MINNESOTA
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

MEMORANDUM

To: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

From: Amy Aho, Board Vice Chair

Date: February 20, 2026

Subject: Board Training Summary - REPORT

Summary

Since its formation in 2018, PELSB hosts an annual retreat with Board Members, Board staff, and community partners. For the first time, PELSB hosted a mid-year retreat to provide Board Members with training on key policy issues and with the opportunmity to further develop public engagement skills. The retreat was a concerted effort to prepare and educate Board Members on the magnitude of their roles in serving students and educators across the state. In addition to training on Roberts Rules and Open Meeting Law, the retreat was comprised of the following 3 sessions:

Session 1: Building a High-Performance Board

The Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) provided a tailored training on board dynamics and public policy engagement. This training focused on the stages of board development, characteristics of a high-performing board team, navigating board dynamics, and small-group interactions. The goal of this training was to equip board members with the tools and strategies to foster collaboration, enhance leadership, and drive education policy.

Session 2: Microcredentials – What are they and how can they be used to help Minnesota's teachers and students?

Across the country, state policymakers, agencies, teacher preparation providers, school administrators, and educators have been discussing the potential use of microcredentials. Because microcredentials have yet to be defined in a meaningful way in Minnesota, Board members spent this session digging into the concept, use in other states, and the potential impact on teacher training and continued education in Minnesota.

Session 3: Public Relations

PELSB's Communications Specialist, Tanwaporn Chino, led Board members through training on public relations, a key part of board work. The goal of this training was to prepare board members to engage with highprofile topics and use best practices when representing the Board.

Options

This is a report. No action is needed.