



MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

MN CAMPAIGN FINANCE BD
24 JAN 29 AM 9:35

Complaint for Violation of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act

All information on this form is confidential until a decision is issued by the Board.
A photocopy of the entire complaint, however, will be sent to the respondent.

Information about complaint filer

Name of complaint filer	Dianne S. Miller	
Address	7686 Hillside Ct	Email address diannedmiller@protonmail.com
City, state, and zip	Wyoming MN 55092	Telephone (Daytime) 608-397-7735

Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about	Chisago Lakes Education Minnesota
Address	900 Long Lake Rd, Suite 110
City, state, zip	New Brighton, MN 55112
Title of respondent (If applicable)	
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)	

Dianne S. Miller

Signature of person filing complaint

1-23-24

Date

Send completed form to:

Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board
190 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

If you have questions call 651-539-1189, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us via the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may be reached by email at cf.board@state.mn.us.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-539-1180, 800-657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529.

Give the statutory cite to the section of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, Ch 10A.20 Sub 2(b) and 211B.04 Sub 1(a) or Minnesota Rules you believe has been violated:

You will find links to the complete text of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 - 4525 on the Board's website at cfb.mn.gov.

Nature of complaint

Explain in detail why you believe the respondent has violated the campaign finance and public disclosure laws. Attach extra sheet(s) of paper if necessary. Attach any documents, photographs, or other evidence needed to support your allegations. Electronic files may be provided to the Board by email or via a file transfer service.

10A.20 Sub 2(b) states: In each year in which the name of a candidate for legislative or district court judicial office is on the ballot, the report of the principal campaign committee must be filed 15 days before a primary election and ten days before a general election, seven days before a special primary election and seven days before a special general election, and ten days after a special election cycle.

211B.04 Sub 1(a) A person who participates in the preparation or dissemination of campaign material other than as provided in section 211B.05, subdivision 1, that does not prominently include the name and address of the person or committee causing the material to be prepared or disseminated in a disclaimer substantially in the form provided in paragraph (b) or (c) is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Please see attached Exhibit A and copies of expenses and mailings.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4525 describe the procedures required for investigating complaints. A full description of the complaint process is available on the Board's website. Briefly, the Board will notify you when it has received your complaint. The Board must send a copy of the complaint to the respondent. Complaints and investigations are confidential. Board members and staff cannot talk about an investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or to take action in the matter. After the Board issues a decision, the record of the investigation is public.

The law requires a complaint to go through two stages before the Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie determination and a probable cause decision. If the complaint does not pass one of the stages, it must be dismissed. The Board chair or their designee has 10 business days after receiving your complaint to determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie violation. If the complaint alleges a prima facie violation, the Board has 45 days to decide whether probable cause exists to believe a violation that warrants a formal investigation has occurred. Both you and the respondent have the right to be heard on the issue of probable cause before the Board makes this decision. The Board will notify you if the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

If the Board determines that probable cause does not exist, the Board will dismiss the complaint. If the Board determines that probable cause exists, the Board may start an investigation. In some cases the Board will issue findings, conclusions, and an order as its decision. In other cases the Board will instead enter into a conciliation agreement with the respondent. The Board's final decision will be posted on the Board's website.

EXHIBIT A

Background: Chisago Lakes Education Minnesota (CLEM) endorsed a school board candidate (Sarah Aadland) for a special election held on Nov 7, 2023.

10A.20 Sub 2(b) states: *"In each year in which the name of a candidate for legislative or district court judicial office is on the ballot, the report of the principal campaign committee must be filed 15 days before a primary election and ten days before a general election, seven days before a special primary election and seven days before a special general election, and ten days after a special election cycle."*

CLEM failed to file their Campaign Financial Reports in a timely manner:

- CLEM's first Campaign Finance Report actually lists the candidate at the top instead of CLEM (EXHIBIT B).
- The first expense for \$612.00 was dated 10/8/23. The initial report should have been filed on or by 10/23/23 (EXHIBIT B).
- The other expenses totaling \$954.23 were dated 10/31/23. The filing for those expenses should have been filed immediately since that was within the seven days prior to the special election (EXHIBIT B).
- CLEM did not file a Campaign Finance Report until 11/6/23, and it was not posted to the Chisago Lakes School Board site until 11/7/23 (EXHIBIT B).
- The next Campaign Finance Report filed by CLEM is dated 11/20/23, a full thirteen days after the election (EXHIBIT C).
- The first expense on the 11/20/23 report was dated 10/6/23. That expense should have been reported on or before 10/20/23, and was submitted a full month late (EXHIBIT C).
- The remaining expenses should have been filed immediately since they were within the seven days prior to the special election on 11/7/23 (EXHIBIT C).

211B.04 Sub 1(a) states: *"A person who participates in the preparation or dissemination of campaign material other than as provided in section 211B.05, subdivision 1, that does not prominently include the name and address of the person or committee causing the material to be prepared or disseminated in a disclaimer substantially in the form provided in paragraph (b) or (c) is guilty of a misdemeanor."*

- CLEM failed to identify themselves on the disclaimer for Postcards #4062 (EXHIBIT D) and #3946 (EXHIBIT E). CLEM falsified the disclaimer on both mailings by stating: "Prepared and paid for by Our Schools, Our Responsibility, P.O. Box 70, Lindstrom, MN 55045."
- I have done a thorough search of the Secretary of State website and could not find the organization Our Schools, Our Responsibility, which led me to research where the money came from.

Implications:

- Voters in the school district did not know the amount of money donated by CLEM until after the election.
- I believe if voters in the school district knew the amount of money donated to Sarah Aadland by CLEM (a total of \$6,024.68), certainly could have disproportionately affected the outcome of the election in favor of Sarah Aadland, CLEM's endorsed candidate.
- Voters in the district were deceived by CLEM when they sent out two postcards with a false name in the disclaimer. This deception made it seem like there was an independent organization that supported the referendum.
- Falsifying records erodes the integrity of CLEM and the Chisago Lakes School District, which is harmful to the public trust.

Thank you for your consideration and investigation into these issues.



Dianne S. Miller



INVOICE

CHISAGO LAKES EDUCATION MINNESOTA
409 N MAIN ST
CENTER CITY, MN 55012-9672

PLEASE REMIT TO:
Education Minnesota
Attn: Finance
41 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
651-227-9541
FAX 651-767-1220

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42987	10/31/2023	Net 30	11/30/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6909 -SB POSTCARD #2 MAILING - 4040	\$69.42
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6909 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$5.12
USPS MARKETING MAIL 10/24/2023 -SB POSTCARD #2 MAILING - 4040	\$304.95
XPRESS MAILING 10/28/2023 INV #32470 -SB POSTCARD #2 MAILING - 4040	\$75.00
TOTAL DUE	\$454.49



INVOICE

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CENTER CITY, MN 55012-9672

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St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
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FAX 651-767-1220

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42990	10/31/2023	Net 30	11/30/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6910 -SB POSTCARD #3 - 4041 HNADWRITTEN	\$49.13
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6910 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$3.62
TOTAL DUE	\$52.75



INVOICE

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CHISAGO LAKES EDUCATION MINNESOTA
409 N MAIN ST
CENTER CITY, MN 55012-9672

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42986	10/31/2023	Net 30	11/30/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6907 -SB POSTCARD #1 MAILING - 4039	\$69.42
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6907 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$5.12
USPS MARKETING MAIL 10/20/2023 -SB POSTCARD #1 MAILING - 4039	\$304.95
XPRESS MAILING 10/23/2023 INV #32383 -SB POSTCARD #1 MAILING - 4039	\$68.00
TOTAL DUE	\$447.49

Impact Printing LLC

1067 Rice Street
St Paul, MN 55117

INVOICE

Invoice Number: 57742
Invoice Date: Sep 28, 2023
Page: 1

Duplicate

Voice: 651.489.0803
Fax:

Bill To:
Sarah Aadland

Ship to:
Sarah Aadland

Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment Terms	
Aadland, Sarah		Net 10 Days	
Sales Rep ID	Shipping Method	Ship Date	Due Date
	Best Way		10/8/23

Quantity	Item	Description	Amount
35.00		18 x 24 signs	280.00
35.00		stands	43.75
28.00		24 x 48	560.00
3.00		4 x 48	270.00
Subtotal			1,153.75
Sales Tax			90.86
Total Invoice Amount			1,244.61
Payment/Credit Applied			
TOTAL			1,244.61

Check/Credit Memo No:

CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL REPORT

(All of the information in this report is public information)

Name of candidate, committee or corporation Chisago Lakes Education Minnesota # 7050

Office sought or ballot question #1 Bldg Bond for \$23,825,000 District Chisago Lakes #2144
#2 Operating Levy of \$355/pupil

Type of report _____ Candidate report
 _____ **X** Campaign committee report
 _____ Association or corporation report
 _____ Final report

Period of time covered by report: from _____ to _____

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED

Give the total for all contributions received during the period of time covered by this report. Contributions should be listed by type (money or in-kind) rather than contributor. See note on contribution limits on the back of this form. Use a separate sheet to itemize all contributions from a single source that exceeded \$100 during the calendar year. This itemization must include name, address, employer or occupation if self-employed, amount and date for these contributions.

CASH \$ _____ TOTAL CASH-ON-HAND \$ _____
 IN-KIND + \$ _____
 TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED = \$ _____

DISBURSEMENTS

Include the amount, date and purpose for all disbursements made during the period of time covered by report. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Date	Purpose	Amount
10/6/23	Postcard Mailing #1	1536.47
10/30/23	Postcard mailing #2	1524.83
11/14/23	campaign coordinator stipends	800.00
10/30/23	mailing hand written postcards	108.90
	TOTAL	<i>see attached</i>

CORPORATE PROJECT EXPENDITURES

Corporations must list any media project or corporate message project for which contribution(s) or expenditure(s) total more than \$200. Submit a separate report for each project. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Project title or description _____

Date	Purpose	Name and Address of Recipient	Expenditure or Contribution Amount
		TOTAL	

I certify that this is a full and true statement. *Sheryl L. Spray* 11/20/23
 Signature Date

Printed Name Sheryl L. Spray Telephone 612-801-1989 Email (if available) sspray@

Address 4748 252nd St. Wyoming, MN 55092 isd2144.org

Report

Office

Name

For Office Use Only:

INVOICE



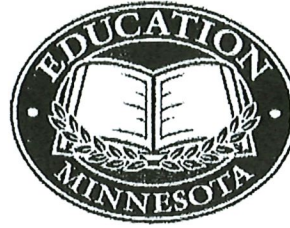
CHISAGO LAKES EDUCATION MINNESOTA
ATTN: SHEILA WIEHL & SHERYL SPRAY
533 SIMONSON RD
ST CROIX FALLS, WI 54024

PLEASE REMIT TO:
Education Minnesota
Attn: Finance
41 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
651-227-9541
FAX 651-767-1220

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42757	10/06/2023	Net 30	11/05/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6787 -POSTCARD #1 MAILING - #3946	\$254.98
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6787 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$18.80
USPS MARKETING MAIL 9/25/2023 -POSTCARD #1 MAILING - #3946	\$1,124.69
XPRESS MAILING 10/4/2023 INV #32275 -POSTCARD #1 MAILING - #3946	\$138.00
TOTAL DUE	\$1,536.47

INVOICE



CHISAGO LAKES EDUCATION MINNESOTA
ATTN: SHEILA WIEHL & SHERYL SPRAY
533 SIMONSON RD
ST CROIX FALLS, WI 54024

PLEASE REMIT TO:
Education Minnesota
Attn: Finance
41 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
651-227-9541
FAX 651-767-1220

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42898	10/30/2023	Net 30	11/29/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6942 -POSTCARD #2 MAILING - #4062	\$253.65
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6942 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$18.71
USPS MARKETING MAIL 10/15/2023 -POSTCARD #2 MAILING - #4062	\$1,117.47
XPRESS MAILING 10/28/2023 INV #32408 -POSTCARD #2 MAILING - #4062	\$135.00
TOTAL DUE	\$1,524.83

Education Minnesota Local Election Coordinators Application – Referendums

Starting in August 2022, the Education Minnesota Political Action Committee will be funding up to two Campaign Coordinators for each referendum or school board election in locals who qualify for financial resources (the local must have 90% or more of their members contributing to the Education Minnesota PAC). There is a stipend of \$400 for each of the Campaign Coordinator(s). See attached job descriptions for each position.

Locals are required to complete this form and email it to Jim Meyer at jim.meyer@edmn.org when you have selected your coordinator(s).

Local: Chicago Lakes Education Minnesota
Local President Name: Sheila Wiehl & Sheryl Spray
Email: sspray@isd2144.org Cellphone: 612-801-1989
Local Election (check one) Referendum School Board
Date of election: Nov. 7, 2023

Campaign Coordinator 1

Name: Sheila Wiehl
Email: swiehl@isd2144.org
Cellphone: 608-852-6809

Campaign Coordinator 2

Name: Sheryl Spray
Email: sspray@isd2144.org
Cellphone: 612-801-1989

As local president, I authorize these members to fill the above positions. Our local understands that we must pay these members the appropriate stipends listed above after the election and file for reimbursement after the election with other reimbursable expenses on our Education Minnesota Final Reimbursement Application.

Local President Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/15/23

Education Minnesota Staff Approval

This form MUST be approved and signed off on by Jim Meyer and returned to you to qualify for coordinator reimbursement. This signed form must be included with your reimbursement form after the election.

Education Minnesota Staff Signature: [Signature] Date: 9-19-23

Updated: June 27, 2023

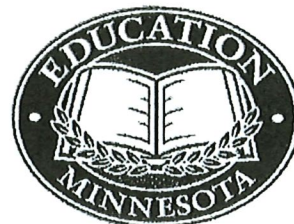
www.educationminnesota.org

Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers,
the National Education Association and AFL-CIO. 6253 3723



POLITICAL ACTION
COMMITTEE

INVOICE



CHISAGO LAKES EDUCATION MINNESOTA
409 N MAIN ST
CENTER CITY, MN 55012-9672

PLEASE REMIT TO:
Education Minnesota
Attn: Finance
41 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
651-227-9541
FAX 651-767-1220

INVOICE #	DATE	TERMS	DUE DATE
42990	10/31/2023	Net 30	11/30/2023

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6910 -SB POSTCARD #3 - 4041 HADWRITTEN	\$49.13
OCTOBER 2023 PRINTING ORDER #6910 SALES TAX MN State = 6.875% ; Chisago County Transit = 0.500%.	\$3.62
TOTAL DUE	\$52.75

Vote YES on the Nov. 7 referendum!

For more information, www.isd2144.org.



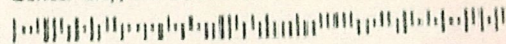
Support our kids, our community, our future.

Our schools, Our responsibility
P.O. Box 70
Lindstrom, MN 55045

PSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 582

*****SCH 5-DIGIT 55013

Ashley Hylla Olson and Aaron Olson
33853 Oasis Rd
Center City, MN 55012-9617



Vote YES on the Nov. 7 referendum!

What are we voting for?

Over the past 5 years, the district has made approximately \$5 million in budget cuts to balance the budget. With the additional operational levy, the dollars would help to support staffing, programs, and services that directly impact learning. At the same time, our facility needs are not going to go away, and construction costs are likely to increase the longer the district waits to address them. If voters approve the bond levy, students and staff will have safer and more secure schools with room to expand and keep class sizes reasonable. More importantly, addressing these facility needs now will keep costs low and address issues, depending upon the project, for the next 25 years. *This year's ask is 61% less than the 2022 referendum and almost 50% less tax impact.*

Voting YES on Question 1 allows the Chisago Lakes School District to:

Security

- ▶ Create secure classrooms on the third floor of Chisago Lakes Middle School. As well as update needed safety feature by installing fire suppression in the entry building
- ▶ Redesign secure entrances at Taylor Falls Elementary, Chisago Lakes Middle School, and Chisago Lakes High School.

Sustainability

- ▶ Roof replacements at the Primary School and Chisago Lakes High School
- ▶ Replace aged parking lots at Taylor Falls Elementary, Primary School, and Chisago Lakes High School
- ▶ Replace outdated concrete slabs and resolve outdated drainage issues at the District owned Bus Garage

Voting YES on Question 2 allows the Chisago Lakes School District to:

Stability

- ▶ Retaining and recruiting high quality staff
- ▶ Sustaining our current programs and services for students

Sustainability

- ▶ Establishing a full middle school model at the 6th grade level
- ▶ Adding one social studies teacher and two allied arts positions

Voting information

- ▶ **Early voting: Why wait until Nov. 7!** You may vote early in person Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. By going to Chisago Lakes School District Office located at 29679 Karmit Ave, Chisago City
- ▶ **Election Day:** Election Day in-person voting is Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can find your polling location at MNVOTES.ORG.

Vote YES on Nov. 7 for our children, our community, our schools!

Exhibit E

Larger version of back side of postcard

Vote YES on the Nov. 7 referendum!

What are we voting for?

Over the past 5 years, the district has made approximately \$5 million in budget cuts to balance the budget. With the additional operational levy, the dollars would help to support staffing, programs, and services that directly impact learning. At the same time, our facility needs are not going to go away, and construction costs are likely to increase the longer the district waits to address them. If voters approve the bond levy, students and staff will have safer and more secure schools with room to expand and keep class sizes reasonable. More importantly, addressing these facility needs now will keep costs low and address issues, depending upon the project, for the next 25 years. **This year's ask is 61% less than the 2022 referendum and almost 50% less tax impact.**

Voting YES on Question 1 allows the Chicago Lakes School District to:

- Security**
- ▶ Create secure classrooms on the third floor of Chicago Lakes Middle School. As well as update needed safety feature by installing fire suppression in the entire building
 - ▶ Redesign secure entrances at Taylor's Falls Elementary, Chisago Lakes Middle School, and Chisago Lakes High School
- Sustainability**
- ▶ Roof replacements at the Primary School and Chisago Lakes High School
 - ▶ Replace aged parking lots at Taylor's Falls Elementary, Primary School, and Chisago Lakes High School
 - ▶ Replace outdated concrete slabs and resolve outdated drainage issues at the District-owned Bus Garage

Voting YES on Question 2 allows the Chicago Lakes School District to:

- Stability**
- ▶ Retaining and recruiting high quality staff
 - ▶ Sustaining our current programs and services for students
- Sustainability**
- ▶ Establishing a full middle school model at the 6th grade level
 - ▶ Adding one social studies teacher and two allied arts positions

Voting information

- ▶ **Early voting: Why wait until Nov. 7?** You may vote early in person Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. by going to Chicago Lakes School Districts office located at 296 38 Karmel Ave., Chisago City.
- ▶ **Election Day:** Election Day in-person voting is Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can find your polling location at MINVOTES.ORG.

Vote YES on Nov. 7 for our children, our community, our schools!

Prepared and paid for by Our Schools, Our Responsibility, P.O. Box 70, Lindstrom, MN 55045 763-734-9

Postcard 3946

Exhibit D (Inv. # 42898)

OUR SCHOOLS, OUR RESPONSIBILITY
P.O. BOX 70
LINDSTROM, MN 55045

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 582



*****ALL FOR AADC 550
Jeanine and Theodore Hansen
25553 W Comfort Dr
Wyoming, MN 55092-9125



Prepared and paid for by Our schools, Our responsibility, P.O. Box 70, Lindstrom, MN 55045,  4062

ON NOV. 7,
MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!

VOTE YES

ON THE CHISAGO LAKES
SCHOOL REFERENDUM

FIND YOUR POLLING LOCATION
AT MNVOTES.ORG.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO
WWW.ISD2144.ORG.