



Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, September 3rd from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

[Zoom link](#) (if this link does not work, please use the link in the calendar invite)

Current leadership

Role	Student Information
President	Alex Bender: Anoka Ramsey Community College - Coon Rapids
Vice President	Aaron Eischen: Inver Hills Community College
Treasurer	Rose Sargent: South Central College - North Mankato
Secretary	Roxy Manzano, Rochester Community and Technical College
Region 1 Rep: North	Tarrell Dukes: Minnesota North
Region 2 Rep: Central	Adrianna Rodriguez: Ridgewater College
Region 3 Rep: South	Denise Tonche: South Central Community College (Chair)
Region 4 Rep: Metro West	Kate Syrovatskaya: Normandale College
Region 5: Metro East	Issa Adan: Century College
Region 6: The Cities	Nichole Nash: Minneapolis College
Region 7: Metro Northwest	Ryan Ismail: North Hennepin Community College (Vice Chair)

Rights and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

Rights	Responsibilities
Access to financial statements	Read the statements and understand them

	enough to participate meaningfully
The right to be well informed (political, financial language)	Communicate training needs and ideas (especially for future leaders)
Right to be an advocate, to use/have a voice	Doing right by the students, represent responsibly (effectively/accurately)
Approve amendments to the bylaws	Read, review, understand Bylaws - communicate to other students any changes
Oversee, review LeadMN policies	Maintain policies and access to governing documents (e.g. being able to quickly access and refer to Bylaws)
Hire and oversee LeadMN Executive Director	Understanding ED job role and hiring process; support the ED to be successful in their role
Set a budget	Knowing historical budgets and actuals; accurate budget forecast based on goals
Adopt a motion and create a resolution	Identifying and proactively solving problems
Meet monthly	Work done is effective at advancing our goals
Advocate positions enacted at the fall GA	Understand GC roles and what seats are open
	Fiduciary responsibilities - understand them, attend training, ask questions

Meeting Agenda

Attendee list:

Open the Meeting and Consent Agenda Items: (2:00pm - 2:05pm)

1. September 2026 agenda

Welcome and icebreakers: (2:05pm - 2:10pm)

1. What was a highlight of your summer?

(Combined) Presentation Topic and Discussion Question: (2:10pm - 3:10pm)

1. Allocation Framework - Kevin Lindstrom, President Minnesota State College Faculty
 - a. [Budget attachments](#)
 - b. [Letter from MSCF to Chancellor Olson and VC Maki](#)
2. LeadMN response
 - a. What questions do directors have about this potential action from the board of trustees?
 - b. Initial feedback about LeadMN's stance

Action Items: (3:10pm - 3:30pm)

1. Vote on removal of Roxy Manzano from the Secretary position
2. [Operating Account budget actuals for FY26 \(BoD version with notes\)](#)
3. Appointments to MinnState Council and Committees
 - a. [Sign ups to date](#)
 - b. NEW: Strategic Academic and Facilities Planning Workgroup - 1 student needed
 - i. Guiding question: What programs, people, and places do we need to fulfill our mission in the future?
 - ii. Purpose: This workgroup is charged with leading the comprehensive systemwide planning effort. It will evaluate the system's overall structure, academic programming, workforce, and physical footprint against long-term financial and enrollment realities, and develop recommendations that ensure Minnesota State can sustainably fulfill its mission across all campuses and leased spaces.
 - iii. Start time: late October/early November. Will meet monthly for 12-18 months
 - c. NEW: Allocation Model Redesign Workgroup - 1 student needed
 - i. Purpose: This workgroup is charged with leading a review of the Allocation Model — evaluating the current model's components, weighting, and methodology, exploring alternative models/approaches, and developing recommendations for the Chancellor and Board of Trustees on how the model can better serve the system's institutions and students.
 - ii. Start time: late October/early November. Will meet monthly for 12-18 months
 - d. NEW: Long-term Strategy Taskforce - a combination of those two workgroups and needs to be 1 of the 2 students already assigned to one of the workgroups
 - i. The purpose of the Long-Term Strategies Taskforce is to provide strategic oversight, coordination, and decision-making for the work conducted by the two affiliated workgroups. The Taskforce ensures alignment with organizational goals, resolves cross-workgroup issues, monitors

- progress, and advances recommendations for leadership consideration and approval.
- ii. Start time: after the workgroups have begun. Will meet bi-monthly for 12-18 months.

Committee Reports and Discussion (3:30pm - 3:45pm)

1. Advocacy Committee
 - a. [Second Tuesdays at 2:00pm - 3:30pm](#)
 - b. [First meeting of the academic year is Thursday, September 10th](#)
 - c. [Welcome packet information](#)
2. Fiscal Committee
 - a. 3rd or 4th Thursday of the month from 2:00pm - 3:00pm
 - b. [First meeting of the academic year is Thursday, September 17th](#)
3. Steering Committee
 - a. Date TBD
4. Interest in ad-hoc committees for 2026/2027

Leadership and Staff Reports and Discussion (3:45pm - 4:00pm)

1. Alex Bender, President
2. Aaron Eischen, Vice President
3. Rose Sargent, Treasurer
4. Roxy Manzano, Secretary
5. Andrea Tritschler, Communications Director
6. Ben Howery, Advocacy and Program Director
7. Carin Bratlie Wethern, Development Director [Alumni Circle Sign Up Form](#) Please forward this to alumni!!
8. Jasmine Epps-Flowers, Manager of Events and Strategic Partnerships
9. Molly Leutz, Policy Director
 - a. [Student Policy Priorities Survey](#)
 - b. Policy Pathways Sign Up: [LeadMN.org](#) bottom of the page
10. Rachel Boeke, Executive Director
11. Teresa Gomes, Office and Property Manager

Review Items:

Staff reports

[Executive Director](#)

[Communications Director](#)

[Manager of Events & Strategic Partnerships](#)

[Program & Advocacy Director](#)

[Development Director](#)

[Policy Director](#)

Office Manager [1](#) [2](#) [3](#)

Leadership Council

[President](#)

[Vice President](#)

[Treasurer](#)

Secretary

Board of Directors

[Region 1](#)

[Region 2](#)

[Region 3](#)

[Region 4](#)

[Region 5](#)

[Region 6](#)

[Region 7](#)

Student Advocates

[Region 3](#)

[Region 4](#), w/ additional hours  Payroll August 22-31st Lead MN - Andrea Kimlinger.pdf

[Region 5](#)

[Region 6](#)

[Region 7](#)

System Advocates

[Region 2](#)

[Region 3](#)

[Region 6](#)

Associates

[Policy Leadership](#)

[Policy Communications](#)

[Advocacy Storytelling](#)

[Website - Christian Marshall](#)

[Website - Candace Vogel](#)

[Scholarship Database](#)

[Video Production](#)