Minutes of Regular Meeting - Open

The Board of Education
Waunakee Community School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Waunakee Community School District was held Monday, August 10, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Waunakee Community School District, 905 Bethel Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597.

I. **CALL TO ORDER**
President Ensign called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Frey, to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(c), (e), (f) and (g) to review individual teacher contract recommendations, resignations and retirements, review individual co-curricular contract recommendations, review individual support staff/custodial staff recommendations, resignations, and retirements, and review student requests. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. Time 6:00pm

II. **ROLL CALL**
Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -N (brought in virtually for open session), Thornberg – N (arrived for open session)

III. **CLOSED SESSION - ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION PER WISCONSIN STATUTES 19.85 (1)(c), (e), (f), AND (g)**

A. Review the closed session minutes of the July 13, 2026, meeting and the revised closed session minutes of the June 8, 2026, meeting.

B. Update and Consideration of Legal Matters Related to the School District Including Current and Potential Actions Involving the School District.

C. Review Individual Administrator, Teacher, Co-Curricular, Support Staff & Custodial Recommendations, 2026-27 Department Chairs, Building Coordinators, New Teacher Advisors, Continuous Improvement Teams, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements,

IV. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**
A motion was made by Hetzel, seconded by Frey, to adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session. Motion carried 5-0. Time: 6:06pm.

V. **BOARD DEVELOPMENT**
The board discussed board governance and the boards role in the school district.

President Ensign welcomed all in attendance at 7:00pm. Ensign also noticed that Steve Summers will be filling in for Dr. Brown who was on vacation.

VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Murray, to approve the minutes for the July 13, 2026 regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS**
A motion was made by Frey, second by Eaton, to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried 7-0

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments for this meeting.

IX. **TEACHING STAFF, STUDENT, & BOARD REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Board Reports/Action Items

1. Board Reports on Educational Related Events, Meetings, or Trainings Attended by Individual Board Members

   Eaton attended the WI Public Education Network held in Superior WI. Waunakee received a shout-out regarding receiving a tax credit.

X. **COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Policy Committee Meeting

1. The July 15, 2026 Policy Committee meeting minutes were reviewed.
2. Policies for review and consideration

   Summers explained that annually the WASB sends notifications of policies or annual notices that have changed or need to be added. This is how several of these policies were brought for the board to review. Other policies were brought forward due to gaps in processes or process changes. Administration was available to answer any questions the board members had. A motion was made by Frey, second by Thornberg, to approve the policies listed as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

a. Policy 345.11 Grading Scale, Grade Point Average, and Class Rank
b. Policy 528.1 Staff Communications with Students
c. Policy 672.1 Purchasing Approvals
d. Policy 731.3 Security Cameras and Electronic Monitoring Equipment
e. Policy 732 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)

B. Budget Committee Meeting

   Summers - updated financial plan.

1. Review the August 4, 2026 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
2. Updated Financial Plan

   Summers reviewed and answered questions regarding the updated referendum financial plan.

C. Facility Committee Meeting

   Summers shared information regarding the facility committee

   HS S. Campus Press box and security.

1. The August 6, 2026 Facility Committee minutes were reviewed.
2. South Campus and Pressbox Security Camera Changes

   Summers presented and answered questions regarding the security camera improvements at the south campus and Warrior Stadium Press box. The Facility Committee is recommending approval utilizing the remaining contingency for the south campus high school project.

3. Projected Project Balance

   Summers presented and answered questions regarding an update to the committee on the financial status of the Middle School project. Admin will share a high level estimate of the additional project savings.

4. Middle School Track
   Summers presented and answered questions regarding the options for the middle school track. The original project plan was to apply a high-quality rubber coating to the top of the existing track. Upon evaluation, the selected vendor believes the rubber surface will have a limited lifespan due to the age of the original track base. Vogel has presented options that may be reviewed in the agenda for this meeting. The Middle School Principal and the Track & Field coach would like the rubberized surface to keep the athletes healthy.
5. Motorized Blackout Shades
   Summers and Lybeck answered questions regarding the blackout shades for safety enhancements at the new middle school.

XI. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Resolution to Establish a District Expulsion Hearing Officer

A motion was made by Thornberg, seconded by Frey, saying Be it resolved that the Board of Education for the Waunakee Community School District hereby authorizes the appointment of an independent hearing officer for the 2026-2027school year to determine pupil expulsion from the school under State Statute 119.25 Expulsion of Pupils. Sub (2). Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

B. Appoint District Expulsion Hearing Officer for 2026-2027

The administration is recommending that we continue with Jon Anderson of Husch Blackwell Law Firm as the expulsion hearing officer for the 2026-2027 school year. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Eaton, to assign Jon Anderson of Husch Blackwell Law Firm as the expulsion hearing officer for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

C. Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Recurring Purposes

Summers explained this resolution and answered any questions

A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Eaton, to approve the resolution authorizing the school district budget to exceed revenue limit for recurring purposes. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

A motion was made by Frey, second by Sonne, to draft a policy specifying the use of these funds in the absence of state funding. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

D. Initial Resolution Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed $97,500,000

Summers explained and answered questions regarding the general obligation bonds in the amount not to exceed $97,500,000. A motion was made by Thornberg, second by Hetzel to approve the resolution authorizing general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed $97,500,000. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

E. Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Recurring Purposes and an Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed $97,500,000.

Summers explained and answered questions regarding this resolution. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Murray, for a Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Recurring Purposes and an Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed $97,500,000. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Eaton -Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey-Yes, Hetzel-Yes, Murray,-Yes, Sonne -Y, Thornberg – Y

F. Referendum Communications Plan

Blackburn and Kit Daily from EUA discussed the district's communications plan for the November 2026 referendum. As part of the communication structure, two Board of Education members have been serving as liaisons on the weekly referendum communications team.

G. 4K Update

Moe reported that WCSD only has one space open for 4K at this time.

H. K-4 School Improvement Presentations

Fassbender, Kaminski, Schmuck, Morehouse, Weihert and Moe answered questions regarding the K-4 School Improvement information that was shared with the board prior to the meeting.

I. Advanced Placement Results

Lensert and Schell reported on our 2026 Advanced Placement (AP) results, including recent trends and opportunities to improve participation.

J. Announcements/Correspondence

Attached please find the schedule for the WASB regional meetings. If you are interested in attending the WASB region 12 meeting, please let Rebecca know no later than the October board meeting.

XII. **<u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>**

A motion was made by Frey, second by Thornberg, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

A. Approval of Checks
B. Finance
1. Monthly Finance Reports
C. 2026 Annual Meeting Agenda - August 24, 2026 @ 7:00PM, 905 Bethel Circle
D. Consideration of School Safety Drills
E. Gifts & Student Trips
1. Gifts
2. Student Trips
F. Approve Individual Administrator, Administrative Support, Teacher, Co-curricular, 2026-27 Department Chairs, Building Coordinators, New Teacher Advisors Support Staff & Custodial Recommendations, Continuous Improvement Teams, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements

New Administrative Staff
Elizabeth Hankins, PAC Director

New Teaching Staff
Britta Hesselberg, Cross Categorical Special Education, HS
Andrea Nelson, Cross Categorical Special Education, HES

New Support Staff
Stacey Bauer, Para Educator Regular Education, IS
Momodou Drammeh, Custodian, IS
Brandon Hillman, Para Educator Special Education, WAUNAGrow
Bonny Moran, LMTC Assistant, IS
Bethany Parker, Administrative Assistant for Summer School
Carson Pitz, Custodian, AES (replaces Edward Wafford)
Lindsey Westphal, Para Educator Special Education, PES

Resignations
Kari Gaffaney, Para Educator, Special Education, AES

Internal Changes - No Action
Carleigh Heintz, Administrative Assistant for Data and Scheduling,

XIII. **BOARD BUSINESS**
XIV. **FUTURE AGENDAS AND MEETINGS**
A. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
B. Special Meeting
A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Eaton to schedule a special meeting to approve the cash flow borrowing process right after the Annual meeting on August 24, 2026. Motion carried 7-0.
C. Budget Committee
D. Co-Curricular Committee
E. Curriculum Committee
F. Facility Committee
G. Human Resources Committee
H. Policy Committee
I. DEI Committee
XV. **RETURN TO CLOSED SESSION - NA**
XVI. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - NA**
XVII. **ACTION AS APPROPRIATE, ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION - NA**

XVIII. **ADJOURN**

The Board of Education adjourned at 9:36pm on a motion by Thornberg, second by Eaton, and passed unanimously by voice vote 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carlena Eaton, Clerk

Date: _________________________________
CE/rm