

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, September 14, 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 Sonne, 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 7-0 on a roll call vote. Time 6:00pm

II. ROLL CALL

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

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

- A. Reviewed the minutes of August 10, 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, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements
- D. Review of the District Administrator's Evaluation - Goals

IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Hetzel, seconded by Thornberg, to adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session. Motion carried 7-0. Time: 6:57pm.

V. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- A. *Great on Their Behalf* by AJ Crabill book study
There was not time for Board development at this meeting.

President Ensign welcomed all in attendance at 7:02pm.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 10, 2026 REGULAR MEETING and AUGUST 24, 2026 SPECIAL MEETING

A motion was made by Eaton, second by Frey, to approve the meeting minutes as posted. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS

A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Sonne, to approve the agenda as posted with the addition under the board reports item to take action on the class action lawsuit discussed in closed session. 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. Teacher/Staff Report

1. Staff Report

Bethany Pottinger and Gina Pagel, teachers at Arboretum Elementary gave a staff update. They shared appreciation for the August start of the year days having work days and professional development days. They also appreciated that the para-educators had time before school started to collaborate with the teachers. The back to school keynote speaker was fantastic. The Middle School staff love the new building and are getting use to being spread out. There have been many positive reactions to having 4k in the buildings.

B. Student Reports

1. Student Council Report

Abigail Anderson and Alena Wagoner are the student representatives from the high school and gave a summary of what has been happening at the High School. They updated the board about the Freshmen first day and the responsibility of the upper-class mentors. Club Org fair was last week and there were many students signing up for all clubs and organizations especially Student council. Homecoming is on October 2nd with the dance on October 3rd. The transition to using the South Campus has been going well. Parent Square reviews are all over the board, but everyone feels it will be good once they are used to it. Cross country, football, soccer, swimming and volleyball have all started. The Formata (music boosters) will have the Raise the roof event on October 4th, One Act auditions have started. FFA will be hosting Heritagefest at Schumacher Farms and will also Host the State officers on another date. The start of the year is off to a great start.

C. Board Reports/Action Items

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

The board members reported that the ribbon cutting was well organized and everyone was appreciative for the gratitude for this great opportunity for our students. The library forum hosted by Dave Boetcher didn't have a lot of people but those present had a very good questions and there was a lot of good discussion. The referendum presentations have been going well. Great job to the team who has been presenting at these events and the referendum webpage is great.

The District has been contacted regarding a Social Media Class Action Law Suit. This is in regard to the impact social media has had on the K12 education and students. The lawfirm is bringing groups of districts in to join this lawsuit. A motion was made by Sonne, second by Hetzel, to enter in this agreement with this lawsuit, but to confirm that the contingency doesn't include any retainer and also confirm the percentage. Motion Carried 7-0.

X. START OF SCHOOL REPORT

Dr. Brown shared an update on the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Facility Committee Meeting

1. The September 6, 2026, Facility Committee Meeting Minutes were reviewed.
2. Consideration of Capital Maintenance Projects

A motion was made by Frey, second by Sonne, to increase the capital maintenance from \$1 million to \$1.25 million to complete the projects discussed and posted on the agenda.

Motion carried 7-0.

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

A. 5-12 School Improvement Presentations

The 5-12 administrators were present to answer questions regarding the 5-12 School Improvement Information that was shared with the board prior to the meeting.

For 5th-6th grade: Fassbender, Mommaerts, & Tewalt.

For 7th-8th grade: Schell, Kenas & Zibell

For 9th – 12th grade: Schell, Lensert, Gauerke, Hernandez, & Marshall

B. 2026-27 SAIL (School Administrators Institute for Transformational Leadership) Goals SAIL Goals

Fassbender and Schell presented and answered questions regarding the SAIL goals for 2026-27.

C. Consideration of Policy 661.5 Operational Referendum Funds

Brown and Summers presented and answered questions regarding policy 661.5 which was requested by the board. A motion was made by Frey, second by Eaton, to approve the policy as drafted using the longer version of the second paragraph as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Special Education Staff Directories by Building

Loken shared, presented and answered questions regarding the directories she created as part of her parent engagement and communication.

E. 4K Update

4K Director Miranda Moe provided the most recent data spreadsheet regarding 4K. The in school 4K has started off great. Board members are welcome to stop by to check them out.

F. Announcements/Correspondence

1. WASB Region 12 meeting

If you are interested in attending the Regional Meeting for region 12 on Oct. 28th, please let Rebecca know no later than October 12th.

XIII. CONSENT AGENDA

The board acknowledged the donation from Meffert Oil Company in the amount of \$2,000.00

A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Sonne, to approve the consent agenda as posted.
Motion carried 7-0.

A. Approval of Checks

B. Finance

1. Monthly Finance Reports

2. Approval of Fund 21 Accounts

3. Approval of Fund Balance Allocations

C. Seclusion and Restraint Report

D. Gifts and Field Trips

1. Gifts

a. Meffert Oil Pride Pump Donation for July and August — \$2000.00

2. Field Trips

a. Waunakee High School Girls Soccer - Adidas Tournament of Champions — Bettendorf, IA - April 30-May1, 2027

b. Waunakee High School Orchestra Trip to Chicago on Nov. 13-14, 2026

E. Approve Individual Teacher, Administrator, Co-curricular, Support Staff & Custodial Recommendations, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements

New Support Staff

Rachel Chisholm, Para Educator Special Education, MS (replaces Michele Hutchins)

Julie Gottschalk, Para Educator Special Education, MS (New)

Corey Jennerjohn, Para Educator Special Education, AES (replaces Kari Gaffaney/Paulette Rodriguez)

Janae Kyles, Custodian, PES (replaces Jack Bogost)

Joseph Peterson, Safety & Security Assistant, HS (New)

Kevin Plendl, Safety & Security Assistant, HS (New)

Brett Sime, Crossing Guard (replaces Diane Hoffman)

Ashley Waugh, Para Educator Special Education, IS (replaces Carleigh Heintz)

Kaitlin Zenger, Custodian, HES (replaces Matthew Richards)

Resignations

Jack Bogost, Custodian, PES

Harun Gurel, Computer Technician, HS

Elizabeth MacArthur, Para Educator Regular Education, AES

Matthew Richards, Custodian, HES

Co-Curriculars are posted in the extra section of the agenda.

XIV. BOARD BUSINESS - NA

XV. FUTURE AGENDAS AND MEETINGS

A. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

B. Special Meetings - Consider special meetings

The board needs to consider upcoming special meetings.

Tax Levy Meeting — A motion was made by Murray, second by Hetzel, to have the Tax Levy meeting on October 26, 2026 at 7pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Evaluation DAPES Summative Review – A motion was made by Eaton, second by, Thornberg to have the DAPES Summative Review meeting on March 15th @ 5:00pm Motion carried 7-0.

Evaluation Meeting - a motion was made by Hetzel, second by Sonne to have the evaluation meeting on April 5th @ 5pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Board workshop A motion was made by Eaton, second by Sonne, to have the board workshop on December 7th @ 5pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Fall Curriculum Presentation Event — November 17, 2026 @ 5:00pm

Spring Curriculum Presentation Meeting — March 2, 2026 @ 5:00pm

C. Budget Committee

D. Co-Curricular Committee

E. Curriculum Committee

F. Facility Committee

G. Human Resources Committee

H. Policy Committee

I. DEI Committee

XVI. RETURN TO CLOSED SESSION - NA

XVII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - NA

XVIII. ACTION AS APPROPRIATE, ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION- NA

XIX. ADJOURN

The Board of Education adjourned at 9:00pm on a motion by Sonne, second by Eaton, and passed unanimously by voice vote 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlana Eaton, Clerk

Date: _____
CE/rm