official proceedings of Butterfield-Odin

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular
School Board Meeting
Monday, August 3, 2026
6:00 p.m.
Butterfield City Fire Hall

Vision: The Butterfield-Odin Public School provides a safe, welcoming and challenging learning environment for all students where differences are assets. We partner with families to instill the qualities whereby all students are engaged in and accountable for their learning.

Call meeting to order

The Regular August Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board Chair Shannon Sykes at **6:01 p.m.** in the media center

Roll Call of Board Members done by Board Clerk, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

School Board members present: Katlyn Kueker, Connie Braaten, Cally Mathistad, Valerie Ommodt, Shannon Sykes, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

School Board members absent: Susan Fast

Guests: Superintendent Blankenship

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of the District's Vision Statement by Superintendent Blankenship

Approval of Agenda as Presented/Amended

Motion by Valerie Ommodt, Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the agenda as presented. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approve Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Cally Mathistad, Second by Katlyn Kueker to approve the July 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Payment of August Bills

Motion by Connie Braaten, Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the payment of August bills. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Information

Other

Reports

Superintendent/ Principal -Superintendent Blankenship reported

Action Items

Resolution Relating to the Election of the School Board Members and Calling the School District General Election

Motion by Shannon Sykes, Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the **Resolution Relating to the Election of the School Board Members and Calling the School District General Election.**

Roll Call Votes:

Ayes: Connie Braaten, Katlyn Kueker, Cally Mathistad, Valerie Ommodt, Shannon Sykes, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

Nays: None

Absent: Susan Fast

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries

Approval of 2026-2027 Student/Parent Handbook

Motion by Pam Xayaphonesongkham, Second by Cally Mathistad to approve the 2026-2027 Student /Parent Handbook-2nd Reading. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approval of 2026-2027 Faculty Handbook

Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Katlyn Kueker to approve the 2026-2027 Faculty Handbook-2nd Reading. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approval of 2026-2027 Technology Policy Handbook

Motion by Connie Braaten, Second by Cally Mathistad to approve the 2026-2027 Technology Policy Handbook-2nd Reading. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Amend 2026-2027 Fee Sheet

Motion by Connie Braaten, Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to amend the 2026-2027 Fee Sheet. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Resignation

Motion by Connie Braaten, Second by Katlyn Kueker to approve the resignation from Amanda Nelson, Administrative Assistant as of Tuesday, August 21, 2026. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Advertise Office Position

Motion by Connie Braaten, Second by Valerie Ommodt to approve the Superintendent to advertise for Office position. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Other

Public Comment

Any person attending is encouraged to speak at this time with questions or concerns regarding the district. The Board will take all into consideration and if action is needed it will be put onto the next month's agenda. If your comment involves any staff member, Principal, and/or Superintendent we encourage that you go through the Chain of Command established by the district in order to remedy the situation. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person on any item/matter.

Adjourn

Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to adjourn the August Regular School Board Meeting. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries** The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Next meeting: Regular School Board Meeting: Monday, September 21, 2026 **Time:** 6:00 p.m. at Butterfield - Odin School Media Center

Pamela Xayaphonesongkham
Butterfield-Odin
School Board Clerk

Regular
School Board Meeting
Monday, Sept. 21, 2026
6:00 p.m.
Butterfield School Media Center

Vision: The Butterfield-Odin Public School provides a safe, and challenging learning environment for all students where differences are assets. We partner with families to instill the qualities whereby all students are engaged in and accountable for their learning.

Call meeting to order

The Regular September Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board Chair Shannon Sykes at **6:00 p.m.** in the media center

Roll Call of Board Members done by Board Clerk, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

School Board members present: Shannon Sykes, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

School Board members absent: Katlyn Kueker

Guests: Superintendent Blankenship, Principal Banks, Lucia Beckendorf, Belgarde

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of the District's Vision Statement by Superintendent Blankenship

Approval of Agenda as Presented/Amended

Approval of Agenda Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Susan Fast to approve the agenda as presented. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approve Meeting Minutes

Regular: August 3rd, 2026

Motion by Cally Mathistad Second by Connie Braaten to approve the Regular: August 3, 2026 meeting minutes. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Finance Report

Payment of September Bills

Motion by Pam Xayaphonesongkham Second by Valerie Ommodt to approve the payment of September bills. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Information

Prom: Saturday, April 17, 2027

Homecoming: September 28 - October 2, 2026

After Prom hosting Halloween Trail: October 10, 2026 at Voss Park

Butterfield-Odin Foundation Auction Fundraiser: October 17, 2026 4:00-7:00 p.m. Lg. Gym

Other

Reports: Superintendent/ Principal

Principal Banks reported

Superintendent Blankship reported

Action Items

2026 Payable 2027 Levy

Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Connie Braaten to adopt and certify the maximum and proposed 2026 Payable and 2027 Levy. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Truth and Taxation Meeting

Motion by Connie Braaten Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the Truth and Taxation meeting to be held during the December 21, 2026 regular meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Proposed discharge of continuing contract teacher pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 122A.40

Motion by Pam Xayaphonesongkham Second by Connie Braaten to approve the discharge.

Roll Call Votes: Ayes: Connie Braaten, Valerie Ommodt, Cally Mathistad, Shannon Sykes, Pam Xayaphonesongkham

Nays: None

Absent: Katlyn Kueker

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries

Approve the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP)

Motion by Cally Mathistad Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approval of Wrestling Pairing Agreement

Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Connie Braaten to approve the following agreement is with Windom, Mountain Lake, and Mountain Lake Christian with a change in practice. Practice will be held in Windom at a rented facility. The cost will be based on the number of participants. We have one from last year which will be $561.00. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Non-renewal of coach assignments for Peter Rogotzke (Head Girls' Volleyball and Assistant Girls' Basketball).

Motion by Connie Braaten Second by Susan Fast to non-renew Peter Rogotzke's Head Girls' Volleyball and Assistant Girls' Basketball coaching positions. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Resignation

Motion by Cally Mathistad Second by Pam Xayaphonesongkham to approve the resignation of Chastity Nelson as a paraprofessional as of August 8, 2026. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Approval of 2026-2027 Fall Athletic Coaches

Motion by Pam Xayaphonesongkham Second by Connie Braaten to approve the following 2026-2027 Fall Coaches:

Matt Vongsy Head Soccer Coach

Michael Mattick Assistant Soccer Coach

Jaime Banks Head Volleyball Coach

Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries

Hire

Motion by Valerie Ommodt Second by Cally Mathistad to approve the hiring of Vanessa Rodriguez per positive background check, for Administrative Assistant starting on September 28, 2026. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

Other

Public Comment

Any person attending is encouraged to speak at this time with questions or concerns regarding the district. The Board will take all into consideration and if action is needed it will be put onto the next month's agenda. If your comment involves any staff member, Principal, and/or Superintendent we encourage that you go through the Chain of Command established by the district in order to remedy the situation. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person on any item/matter.

Adjourn

Motion by Second by to adjourn the September Regular School Board Meeting. **Vote: Yes 6 No 0— carries**

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Next meeting: Regular School Board: Monday, October 19, 2026 Time: 6:00 p.m. at Butterfield-Odin School Media Center.

Pamela Xayaphonesongkham
Butterfield-Odin
School Board Clerk

NOTICE

Second half of agricultural taxes are due and must be postmarked on or before—

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

Please include payment stub when paying your taxes. Note penalty on reverse side of tax statement for late payment.

Online payment and autopay options available at **cottonwoodcountymn.gov**

Thank you!

Carolyn Rempel
Cottonwood County
Auditor/Treasurer

COTTONWOOD COUNTY, MN

28TH ANNUAL CARING ROSE WEEK
NOVEMBER 9-14, 2026

Donate Two Cans of Food for the Hungry & We'll Give You a Dozen Roses for Only $10!

MOUNTAIN LAKE FLORAL & DESIGN
507-427-3800

Caring Rose Week™ is a registered trademark of North American Wholesale Florist,™Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

NEED REPRINTS?

Visit **www.mtlakenews.com** and click on the photo gallery icon on the bottom. Click on a specific week (sports or news choices). Scroll through the photos and write down name, date and number of photo(s).

Call the office with your order, 507-831-3455.

OBSERVER / ADVOCATE

Dining and Entertainment

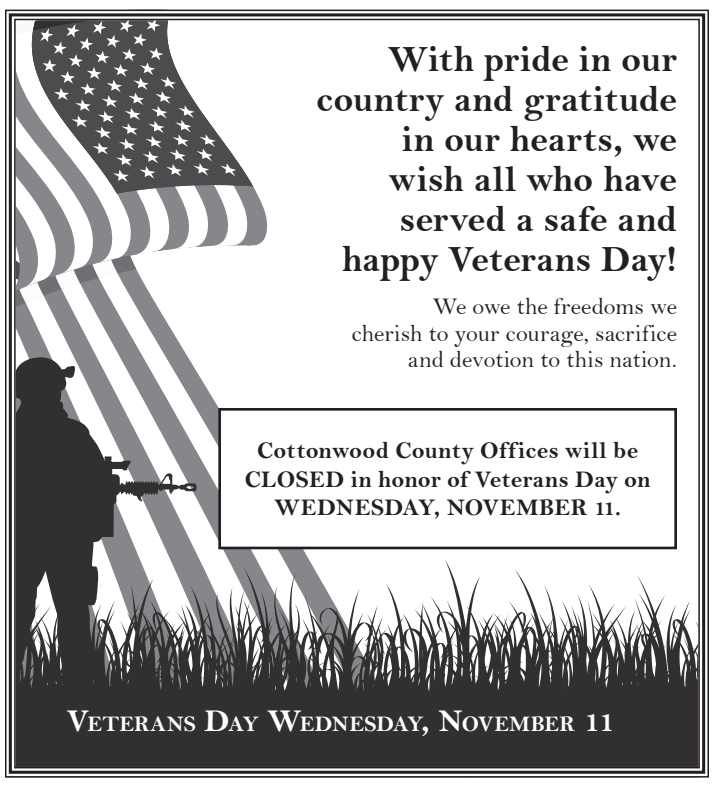
Princess Theater
St. James, MN
The Cat in the Hat

PG
Nov. 6 - Nov. 8
Fri. & Sat. • 7:00 p.m.
Sun. • 4:00 p.m.
All Tickets $5.00
www.ci.stjames.mn.us click on Theater Icon • 507-375-4370

Heron Lake
Fall Craft and Vendor Show
Saturday, Nov. 14
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Heron Lake Community Center
312 10th Street, Heron Lake
LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE
Many different vendors to meet your holiday shopping needs!

Sponsored by the Blue Heron Days Committee and KDOM Windom Radio

Mmm, mmm, good
So much better than anything out of a can!
It's time for Mountain Lake Christian School's Annual
borscht supper
and 5th & 6th grade bake sale
Friday, November 6, 2026 • 4:30-8:00 p.m.
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
and 60 years of the borscht supper!
Homemade Vegetable Beef Soup (Borscht)
Gluten-free Borscht available upon request
Homemade Bread • Homemade Pie
(All you can eat Borscht and bread)
Grade 7-Adult $10 • K-6 $5 • Pre-K Free
Take home quarts and gallons available
Mountain Lake Christian School
Location: 710 11th Street N • Mt. Lake, MN



With pride in our country and gratitude in our hearts, we wish all who have served a safe and happy Veterans Day!

We owe the freedoms we cherish to your courage, sacrifice and devotion to this nation.

Cottonwood County Offices will be CLOSED in honor of Veterans Day on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

VETERANS DAY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

—BUTTERFIELD-ODIN—
Students of the Month

Senior High Division
Eric Perez Lopez

Junior High Division
Kayleigh Steinbrink

Elementary Division

Kindergarten: Everleigh Ekstrom
1st Grade: Jazlyn Zuniga
2nd Grade: Nalah Garcia
3rd Grade: Belinda Gomez Orozco
4th Grade: Edwin Saquic Orozco
5th Grade: Lizbeth Temaj Perez
6th Grade: Josue Miranda Hernandez

THIS RECOGNITION SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY:

BTA Butterfield Threshermen's Association
Butterfield, MN