

A School Board Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors of Pipestone Area Schools was held Monday, January 5, 2026 beginning at 5:30PM in Conference Room 1148, MS/HS. This is a summary of those proceedings, which are not to be confused with the official minutes of the PAS School Board meetings, which are maintained by the Superintendent's Office. Complete official minutes, and resolutions are available at <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1058> or in the District Office located at 1401 7<sup>th</sup> St SW, Pipestone, MN 56164.

**Call to Order** by Chairman Carson at 5:30 p.m. Board Members present: Carson, Wiese, Fruechte, DeBates, Taubert, Likness, and Hiniker. Also present: Willert, Peschon, Ortman, Moravetz, and Pease. **Board Action:** **1.** DeBates/Likness/All in favor: approve agenda as presented. **2.** Taubert/DeBates/All in favor: monthly meetings will remain on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month, with the exception of May (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday) and December (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday). Meetings will be held in conference room 1148, starting at 6:30 p.m. **3.** Wiese/Hiniker/All in favor: approve treasurer to pay bills. **4.** Carson/Likness/All in favor: authorize superintendent and business office to perform duties of the treasurer. **5.** Wiese/DeBates/All in favor: resolution authorizing the use of facsimile signature of payroll and voucher checks (7-0). **6.** DeBates/Carson/All in favor: authorize superintendent's administrative assistant (district clerk) to sign documents in absence of the board clerk. **7.** Wiese/DeBates/All in favor: resolution directing superintendent to make recommendations for adjustments in curriculum, programs, and staff for the following year (2026) (7-0). **8.** Hiniker/Carson/All in favor: approve Ratwik, Roszak, and Maloney and Pemberton Law as the legal firms for the school district. **9.** Wiese/DeBates/All in favor: authorize superintendent, board chair, or designee by superintendent or board chair to contact legal counsel. **10.** Wiese/Carson/All in favor: to establish First Bank & Trust, First Farmers & Merchants National Bank, Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund, First State Bank Southwest, MN Trust and People's State Bank of Jasper as the official depositories for the district. **11.** Carson/Likness/All in favor: approve *Pipestone County Star* as official newspaper. **12.** Hiniker/Carson/All in favor: approve school board salaries and mileage rate. **13.** Wiese/Carson/All in favor: approve superintendent to contract for goods and services. **Old Business:** Wiese/Likness/All in favor: approve the amended 2024-2025 audit. **New Business:** Wiese/DeBates/5-2 (Taubert and Likness): authorize the negotiations committee to begin contract negotiations with Dr. Klint Willert as the Superintendent of Schools for a new contract to serve a superintendent of Pipestone Area Schools beginning July 1, 2026. **Other:** Election of officers for 2026 – Fruechte, Chair; Wiese, Vice Chair; Likness, Clerk; Taubert, Treasurer. Appoint standing and other committee assignments.

**Adjourn:** Wiese/Carson/All in favor: 5:48 p.m.

/s/ Tyler Fruechte, Chairman /s/ Daphne Likness, Clerk

Approved and dated by the board January 26, 2026. Submitted, Deb Peschon.