



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

2 Pine Tree Drive, Suite 380, Arden Hills, MN 55112 • 612-430-7750 • www.amsd.org

Legislative Committee Meeting

Friday, June 14, 2024, 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Hybrid meeting – In person and via Zoom

Members Present:	Crystal Brakke Mary Kreger Lucy Payne Michael Thomas	Mike Funk (alt.) Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed Lisa Sayles-Adams	Marcus Hill Laura Oksnevad Stacie Stanley
Staff Present:	Scott Croonquist	Kimberly Jansa	Troy Melhus
Guests Present:	Tonya Franks		

I. Welcome and Introductions

AMSD Chair Marcus Hill called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes of May 17 Meeting

Chair Hill asked members to review the minutes from the May 17 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Legislative Update

Chair Hill invited Executive Director Scott Croonquist to share a legislative update. Croonquist noted that all legislative filings have closed with all 134 State House seats on the ballot this fall. In addition, Sen. Kelly Morrison resigned her state senate seat to focus on her run for the Third Congressional Seat which is being vacated by current Rep. Dean Phillips. The winner of Sen. Morrison's seat will determine control of the State Senate in 2025. Rep. Heather Edelson was elected Hennepin County Commissioner and has resigned her seat. There has been no change in Sen. Nicole Mitchell's status as her initial court hearing has been delayed to July. She has indicated that she does not intend to resign her seat.

Croonquist shared an update on two significant issues from the 2024 session - Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) and required training under the Read Act. He noted that the changes to the ESST law did not go as far as we had hoped, and that further guidance was coming from the Department of Labor and Industry. He also reported that there were ongoing discussions about the allowable uses for the funding that was approved to compensate teachers for the required training under the Read Act.

IV. Update on KnowledgeWorks Initiative

Chair Hill asked Laura Oksnevad and Lucy Payne to share an update on our partnership with KnowledgeWorks. Oksnevad began by reporting that a group of educators met at the end of May to review the strategy guide that KnowledgeWorks compiled from the Opportunity Analysis. Payne shared that we are looking to continue the work through the help of an additional grant from the Minneapolis

Foundation. Our work transitions now to storytelling. Executive Director Croonquist noted that we will be reviewing the final KnowledgeWorks report at our meeting next month.

V. Update on Fall Policy Conference

Croonquist reminded committee members that Dr. Darrius Stanley from the University of Minnesota has been secured as the keynote speaker for our fall conference. Croonquist asked committee members for input on a theme for the conference. After some discussion, the following theme was chosen: *It Takes All of Us: Engaging Communities for Educational Excellence*. We will be sending out an RFP for breakout presentations around August 1.

VI. Review Membership Survey Results

Croonquist asked committee members to review the recent membership survey results. The survey went to all AMSD board members, and other district staff were invited to share their feedback. A total of 35 responses were received and the feedback was positive regarding the types of communication used and the frequency of communications. Based on feedback in the survey, we have reserved a larger room for our 2025 Day at the Capitol which will be held on March 24.

VII. Recognition of Outgoing Committee Members

Executive Director Croonquist noted the terms for several committee members are ending:

Executive Committee: Crystal Brakke, Lucy Payne, Mary Kreger and Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed

Legislative Committee: Jill Lofald

Croonquist noted that we decided to recognize the outgoing members today due to Mary Kreger's retirement at the end of June. Both Croonquist and Hill thanked the outgoing committee members for their dedicated service over the past three years and presented them with an appreciation gift on behalf of AMSD. The outgoing committee members' terms continue through the July 26 meeting and the new members will be elected at the August 2 board of directors meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no other business, Chair Hill adjourned the legislative committee meeting at 8:16 a.m.