



MINUTES
SCOTT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 23, 2023

(1) CONVENE COUNTY BOARD, CONVENE SCHOOL BOARD

The Board of Commissioners, in and for the County of Scott, Minnesota, met in the County Board Room in the City of Shakopee, Minnesota, and convened at 6:03 PM. The following members were present: Commissioner Weckman Brekke, Commissioner Wolf, Commissioner Brennan, and Commissioner Ulrich. Commissioner Beer was absent. Commissioner Wolf presided.

The Shakopee School Board convened at 6:03 PM. The following members were present: School Board member Jeff Smith, School Board member Joe Aldrich, School Board member Tim Brophy, School Board member Caroline Valdez, School Board member Ibrahim Mohamed, School Board member Chad Johnson, Ex-Officio Student School Board member Aaditya Paranjape, and Ex-Officio Student School Board member Michelle Sieberg. Chair Kristi Peterson presided.

The following were also in attendance:

1. Lezlie Vermillion, County Administrator
2. Ron Hocevar, County Attorney
3. Suzanne Arntson, Health & Human Services Director
4. Nikki Conway, Child Welfare Manager
5. Steve Brown, Social Work Supervisor
6. Mary Kay Steves, Public Health Supervisor
7. Lisa Brodsky, Public Health Director
8. Danny Lenz, Deputy County Administrator
9. Nikki Hallberg, Social Work Supervisor
10. Jen Schultz, Library Director
11. Chris Harder, Quality Improvement Manager
12. Jake Grussing, Transformation & Enterprise Services Director
13. Tracy Cervenka, Business Operations Manager

Guests:

1. Mike Redmond, Shakopee Schools Superintendent
2. Jim Miklausich, Shakopee School Assistant Superintendent
3. Brett Kaufhold, Shakopee High School
4. Tiffany Olson, Director of Communications & Strategic Development
5. Lisa Rahn, Shakopee Schools District Office
6. Nikki Giel, Shakopee Area Catholic Schools
7. Jesse Lara, Shakopee City Council

(2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(3) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The members of the County Board and School Board introduced themselves.

(4) CONSIDERATION OF JOINT AGENDA AS PRESENTED - SCOTT COUNTY

Commissioner Weckman Brekke moved, seconded by Commissioner Brennan to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

(5) CONSIDERATION OF JOINT AGENDA AS PRESENTED - SHAKOPEE SCHOOL BOARD

School Board member Aldrich moved, seconded by School Board member Smith to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

(6) SABER PRIDE

6.1 Camper Cabins

Mike Redmond introduced Brett Kaufhold, the teacher who led the camper cabin project. Mr. Kaufhold introduced three students who were instrumental in implementation and construction of the camper cabins. Three Rivers carpenters are taking over to do finishing work on the cabins. Next spring, the students install furniture the class has made. This project helps to show the demand and need in this type of profession. In response to School Board member Mohamed, Mr. Kaufhold stated that throughout the project, 180 to 200 students participated at some point. Commissioner Brennan commented on the tour the Commissioners had of the camper cabins and noted the great work on the project.

6.2 National Principals Month

Shakopee Public Schools Assistant Superintendent Jim Miklausich introduced and shared a video highlighting National Principals Month during the month of October.

(7) COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

7.1 Shakopee Public Schools & Scott County Collaborative Plan

County Administrator Lezlie Vermillion provided an introduction to the first joint meeting between the County Board and Shakopee School Board. She noted the values of the Scott County Association for Leadership & Efficiency (SCALE) and how this meeting embodies those values. She reviewed the work the SCALE Live Learn Earn group has done which led to discussions of how to partner on improving outcomes for children. They are here today to talk specifically about early childhood screening and attendance.

Scott County Quality Improvement Manager Chris Harder led a presentation and discussion around a Collaborative Plan to improve outcomes for children. Following review and discussion of data, Ms. Harder reviewed recommended objectives and strategies staff prepared for Scott County and Shakopee Public Schools (SPS) to work on collectively.

Objective 1: Early Childhood Screenings: Children will receive early childhood screenings at age three to maximize opportunities to address barriers to learning, ensure schools are prepared to receive children with special learning needs, promote parent engagement in education, and make a long-term impact on students' academic success. Outcome: Double the percentage of children screened at age three by expanding the networks and processes for referring children to early childhood screenings.

Strategy #1: Working together, expand the network of referral sources and enhance the existing referral processes.

- **Tactic:** Identify at least five service provider groups (medical; "family and friends" childcare providers; etc.), with the greatest opportunity to increase the number of referrals made for screening. Coordinate targeted outreach, including in-person contacts, to build awareness of the process, purpose, and importance of screenings.
- **Tactic:** Develop and implement a coordinated calendar of outreach efforts and a marketing plan to families and referral sources, including written materials, in-person consultation, and social media.
- **Tactic:** SPS will engage Shakopee CAPS student(s) in assistance creating and distributing outreach materials.

- **Tactic:** Public Health staff will expand existing efforts to refer children to early childhood screenings by:
 - Implementing a text notification service, alerting families participating in WIC and Child & Teen Check Up when their child reaches age 3, and again at age 4, of the need for early childhood screenings, information about the school district, and assistance scheduling screening appointments.
- **Tactic:** SPS will edit the screening intake form to evaluate impact of outreach efforts and guide future improvement strategies. Start date: November 2023.
- **Tactic:** SPS will send school census data to Public Health to compare against birth records data to identify children unknown to the school district. Public Health will conduct outreach to families of children not on the census, and work to connect them to the district, improving the accuracy of school census data and increasing opportunities for early childhood screenings.

Strategy #2: Working together, expand opportunities for families to participate in early childhood screenings for three-year-old children.

- **Tactic:** SPS will expand scheduling opportunities for screening to include:
 - Expand evening hours until 7:00PM and double the number of appointments available after 5:30PM.
 - Add an appointment schedule for one Saturday morning per quarter.
 - Adjust current daytime schedules to include appointments on Fridays, based on parent requests.
- **Tactic:** Public Health staff will complete hearing and vision checkups, forwarding to the school district, reducing the time it takes for the school staff to conduct each screening:
 - Public Health will conduct hearing and vision tests at WIC appointments for all three- and four-year-old children and connect families to the school district.
 - Public Health will hold hearing and screening checks at the Family Resource Centers once per month.
- **Tactic:** Jointly agree on 3-4 data measures, reported annually, that reflect practices and outcomes of early childhood screenings.
- **Tactic:** Jointly review the list of students not screened before they entered kindergarten in September 2023. Identify common elements to inform future outreach and referral efforts.

Strategy #3: Review progress in February 2024.

- **Tactic:** Reconvene planning team and review progress. If not on track to meet performance goal:
 - Develop and implement a plan for the use of County resources (equipment, space, evaluators) which stand ready to conduct screenings and support continued progress towards the goal.
 - Develop and implement a mobile service delivery model, including but not limited to screenings in the libraries, WIC, Family Resource Center(s) and the Readmobile.

Objective 2: Attendance: Children will attend school consistently, engaged in learning, and parents will have enhanced capacity to address child well-being and ensure consistent school attendance.

Strategy #1: Engage a collaborative leadership team of school and County staff to drive proactive and innovative approaches to support consistent attendance.

- **Tactic:** Together, expand understanding each organization's roles and processes, "weaving together" opportunities to align support for consistent attendance and reduce the need for students' involvement in involuntary, "deep end" County services.
- **Tactic:** SPS will define and implement robust efforts by school personnel to engage students and families before referring to County enforcement services.
- **Tactic:** Together, develop and implement personalized preventative outreach efforts, including support for classroom teachers who are often the first point of contact with families.

- **Tactic:** Together, design a family services support worker model to improve outreach and engagement with students and their families. Consider priority needs, target population, and service delivery model.

Strategy #2: Ensure timely referrals to existing prevention programs.

- **Tactic:** SPS will develop and implement steps to improve the consistency and accuracy of attendance records and parental notifications of student absences.
- **Tactic:** SPS will examine truancy and educational neglect referrals to the County and collect data on whether students were first referred to prevention programs.

Strategy #3: Improve data collection, analysis, and communication of results.

- **Tactic:** Together, conduct a deeper examination of absenteeism data, 15-day drop disenrollment, and student survey data to create a baseline of what is currently understood about students who are disenrolled and those who do not attend school regularly, used to inform future improvement strategies.
- **Tactic:** Together, develop and implement a joint communication plan for sharing data and results (November, March, June) with SPS administrators and County administration.
- **Tactic:** Reconvene the planning team in February 2024 to review progress.

The County and School Board members expressed support for moving forward together toward the objectives set forth.

7.2 Academies of Shakopee & District Partnerships

Shakopee Schools Director of Communication & Strategic Development Tiffany Olson provided information on School District's many partnerships.

(8) UPCOMING MEETINGS & IMPORTANT DATES

There were no announcements.

(9) ADJOURN SCHOOL BOARD, ADJOURN COUNTY BOARD

On a motion by School Board Member Johnson, seconded by School Board member Mohamed, the School Board meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM

On a motion by Commissioner Brennan, seconded by Commissioner Ulrich, the Board meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM

County Board Chair

Clerk to the Board/County
Administrator

Deputy Clerk to the Board