

Minutes of Budget Committee

The Board of Education Waunakee Community School District

A Budget Committee of the Board of Education of Waunakee Community School District was held Friday, November 7, 2025, beginning at 8:00 AM in the Waunakee Community School District, 905 Bethel Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hetzel called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Ensign (sub for Heinrichs), Hetzel, Sonne

Also Present: Summers, Moe, Brown (virtually), Newton (virtually)

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS

A motion was made by Ensign, second by Sonne, to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried 3-0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS There were no public comments for this meeting.

V. 2025-2026 PLANNING

A. Update

Summers presented and answered questions regarding the update on the process of completing the 2025-2026 budget process. Summers also presented and answered questions regarding an update on the progress and utilization of the McKinney-Vento district provided transportation.

VI. 2026-2027 PLANNING

Summers informed the committee of the process to prepare 2026–2027 budget scenarios regarding 4K. Brown introduced and explained the new state program called the Get Kids Ready Program which begins during the 2026-2027 school year. Summers review the assumptions of the base budget scenario, as well as scenarios with different 4K student counts. After much discussion regarding possible scenarios, the committee was interested to explore the scenario that includes making an 2026-27 4K contact offer to the sites. The Budget Committee also requested administration to evaluate scenarios of what would happen should a percentage of the 4K sites choose not to go with the district. The committee also asked the administration to look offering varying amounts to the 4K partner sites and also have administration share all the benefits, in addition with the contracted amount to the sites. Administration will continue to prepare scenarios for consideration by the Board.

VII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PROPOSALS

Summers presented and answered questions regarding a request from the committee to share more information regarding the savings with Data Wrangler and specifically clarification at the new Heritage site. Summers also gave an update on our natural gas purchasing program and requested a recommendation for the December 1, 2025 to April/May 2026 timeframe.

Sonne made a motion, seconded by Ensign, to recommend that the full board consider locking in our natural gas purchase to 75% of expected use from December 2025 – October 2026. Motion carried 3-0.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Summers shared information about clean energy incentives and the Middle School solar program.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The committee requested a comparison report the 26-27 budget.

X. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Sonne, second by Ensign to adjourn the meeting at 9:18am. Motion carried 3-0.