



MSBA Hot Topics

April 2026



Welcome



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This presentation and corresponding materials are for information and educational use only. This presentation provides general statements from federal law, Minnesota law, and agency guidance. The presentation does not include all legal considerations that may arise in a particular situation and the law is constantly evolving. Schools should consult with their attorney for specific legal advice, information, or individualized inquiries. If you have any questions about this presentation or the corresponding materials, please contact MSBA.



Types of Meetings

Regular

Special

Emergency

Closed



Types of Meetings

Regular

- Scheduled
- Schedule kept on file in the District Office
- No need to post or provide additional notice unless change in meeting date, time, or location then notice must be provided (see Special Meeting notice)



Types of Meetings

Special

- May be called by the chair, the clerk, or any three board members
- Must post notice of date, time, place, and purpose on the School District's principal bulletin board

AND

- Mail or deliver notice to those who have requested it at least three days before meeting

OR

- Publish notice in official newspaper at least three days before meeting



Types of Meetings

Emergency

- True emergency
- Judgment of the board
- Requires immediate consideration
- Good faith effort to give notice to media that requested notice
- Notice is to be by the same manner as notice is given to board members



Types of Meetings

Closed

School Board must have a legitimate reason to close a meeting

Check the law!

Board discomfort about discussing a matter in public is **NOT** a legitimate reason to close a meeting

Regular

Special

Emergency



Resource

Closed

**Resource
Library**

**Meeting
Management**

**General
Information**

General Information ▼

Dates with Meeting Restrictions 2025-26

Dates with Meeting Restrictions 2026-2027

Get Noticed: School Board Meeting Notice Q&A Guide

Guidance Regarding Juneteenth

Guidelines for Meeting Minutes

Inclement Weather and Rescheduling a Board Meeting

MSBA Closed Meeting Chart

Closed Meetings



Types of Meetings?

Work Session?

- Discussion only – no action.

Regular

Special

...with an **expectation** of no action.

Open Meeting Law



A Board member cannot attend the meeting in person tonight.

Can they attend using Zoom?

Yes!

2025 Legislative Changes to Remote Meetings

The 2025 Minnesota legislature amended the law covering remote participation by board members at board meetings (Minnesota Statutes 13D.02). The changes include:

1. The remote board member's location no longer needs to be posted
2. The remote board member's location no longer needs to be open and accessible
3. The district is no longer required to post the fact that a board member will be participating remotely

Important note: all of the other remote meeting requirements remain in effect, including mandatory roll call votes, the ability to see and hear one another, and the public's right to remote access. Please see [Minnesota Statutes 13D.02](#) for more information.

Resource

Remote Meeting Participation Guide

Resource Library

Meeting
Management

General
Information

Reminder

Member Participation: All board members, regardless of location, must be able to hear and see each other, as well as all discussion occurring at any location.

Members participating remotely count as present for quorum and participation.

Public Access: Members of the public at the regular meeting location must be able to hear and see all discussion and votes. To the extent practical, the school board should allow remote electronic monitoring of the meeting by the public.

Physical Presence: At least one board member must be physically present at the regular meeting location.

Voting Procedures: All votes must be conducted by roll call, with each board member's vote identified and recorded.

Meeting Notice: Notice must be provided of the regular meeting location and the possibility of board member participation by interactive technology, following the timing and method described in section 13D.04.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes must include the names of board members appearing by interactive technology and the reasons for their remote appearance.

Do you have **job descriptions**?



- **Pay increases / pay equity**
- **Unit definition**
 - Who can be removed from the unit?
 - Supervisory?
 - Confidential?
- **Requirements**
 - Licensure?

Are you **reducing staff?**

- **Tier 1 / Tier 2**
- **Individuals teaching under an “Out of Field Permissions”**
- **Reserve teachers / “super subs”**

Still negotiating?

Do you have language in your Master Agreement on how to handle substitutes?

- Short-call subs
 - ✓ 67 days?
- Super subs
 - ✓ Steps?
 - ✓ Salary?

Reduction of Teaching Staff – ULA Forms and Checklists

**Resource
Library**

**Human
Resources**

Teachers



Reduction of Teaching Staff: Placement on Unrequested Leave of Absence and Nonrenewal of Probationary, Tier 1, and Tier 2 Teachers

Document Modifications

School districts should fill indicated blanks as they use the model forms. School districts should consult with their legal counsel before making substantive changes to a model form.

Legal Notice

These materials are for informational use only and are not to be construed as legal advice. If legal advice is needed, the school district's legal counsel should be contacted. While current at the time it was created, this document may be later superseded by legislative or other action.

MSBA Leader Newsletter

Publications

Leader
Newsletter

Archived Newsletters

2026 Leader Newsletters

[March 23, 2026](#) | Featured update: [Teacher Resignations After the Statutory Deadline](#)

March 9, 2026

[February 23, 2026](#) | Featured updates: [Credit Card Use in School Districts](#) | [Election Results](#) | [February 10, 2026](#)

[February 9, 2026](#) | Featured updates: [Out-of-Field Permission Effects on Teacher Reductions](#) | [Congress approves fiscal year 2027 federal spending package: What school boards need to know](#)

[January 26, 2026](#) | Featured updates: [New Year Nuggets: "To-Do" List for School Districts](#) | [Resource Update: Reduction of Teaching Staff](#)

[January 12, 2026](#) | Featured update: [Special Message Regarding This Week's Leadership Conference](#)

2025 Leader Newsletters

[December 29, 2025](#) (Special Leadership Conference Edition)

[December 15, 2025](#) | Featured article: [Minnesota Paid Leave Template Language for Handbook](#)

[December 1, 2025](#) | Featured articles: [Hiring in the AI Era: Advice for Superintendents](#) | [Compensating Hourly Employees During School Closures](#) | [Minnesota Paid Leave Template Language for Handbook](#)

[November 17, 2025](#) | Featured articles: [Overtime for Hourly, Dual-Job Employees](#) | [Minnesota Minimum Wage Increase](#) | [Minnesota Paid Leave Certification Forms Available](#) | [Deadline for Minnesota Paid Leave Notifications is December 1](#)

MSBA Website Resources

**In YOUR school district,
who has access to MSBA's website?**

Reminder

**Ask your
Executive
Assistant!**

**School board members?
Add new and remove the "old"**

**Principals?
District office staff?**



The softball boosters would like to host a summer softball camp as a fundraiser.

The booster club plans to charge a participant fee and will use part of the fees to pay a stipend to a recent graduate who was an all-state softball player to run the camp.

What concerns do you have?

Employment?

Facilities?

Equipment?

Liability / insurance?





MSBAIT Matters

MSBAIT Matters

Building usage by outside entities....

#1

A local church rents the school district's gymnasium for a youth group event. One of the events is sumo wrestling, which utilizes suits with protective gear. However, the protective gear is not worn, and one teen hits their head on the cement wall causing head trauma. The local church had insurance, but the policy had inadequate coverage limits.

Result:

The school district's insurance policy paid medical bills exceeding \$1M.



MSBAIT Matters

Building usage by outside entities....

#2

The school district has a shelter on their grounds that can be rented through Community Education. A family rented the shelter for a family reunion. The school district requested confirmation of insurance coverage. The family provided a copy of their homeowners' policy; however, the coverage was lower than the required limit.

The school district followed up with the family and their insurance agent. The agent did not understand the statutory requirements, and the policy was unable to meet the required limits.

Result:

The family opted to rent a different shelter elsewhere, but they were very unhappy with the school district.



MSBAIT Matters

Building usage by outside entities....

902 - Use of School District Facilities and Equipment

VI. RULES FOR USE OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The school board expects members of the community who use facilities and equipment to do so with respect for school district property and an understanding of proper use. Individuals and groups shall be responsible for damage to facilities and equipment. A certificate of insurance may be required by the school district to ensure payment for these damages and any liability for injuries.



MSBAIT Matters

Building usage by outside entities....



To address these and other unique needs, the **Minnesota School Boards Association Insurance Trust** has partnered with **Marsh McLennan** and **AMBA CampusConnexions** to provide a coverage option for non-school groups.

Tenant User Liability Insurance Policy

For more information, go to <https://msbait.campusconnexions.com>

Hazards and Activities Covered

Premiums are calculated based on hazard classes. Host Liquor coverage is included in the policy, however, Liquor Liability coverage for sales of liquor by the host of the event may be purchased separately, if allowed by the facility. Below are some examples of events pulled from the policy hazard class chart.

HAZARD CLASS I (LOW)	HAZARD CLASS II (MEDIUM)	HAZARD CLASS III (MODERATE)	HAZARD CLASS IV (SUBMIT TO COMPANY FOR APPROVAL)
- Bar/Bat Mitzvahs	- Basketball	- Car Shows (outside)	- Bubble Soccer
- Business Meetings	- Church services/groups	- Cheerleading	- Challenge/Ropes Courses (not owned by the school)
- Educational Exhibitions	- Conventions	- Football - contact	- Drones
- Lectures	- Health Fairs	- Gymnastics	- Inflatables or Trampolines
- Luncheons	- Speaking Engagements	- Proms	
- Seminars	- Volleyball	- Wrestling (amateur)	



Coming: **Resources**

- **Employee handbook**
- **Booster Club/Outside Organization handbook**

Is there something else you need?

What to watch...

- **Health insurance (SF 2909 / HF 2904)**
 - ✓ Education Group Insurance Program (EGIP)
 - ✓ **Have you provided your organization's data?**
- **Minimum compensation (SF 3490 / HF 3119)**
- **Employer TRA contributions for retirees**
 - ✓ Rehires
 - ✓ Longterm substitutes
 - ✓ Short call substitutes
- **Tweaks to MN Paid Leave**

MN Paid Leave:
Successes?
Challenges?



What to watch...

- **Compensatory revenue (task force)**
 - ✓ Site allocation?
 - ✓ Allowable uses?
 - ✓ Hold harmless for FY27?
 - ✓ Other?

- ✓ **Survey distributed by MASBO....**
 - Formula feedback



What to watch...

- **PSEO**
 - ✓ Task force?
- **Permanent school fund**
 - ✓ Constitutional amendment?
- **Ballot language**
 - ✓ "By voting yes, your taxes will go up..."
- **Cell phone use**
 - ✓ Bans?



Mark your calendars...



Friday Chat Room

WEEKLY STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

During the Friday Chat Room sessions, the MSBA Government Relations staff provides valuable insights and updates on legislative matters relevant to education and school governance.

Mark your calendars...



Friday Chat Room

WEEKLY STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

2026 Friday Chat Room Schedule

Email invitations will be sent to members at least one day before each meeting. If you can't locate your email invitation, please contact MSBA's [Bruce Lombard](#) to request the Zoom meeting link.

Schedule is subject to change. (Some April sessions may be canceled due to the Legislature's Easter/Passover break.)

February 2026

February 20, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

February 27, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

March 2026

March 6, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

March 13, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

March 20, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

March 27, 2026 — [View recording](#) | [Access Chat Room notes](#)

April 2026

*Note: There will **NOT** be a Friday Chat Room session on April 3.*

April 10, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

April 17, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

April 24, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

May 2026

May 1, 2026 (Friday Chat Room Plus) — 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

May 8, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

May 15, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

May 22, 2026 — 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.



Mark your calendars...



3rd Annual MN Thought Leaders AI Summit 2026

Register



Mon, Jun 15, 8:30am - Tue, Jun 16, 4pm CDT
[Add to calendar](#)



Apollo High School
St. Cloud MN, United States

Trending Topics



[Registration is open for 2026 MN Thought Leaders AI Summit!](#)



[Access the MSBA Legislative Dashboard! Find important info regarding the legislative session and advocacy!](#)



[Stay informed on the latest education updates from the Capitol by watching the Friday Chat Room!](#)



[Access MnEEP's toolkit for upholding the human and educational rights of Minnesota students](#)

Mark your calendars...



Mark your calendars...



2027 MSBA Leadership Conference January 14-15

School
Excellence
Showcase

All State
School Board /
Rising Star

Workshops and
Roundtables

Nominate your
Band or Choir



Questions?



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Download the Presentation

