

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, May 11, 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 Frey, second by Murray, 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 6:05pm

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. Review Minutes of the April 13, 2026 regular 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 and Succession Planning.
- D. Review Summer School Contract Recommendations

IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Sonne, second by Hetzel, to adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session. Motion carried 7-0. Time: 6:21pm

V. BOARD DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

- A. *Great on Their Behalf* by AJ Crabill book study
The board discussed chapters 14 & 15.

Ensign welcomed all in attendance and resumed the meeting at 7:00pm.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Review Minutes of April 13, 2026 regular meeting and the May 5, 2026 Re-Organizational Meeting.

A motion was made by Eaton, second by Murray, to approve the April 13, 2026 and the May 5, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS

A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Thornberg, to approve the agenda with one change to move the School Perceptions survey update to right after the board updates (IX C.)
Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments for this meeting.

IX. TEACHING STAFF, STUDENTS, & BOARD REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Staff Report

Gina Pagel, member of the WTA provided an update to the Board from the Teachers.

They thanked the community for the great teacher appreciation week. They appreciate the collaborative work that is done each year during negotiations and also the monthly WTA discussions. The WTA ratified unanimously. The WTA will be picking up trash along Hwy I. The teachers are busy with end of the school year commitments and are working hard to finish strong.

B. Student Reports

1. Student Council Report

Abigail Anderson and Alena Wagoner are the student representatives from the high school and shared their update about what is happening at the high school. They gave updates about FFA state convention and upcoming banquet. The student council will go to Devils Lake on May 22nd and will determine officer positions soon. HOSA attended their state leadership conference in April and will be moving on to the national conference. DECA will be attending the leadership conference in Florida. They also gave updates regarding the Science Olympiad and the Pay-It-Forward club. Updates were given about adaptive wiffle ball, track, and softball. CTE has their showcase coming up on May 27th which will present all the Youth Apprentices. They gave updates on the HS Sr. Art show, the Senior Scholarship drive, Physics 2 Class, and the Chinese speaking contest. The band concert will be May 8th, the honors orchestra concert is May 15th and the Choral concert is coming up as well. Solo Ensemble had 68 events go to the state level. Everyone at the high school has been helpful since AP testing was happening right now.

Sport.

C. Board Reports/Action Items

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

Thornberg and Ensign attended the WASB new board member meeting in Verona. Murray attended the MSAN conference and acknowledged how well our students did on the panel.

2. CESA 2 Delegate Convention June 2026

The CESA 2 Delegate convention is scheduled for Tuesday June 16, 2026 @ 7pm.

Our CESA 2 Delegates are Carly Eaton and Heather Murray. Heather Murray will be attending this convention.

3. Board 2026-2027 Committee Assignments

The committee assignments were shared by the President Ensign and Vice President Sonne.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Curriculum Committee Meeting

1. The minutes of the April 20, 2026 Curriculum Committee Meeting were reviewed.

2. Presentation from the Directors of Student Services and Special Education

Jondle and Loken were available to answer any questions regarding their presentations at the Curriculum committee meeting.

B. Human Resources Committee Meeting

1. The minutes from the April 21, 2026 HR Negotiations meeting and the May 8, 2026 regular HR meeting were reviewed.
2. Consideration of the Tentative Agreement with the Waunakee Teachers Association on Base Wage Increase for 2026-2027.
Grabarski answered questions regarding the Tentative agreement with the WTA to reach a base wage increase of 2.63% equally distributed to all members of the teaching group as \$1988.
A motion was made by Eaton, second by Sonne, to approve the agreement with the WTA to reach a base wage increase of 2.63% equally distributed to all members of the teaching group as \$1988. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Consideration of pay increases for 2026-2027 for Administration, Administrative Support, Administrative Assistants, Classified staff, Custodial/Maintenance Staff and supplemental pay for Teachers.
Grabarski answered questions regarding the proposed 26-27 compensation plan.
A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Sonne to approve the 26/27 compensation plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.
4. Consideration of additional pay increases for 2026-2027 for Administrative Assistants, Classified Staff, and Custodial / Maintenance staff using operational referendum funds.
Grabarski answered questions regarding the use of Operational Referendum funds to raise hourly employees to a more competitive wage as compared to Dane County peer districts.
A motion was made by Hetzel, seconded by Eaton, to approve the proposal as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Budget Committee

1. Review Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting on May 4, 2026.
2. Approval of First Draft of 2026-27 Budget
Newton and Summers answered questions regarding the request of approval of the first draft of the budget for the 26-27 school year. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Frey, to approve the first draft of the 2026-27 budget as presented. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Approval of 26-27 Student Fees
Newton and Summers answered questions regarding the proposed student fees for the 2026-2027 school year. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Frey, to approve the 26-27 student fees as presented. Motion carried 7-0
4. Approval of 26-27 Facility Use Fees
Newton and Summers answered questions regarding the updated facility use and aquatic center fees for 2026-27. A motion was made by Sonne, second by Eaton to approve the facility use fees for 26-27 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Facility Committee

1. Review the minutes of the May 8, 2026 Facility meeting.
2. Approval of Capital Maintenance Requests
Summers answered questions regarding the review of district-wide capital maintenance requests and summer capital maintenance projects. Summers also presented and answered questions regarding an additional score board for the west end zone of Warrior stadium and how this project will help with turf costs. A motion was made by Murray, second by Eaton, to approve the projects as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

XI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Preliminary 2026 Survey Referendum Results

Bill Foster from School Perceptions gave a high-level report on the survey results.

B. Board Community Listening Session with Facilitator

The board discussed this option and will look into other possibilities to engage with the community.

C. 4K Update

Miranda Moe updated the board on 4K enrollment

D. Announcements/Correspondence - NA

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

The board acknowledged the music scholarships from Ted and Jan Tweed and also from Cooper. The board also acknowledged the gift for the schools from Gift of Games.

A request was made to consider the Open Enrollment separately from the rest of the consent agenda.

A motion was by Murray, second by Sonne, to approve the consent agenda as posted without the open enrollment item included. Motion carried 7-0.

Summers presented and answered questions regarding the open enrollment. A motion was made by Hetzel, second by Sonne, to approve the open enrollment numbers as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

A. Approval of Checks

1. Monthly Financial Reports

B. Cooper and Ted & Jan Tweed Scholarships

C. Consideration of K-6 Family/Student Handbook

The handbook is attached to the extras section, for your reference.

D. Consideration of the 7-12 Family/Student Handbook

The high school handbook is attached to the extras section, for your reference.

Due to the new building, the MS handbook will be brought to the board for approval in June.

E. Consideration of 2026-27 Pupil Transportation Handbook

F. Consideration of Open Enrollment Applications for 2026-27

G. Instructional Adoptions

H. Curriculum Project Requests

I. Building Bridges MOU for 2026-27

J. Safety Drills Report

K. Gifts and Field Trips

1. Gifts

a. Gift of Games — board games, card games and a program handbook approximate value of \$2000.00 for the High school, Intermediate school, Arboretum elementary, and Heritage elementary. A donation was given to Prairie Elementary and the Middle school earlier this year.

2. Field Trips

a. FCCLA National Leadership Competition in Washington, D.C. July 6-10, 2026

b. Future Problem Solvers Bloomington IN June 10-14, 2026

- c. China Club - China - June 2027
- d. FBLA National Leadership - San Antonio, TX — June 28—July 3, 2026
- e. HOSA - Indianapolis, IN - June 17 - 21, 2026
- f. Middle School - Washington DC - June 11-17, 2026.
- g. WHS Band - San Diego, CA 3/31/27 - 4/4/27
- L. Review Individual Teacher/Administrative/Administrative Support Contract Recommendations, Resignations, Leaves, and Retirements/Resignations.

New Administrative Staff

Krista Andringa, EC-5 Special Education Coordinator

New Teaching Staff

Brittany Brazzel, Alternative Education Teacher, HS

Kari Heldmann, 6th Grade Teacher, IS

Jessica Kennedy, ELA Teacher, HS

Dominic Leising, Music Teacher, IS

Jared Mack, 7th Grade Science Teacher, MS

Kurt Muchow, Tech Ed Teacher, HS

Sierra Muench, Cross Categorical Special Education Teacher, IS

Allison Smith, Cross Categorical Special Education Teacher, IS

Jason Smith, French Teacher, HS

Margaret Uselman, 7th Grade ELA Teacher, MS

New Support Staff

Jack Bogost, Custodian, HS

Matthew Cummuta, Custodian, IS

Hartley Erickson, Custodian, AES

Joel Grunder, Custodian, HES

Augustus Jones, Custodian, MS

Ian Vander Linden, Para Educator Special Education, WaunaGrow

Resignations

Tiffany Bowdish, 1st Grade Teacher, AES

Alissa Bratz, French Teacher, HS

Nick Conrad, Athletic Director

Priscila Espinoza Castillo, Bilingual Speech/Language Pathologist, HES

Mary Keenan, Spanish Teacher, PES

Emily Loewi, 4th Grade Teacher, HES

Christopher Moorhead, Custodian, MS

Kali Rickey, Cross Categorical Teacher, PES

Sabrina Schmitt, Custodian, HES

Courtney Stephens, Cross Categorical Special Education Teacher, HS

Internal Changes - No Action

Makaela Brown, from Custodian, AES, to Head Custodian, AES

Leah Kaltenberg, from Math Teacher, MS, to Interventionist, MS

Madeline Niezgoda, from 100% FTE Adapted Phy Ed Tchr to 50% FTE Adapted Phy Ed Tchr

Samantha Pilsner, from 1-Year Spanish Teacher, PES, to regular

Kristina Puntney, from Agriculture Teacher, MS, to Science Teacher, MS

LuAnn Stroik, from 1-Year 50% FTE Adapted Phy Ed Teacher to regular contract

Terminations

Cynthia Adams, Para Educator Special Education, MS

Co curricular staff updates are posted in the extras section of boardbook

M. Summer School Recommendations – are posted in the extras section of boardbook.

XIII. BOARD BUSINESS

A. Correspondence

1. Staff Recognition Celebration - May 15, 2026 starting at 6:30PM at the High School
2. WHS Graduation June 7, 2026 @ 3pm arrive by 2:30pm

XIV. FUTURE AGENDAS AND MEETINGS

A. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

B. Special Meeting

Board summer workshop June 29, 2026 5pm-8pm

A motion was made by Sonne, second by Hetzel, to approve the workshop on June 29, 2026 from 5pm – 8pm

C. Budget Committee

D. Co-Curricular Committee

E. Curriculum Committee

F. Facility Committee

G. DEI Committee

H. Human Resources Committee

I. Policy Committee

XV. RETURN TO CLOSED SESSION - NA

XVI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - NA

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

XVIII. ADJOURN

XIX. The Board of Education adjourned at 8:54pm on a motion by Frey, second by Eaton, and passed unanimously by voice vote 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlena Eaton, Clerk

Date: _____

CE/rm