Clerk's Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, September 8, 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 Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- Approve the minutes of the August 11, 2025, regular School Board meeting.
- Checks.

Date	Check #s	Total
7/15/25	112885-112936	$269,588.66
7/22/25	112908 Voided	($27.30)
7/24/25	112937-112980	$416,932.25
8/5/25	112981-113027	$184,392.41
8/13/25	113028-113060	$268,494.79
8/26/25	113061-113109	$294,013.90
9/4/25	113050 & 113077 Voided	($11,268.32)
9/4/25	113110-113150	$65,296.92

- Personnel.
  - Approve Deb DeArmond's and Corey Gray's 6th assignments for the 2025/2026 school year.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from a BA15 to BA45 from Emily Peterson, Semester I FY26.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA to MA15 from Michelle Foshay, Semester I FY26.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA to MA15 from Orianna Scherer, Semester I FY26.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA15 to MA30 from Nicole Peterson, Semester I FY26.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA15 to MA30 from Cora VandeWege, Semester I FY26.
  - Petition for Salary Lane Change from MA to MA15 from Sara Johnson, Semester I FY26.
- Donations/Grants.
  - Northland Foundation in the amount of $7,500 for ECFE.
  - Clock sales at Esko Fun Days in the amount of $550 for Athletics and Fine Arts.
  - Trophy sales at Esko Fun Days in the amount of $440 for Athletics and Fine Arts.
  - Esko Truck and Trailer Repair in the amount of $500 for Cheerleading.
  - Pine River Sales in the amount of $100 for the Fishing Team.
  - Herpesman Sports in the amount of $500 for the Fishing Team.
- Fundraising Request.
  - Esko Softball – offer childcare on conference nights in October and February.

- Treasurer's Reports.
    - July 2025.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 99

ESKO, MINNESOTA

TREASURER'S CASH REPORT

Month Ending July 31, 2025

Date of Report: 8/20/2025

FUND	BALANCE 6/30/2025	CASH RECEIPTS	CASH DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	SUNDRY JOURNAL	BALANCE 7/31/2025
01 General	6,086,606.42	274,214.35	(1,255,239.34)	(520,730.74)	(17,679.32)	4,567,171.37
02 Food Service	897,300.44	(1.67)	(112,274.48)	(7,605.04)	(158.18)	777,261.07
03 Transportation	(48,936.79)	0.00	(38,861.00)	(17,610.45)	(8.00)	(105,416.24)
04 Community Service	678,989.72	54,844.70	(23,001.55)	(29,331.45)	(150.00)	681,351.42
05 Capital Expenditure	(94,463.72)	0.00	(181,225.93)	(305.84)	0.00	(275,995.49)
06 Building Construction	542,805.99	0.00	(9,367.62)	0.00	2,149.95	535,588.32
07 Debt Service	524,021.64	50,839.24	(33,353.33)	0.00	0.00	541,507.55
11 Student Activity	67,107.34	3,915.65	(18,088.74)	0.00	(475.00)	52,459.25
18 Custodial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	8,653,431.04	383,812.27	(1,671,411.99)	(575,583.52)	(16,320.55)	6,773,927.25
45 OPEB Trust	967,143.08	5,965.22	(12,646.26)	0.00	3,082.57	963,544.61
TOTAL District Cash	9,620,574.12	389,777.49	(1,684,058.25)	(575,583.52)	(13,237.98)	7,737,471.86

BANKS	AMOUNT
National Bank of Commerce	200,435.97
Other Banks (CD's & MN Trust)	6,573,904.29
OPEB Trust	963,131.60
TOTAL OF BANK BAL.	7,737,471.86

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

Electronic Transfer Report

July

Date	Account Transferred From	Account Transferred Into	Amount
07/08/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$300,000.00
07/14/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$500,000.00
07/15/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$250,000.00
07/28/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$400,000.00
07/30/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$425,000.00

Payrolls

July

Date	Payroll Type		Check's	Direct Deposits	Electronic Payments	Grand Total
07/15/25	Regular	124733-124763	$4,260.66	$283,278.67	$305,220.47	$592,759.80
07/31/25	Regular	124734-124766	$2,812.80	$241,282.41	$285,667.40	$529,762.61

- August 2025.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 99

ESKO, MINNESOTA

TREASURER'S CASH REPORT

Month Ending August 31, 2025

Date of Report: 9/8/2025

FUND	BALANCE 7/31/2025	CASH RECEIPTS	CASH DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	SUNDRY JOURNAL	BALANCE 8/31/2025
01 General	4,567,171.36	2,358,685.21	(637,069.77)	(488,622.17)	(17,167.05)	5,782,997.58
02 Food Service	777,261.07	2,915.49	(11,052.31)	(7,658.91)	(104.08)	761,361.26
03 Transportation	(105,416.24)	1,360.73	(11,102.35)	(15,051.44)	371.78	(129,837.52)
04 Community Service	681,351.42	97,730.09	(24,028.48)	(52,605.11)	(566.72)	701,881.20
05 Capital Expenditure	(275,995.49)	0.00	(105,759.63)	(305.85)	0.00	(382,060.97)
06 Building Construction	535,588.32	0.00	(267,718.72)	0.00	2,142.19	270,011.79
07 Debt Service	541,507.55	59,989.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	601,497.52
11 Student Activity	52,459.25	4,695.97	(2,502.59)	0.00	0.00	54,652.63
18 Custodial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	6,773,927.24	2,525,377.46	(1,059,233.85)	(564,243.48)	(15,323.88)	7,660,503.49
45 OPEB Trust	963,544.61	0.00	(6,323.13)	0.00	2,285.52	959,507.00
TOTAL District Cash	7,737,471.85	2,525,377.46	(1,065,556.98)	(564,243.48)	(13,038.36)	8,620,010.49

BANKS	AMOUNT
National Bank of Commerce	210,845.07
Other Banks (CD's & MN Trust)	7,442,830.30
OPEB Trust	966,335.12
TOTAL OF BANK BAL.	8,620,010.49

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

Electronic Transfer Report

August

Date	Account Transferred From	Account Transferred Into	Amount
08/07/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$125,000.00
08/14/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$400,000.00
08/15/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$275,000.00
08/22/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$75,000.00
08/28/25	PMA/TRUST	National Bank of Commerce	$620,000.00

Payrolls

August

Date	Payroll Type	Check's		Direct Deposits	Electronic Payments	Grand Total
08/15/25	Regular	124735-124773	$5,991.16	$260,806.46	$295,629.11	$561,426.73
08/29/25	Regular	124736-124778	$3,124.42	$250,598.90	$290,177.49	$543,900.81

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Purchase of a Trash Guard for the New Parking Lot
Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Steve McConnell to approve the purchase of a trash guard to keep out debris, animals and children at a cost of $2,260. Motion carried by unanimous vote

Approve Purchase of Trees Between the Parking Lot and Neighbors
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to approve the purchase of 3 trees to provide a barrier for the neighbors between the parking lot at a cost not to exceed $1,400. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Purchase of 30 Chairs for the High School
Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the purchase of 30 chairs for the High School at a cost of $4,250. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Purchase of Additional IXL Licenses
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the purchase of additional IXL licenses at a cost of $1,329, due to an increase in enrollment. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Set Truth in Taxation Meeting Date
Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to set the Truth in Taxation meeting date for Monday, December 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Proposed Levy 2025 Payable 2026 at the Maximum
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to approve the proposed levy 2025 payable 2026 at the maximum. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve an Increase in Adult Meal Prices
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve an increase in adult meal prices to $2.50 for breakfast and $5.05 for lunch as mandated by the Minnesota Department of Education. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Community Education Youth Development Plan for 2025/2026
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Community Education Youth Development Plan for 2025/2026. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Community Education Handbook for the 2025/2026 School Year
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Community Education Handbook for the 2025/2026 school year. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Elementary Extracurricular Faculty Assignments
Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the elementary extracurricular faculty assignments for the 2025/2026 school year. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letters of Resignation from the Following Staff Members:
Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to accept letters of resignation from the following staff members:

- Char Franck, resignation by retirement from custodial/maintenance, effective August 27, 2025. The Board thanks her for her years of service.
- Samuel Goodwin, paraprofessional, effective August 27, 2025.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of the Following:
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to approve the hire of the following:

- Randie Rote as a paraprofessional for 6.75 hours per day at $20.45 per hour, clear background check on file, beginning September 9, 2025.
- Katelyn Kromm as a paraprofessional for 3 hours per day on Tuesdays and Thursdays at $20.45 per hour, clear background check on file, beginning September 9, 2025.

- Gerald Berthiaume, full-time maintenance/custodial position, at $22.61 per hour, clear background check on file, beginning September 9, 2025.
- Tara Glanville as a paraprofessional for 6.75 hours per day at 20.45 per hour, clear background check on file, beginning September 10, 2025.

Administrative Reports:

Principals' Reports:

Elementary School: Mr. Harker reported on the following:

- School year is off to a great start
- New hires are doing well
- Two more paraprofessionals to hire

High School: Mr. Hexum reported on the following:

- New hires are doing very well
- Flex Learning Plan is going well

Board Committee Reports:

Steve McConnell: Negotiations, Tech Meeting, Meet & Greet
Leona Johnson: Negotiations, Meet & Greet
Todd Rengo: Negotiations, Meet & Greet
Jerry Frederick – Meet & Greet
Rob Johnson – Non-Certified Negotiations

Superintendent's Report:

Supt. Aaron Fischer:
Mr. Fischer reported on the following:

- Waiting for final enrollment numbers with PSEO students added in
- Happy with open enrollment and how teachers stepped up

Congratulations and Commendations

- Thank you to the staff for a successful Open House
- Thanks to the Esko Sports Alliance for a successful golf outing

Communications

- Mr. Fischer reported that community members are expressing concern over motorized vehicles on trails.

Open Forum

- Mr. Barta from the Town Board reported updates on township items

Adjournment

There being no further business, moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Steve McConnell
Clerk