals' Reports:

Elementary School: Mr. Harker reported on the following:

- ELC is scheduled for the second week of November
- PIE Group remains strong and motivated
- Working on filling paraprofessional positions
- Thanks to all who are helping us maintain programming
- Planning for new language arts and math standards. Piloting new curriculum.
- New intervention time being implemented for struggling readers

High School: Mr. Hexum reported on the following:

- Conference participation was fantastic
- Class of 2032 off to strong start
- Flex Learning data is positive

- Fall Fest Wednesday will include service learning, community service, local history and environmental education

Board Committee Reports:

Steve McConnell: Negotiations, Tech Committee

Leona Johnson: Community Education Meeting, Negotiations, Insurance Committee

Todd Rengo: Negotiations, Insurance Committee

Jerry Frederick – Non-Certified Negotiations, Tech Committee, Carlton County Roads

Rob Johnson – Non-Certified Negotiations

Margaret Sunnarborg – Non-Certified Negotiations

Superintendent's Report:

Supt. Aaron Fischer:

Mr. Fischer reported on the following:

- Review of Special Education Task Force purpose and process
- Meeting with Thomson Township in reference to the Highway 61 renovations
- Update on the Career and Tech Ed Grant to build a county wide CTE facility
- Northern Lights Academy School in collaboration with the County is exploring a new facility site.

Congratulations and Commendations

- Esko Girl's Soccer Team was given the Fair Play Award sponsored by the Lake Superior Soccer Referee's Association. Sharon Lahti and team recognized for combining competitive play and sportsmanship.
- Both sides of the Certified Negotiation teams commended for a positive process

Open Forum

- Mr. Barta from the Town Board reported on the following:
 - Appointing a new Supervisor
 - Area roads
 - Northridge Park

Adjournment

There being no further business, moved by Steve McConnell, second by Leona Johnson to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Steve McConnell
Clerk