Minutes of REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Education
Wausau School District DRAFT

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Wausau School District was held Monday, September 14, 2026, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Nicholson Board Room, 415 Seymour Street, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403.

Present: James Bouche; Sarah Brock; Charles Burger; Nick Crochiere; Pat McKee; Cory Sillars; Lance Trollop; and Yauo Yang.

Absent: Jon Creisher;

I. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

II. ROLL CALL
Ms. Peck read the roll call.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Jim Bouché, President
President Bouché led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT
President Bouché read the mission statement.

V. PUBLIC AND STUDENT COMMENT
Jeff Decker made brief comments.

VI. Excellence in Action: Wausau School Foundation
Ms. Deb Traeder from the Wausau School Foundation gave a brief update on the exciting things happening in the Foundation. She also shared some upcoming fundraising events.

VII. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA **(Action Requested)**
A. Appointments (Additional Staff, Replacement Staff, Contract Increases)
Gus Johnson (Special Education Teacher/East) 1.0 FTE, effective 9/1/26.
B. Separations (Resignations, Contract Decreases, Terminations)
Amelia Dettmering (1st Grade Teacher/Marshall) 1.0 FTE, effective 9/11/26; Olivia Dettmering (Kindergarten Teacher/Marshall) 1.0 FTE, effective 9/11/26.
C. Leaves of Absence
D. Retirements
Lisa Alexander (ML Teacher/Thomas Jefferson) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/4/27;
Kimberlee Ickert (Special Education Teacher/Jefferson) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/4/27.
E. Minutes: Regular Session of August 10, 2026, and Special Session of August 24, 2026.

F. Payment of Bills/Budget Status and Investment Report

G. Donations to the District

3 bags of chocolate from the Chocolate Café, (3) $20 gift certificates from Downtown Grocery, large basket w/ dunkin' merchandise and coupons, 20 cases of water, (4) $20, (6) $10, and (1) $60 gift cards from Hy-Vee, $20 gift certificate from Janke Bookstore, 4 free catering boxes coupons from Jimmy Johns, a free private yoga session certificate from Shelves of Aeaea, and a signed poster and baseball from the Woodchucks to the District; $16,418 from the Wausau School Foundation, $500 from Sheldon Rouse to Wausau East; and $5,000 from the MacDonald Foundation to Wausau West.

Pat McKee moved to approve the consent agenda with great gratitude for donations made to the District, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried 8-0.

VIII. OLD/RECURRING BUSINESS

A. Education/Operations Committee Meeting

1. Legal Expenses Summary for 2025-2026

At the August Committee of the Whole Meeting, Dr. Elizabeth Channel, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented a summary report of all legal counsel expenses incurred during 2025-2026. The report is separated by law firm and by type of legal advice sought. This is a written report that requires no action.

2. Approve List of Legal Firms **(Action Requested)**

Pat McKee moved to approve the attached list of law firms the Board and the District shall access for legal services deemed necessary by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, seconded by Yauo Yang. The motion carried 8-0.

3. Set Annual Meeting Date and Location **(Action Requested)**

Pat McKee moved to approve Monday, September 28, 2026, as the date for the 2026-2027 Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing. The meeting will be held at 5:00 in the Nicholson Boardroom at the Longfellow Administration Center, beginning with the Budget Hearing, followed by the Annual Meeting, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 8-0.

4. Share Equalized Value Estimates

Prior to October 1, only equalized valuations from municipalities are available. In order to project property value changes by school district, an assumption must be made that all property values in any given municipality change in a uniform manner. With this assumption, the District's property value is projected to increase 4.03% for the 2026-27 mill rate calculation purposes. Certified property value will not be available until October 1; the given projected property value will be used for the initial budget and during the annual meeting.

5. Recommendation for 2026-2027 Budget **(Action Requested)**

Pat McKee moved to approve the preliminary 2026-2027 general fund budget of $118,307,108 for expenses and $118,307,108 for revenue, for presentation at the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried 8-0.

6. Recommendation for 2026-2027 Tax Levy **(Action Requested)**
Sarah Brock moved to approve the projected tax levy of $45,848,693 for presentation at the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried 8-0.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Seclusion and Restraint Report **(Action Requested)**
Sarah Brock moved to approve of the 2025-2026 Seclusion and Restraint report as presented, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried 8-0.

B. Education/Operations Committee Meeting
There was none.

X. OPEN FORUM

A. Board Member Professional Growth & Development Report
Jim Bouche shared that he attended an WIAA event in Antigo and also shared that the WASB Region 5 meeting would be taking place at the end of the month in Rothschild.

B. Legislative Liaison
Cory Sillars shared information about the CESA 9 Annual report. He also shared that he attended various Open House events at the schools and invited everyone to the Build My Future Event.

C. Superintendent Commentary
Mr. Bushman shared that we successfully have finished up our 9th day of school. He thanked the Wausau School Foundation for all of their work and support. He also thanked the Wausau West Community for their grace while dealing with the road construction in front of Wausau West. He also gave a shout out to Dennis Garton at First Student for the super smooth start to the school year with bussing.

D. Presiding Officer Commentary
The Board Liaison Report for the month of September is as follows: Charles Burger attended two WASB virtual legislative meetings, the Wausau West Parent's Night and season home opener. He also served as a coach for Wausau Area Youth Softball over the summer.

XI. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTES
Cory Sillars moved to enter into closed session, seconded by Pat McKee. The motion carried 8-0 via roll call vote at 5:32 pm.

Sarah Brock – Yes
Charles Burger – Yes
Jon Creisher – Yes
Nick Crochiere – Yes
Pat McKee – Yes
Cory Sillars – Yes
Lance Trollop – Yes
Yauo Yang – Yes
Jim Bouche - Yes

A. Preliminary Discussion Regarding Potential Litigation 19.85 (g)

B. Reconvene in Open Session, to take further action if necessary and appropriate
Pat McKee moved to reconvene in Open Session, seconded by Nick Crochiere. The motion carried at 5:41 pm.

XII. ADJOURN
Cory Sillars moved to adjourn, seconded by Pat McKee. The motion carried at 5:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cory Sillars,
Board Clerk

CS:cp