

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, November 10, 2025, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Horace Mann Middle School Library, 3101 North 13th Street, Wausau, WI 54403.

Present: James Bouche; Sarah Brock; Charles Burger; Jon Creisher; Cory Sillars; and Lance Trollop.

Absent: Nick Crochiere; Pat McKee; and Jennifer Paoli.

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 Bouche led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

President Bouche read the mission statement.

V. RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION: JT Michlig (**Action Requested**)

Cory Sillars moved to approve JT Michlig to receive the Resolution of Commendation, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 6-0.

VI. EXCELLENCE IN ACTION: Horace Mann Middle School

Horace Mann Principal, Dr. Phelps, presented the school report card for Horace Mann.

VII. EXCELLENCE IN ACTION: Wausau Area Montessori Charter School

Wausau Area Montessori Charter School Principal, Elizabeth Channel, and Montessori students provided an update to the Board and spoke about what they loved about their school.

VIII. PUBLIC AND STUDENT COMMENT

Jef Decker and Deb Foster made brief comments.

IX. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA (**Action Requested**)

A. Appointments (Additional Staff, Replacement Staff, Contract Increases)

B. Separations (Resignations, Contract Decreases, Terminations)

C. Leaves of Absence

D. Retirements

Timothy Kostroski (Health& Physical Education Teacher/West) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/8/26; Betsy Stangel (Math Teacher/East) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/8/26; Collette Brown (EL Teacher/Franklin) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/8/26; Shannon Young (Principal/School Counselor/EEA) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/30/26; and Karen Fochs (Director of Nutrition Services) 1.0 FTE, effective 6/30/26.

E. Minutes: Regular Session of October 13, 2025; and the Special Session of October 27, 2025.

F. Payment of Bills/Budget Status and Investment Report

G. Donations to the District

Hygiene supplies from HUB International, and \$250 from VFW Burns Post 388 to the District; \$500 from Knights of Columbus for Project Life; Pumpkins and Veggies from Kurt Hase to Lincoln Early Learning Academy; \$500 from the Knights of Columbus to Horace Mann; \$1,000 from an anonymous donor to Stettin Elementary; \$350 from Covantage Credit Union, and \$600 from Poland Chiropractic to Thomas Jefferson Elementary; \$92 from the American Online Giving Foundation to Wausau Area Montessori Charter School; \$350 worth of food and personal hygiene items from Forest Park Neighborhood, and \$1,000 from Sheldon Rouse to Wausau East High School; \$2,350 from American Family Cup, \$100 from Bethany Baptist Church, \$500 from Chatterbox Charities, \$500 from Custom Steel Inc, \$1,000 from Elevation Homes, \$419 from Ruth Geier, \$100 from Michael Moen, \$225 from the Needle Workshop, \$500 from the Rib Knights Inc. Snowmobile Club, \$500 from Jill Tetzlaff, \$150 from Kyle & Elizabeth Utecht, \$1,000 from Vizion Design Group, and \$1,900 from Wausau Marathon to Wausau West High School.

Sarah Brock moved to approve the consent agenda with great gratitude for donations made to the District, seconded by Jon Creisher. The motion carried 6-0.

X. OLD/RECURRING BUSINESS

A. Education/Operations Committee Meeting

1. Legal Expense Summary for 1st Quarter

At the October Education/Operations Committee Meeting, Assistant Superintendent Josh Viegut presented a summary report presenting all legal counsel expenses incurred during the first quarter of 2025-2026.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Riverview Design Presentation

David Grassl from Dynamic Engineering presented information on the process to update the HVAC & replace the roof at Riverview Elementary.

B. Committee Structure / Name

The Board discussed the current structure, process, and name of the Education/Operations Committee.

C. Audit of the Bills Procedure

The Board discussed the current procedure for the Audit of the Bills Committee.

D. Education/Operations Committee Meeting

1. Activities Code Update (**Action Requested**)

Lance Trollop moved to approve the amendment to the 2025-2026 Wausau School District 6-12 Athletics and Activities Code, effective immediately, seconded by Cory Sillars. The motion carried 6-0.

2. Student Fees (**Action Requested**)

Lance Trollop moved to approve of all fee increases and reductions as discussed for the 2026-2027 school year, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried 6-0.

Sarah Brock moved to postpone the topic of increasing the high school athletic fees, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 6-0.

3. Course Approval (**Action Requested**)

Cory Sillars moved to approve of Art Foundations I, Art Foundations II, and ServSafe to the District High School course catalog for the 2026-2027 school year, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 6-0.

XII. OPEN FORUM

A. Board Member Professional Growth & Development Report

Charles Burger shared that he has had an incredible first month on the Board. He visited both Lincoln Early Learning Academy and the Wausau Area Montessori Charter School; and attended the WASB Fall Regional meeting.

Jim Bouche shared that he also attended the WASB Fall Regional Meeting and also attended the WASB Legislative Conference in Stevens Point and found it helpful.

B. Legislative Liaison

Cory Sillars shared that with the passing of the new cell phones in schools law, it was likely that Neola would be updating the policy and bring it forward to the Board.

C. Superintendent Commentary

Mr. Bushman wished everyone a Happy Veteran's Day and thanked all veterans for their service. He congratulated Mr. Bouche on being elected as the WASB Region 5 Director and congratulated all the Board members on earning various levels of professional development recognition from the WASB. He reminded everyone that the week of November 17, is American Education Week.

D. Presiding Officer Commentary

The Board Liaison Report for the month of November is as follows: Charles Burger attended the Wausau West Craft Show, the John Muir/Horace Mann Cross Country meet in Wisconsin Rapids, the Standing Rocks Conference Meet, the City Meet, and the WASB Fall Regional Meeting. He also met with Montessori and Lincoln Early Learning Academy Leadership and toured the buildings and is currently working

with administration on the upcoming snowmobile safety class at John Muir and Wausau East.

Sarah Brock attended the WASB Fall Regional Meeting and participated in school visits at Wausau East, Horace Mann, Montessori, Riverview, and Franklin Elementary.

XIII. ADJOURN

Jon Creisher moved to adjourn, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried at 6:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cory Sillars,
Board Clerk

CS:cp