

# Minutes of REGULAR MEETING

## The Board of Education Wausau School District

**DRAFT**

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Wausau School District was held Monday, February 9, 2026, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Nicholson Board Room, 415 Seymour Street, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403.

Present: James Bouche; Sarah Brock; Charles Burger arrived at 5:05 pm; Jon Creisher; Nick Crochiere; Pat McKee; Jennifer Paoli; and Lance Trollop.

Absent: Cory Sillars

### 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. Proclamation: School Bus Driver Appreciation Week

President Bouche read the Proclamation for School Bus Driver Appreciation Week.

### VI. Excellence in Action: 4K & EC Programs

Kara Rakowski, 4K Principal & Early Childhood Program Coordinator, along with partners from the Wausau West Big Friends Program to share the impact the program is having on both our youngest learners and Wausau West students.

### VII. PUBLIC AND STUDENT COMMENT

Delora Brei made brief comments.

### VIII. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA (**Action Requested**)

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

Kevin Grundy (Special Education Teacher/East) 1.0 FTE, effective 2/9/26.

#### B. Separations (Resignations, Contract Decreases, Terminations)

#### C. Leaves of Absence

#### D. Retirements

#### E. Minutes: Regular Session of January 12, 2026; and the Special Session of January 26, 2026.

#### F. Payment of Bills/Budget Status and Investment Report

G. Donations to the District

\$100 from the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin and \$500 from Don and Joan Smith to Nutrition Services; Cold weather clothes and backpacks from Elizabeth Anderson, \$300 worth of food items from Rob Barbier, \$300 worth of food items from the Forest Park Neighborhood to Wausau East High School; and \$500 from Shawn & Cheryl Slane to Wausau West High School.

**Charles Burger moved to approve the consent agenda with great gratitude for donations made to the District, seconded by Jennifer Paoli. The motion carried 8-0.**

IX. OLD/RECURRING BUSINESS

A. Education/Operations Committee Meeting

1. Franklin, Rib Mountain, Lincoln & John Marshall 95% Design (**Action Requested**)

**Jon Creisher moved to approve of the plan designs for Franklin, Rib Mountain, Lincoln, and John Marshall Elementary Schools as presented, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 8-0.**

2. Legal Expenses for 2nd Quarter of 2025-2026

At the January Education/Operations Committee Meeting, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Elizabeth Channel presented a summary report presenting all legal counsel expenses incurred during the second quarter of 2025-2026.

3. 2025-2026 Student Demographic Report

At the January Education/Operations Committee Meeting, Director of Technology, Ralph Williams, presented the Demographics Report for the 2025-2026 school year.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Wausau West Chiller System (**Action Requested**)

**Jon Creshier moved to approve to award the bid to replace the Wausau West Chiller System replacement in the amount of \$1,347,165 to Fore Front Mechanical and to authorize administration to execute an agreement for the completion of the project, seconded by Charles Burger.**

**Lance Trollop moved to amend the amount to \$1,248,000 seconded by Pat McKee. The amendment carried 8-0.**

**The Board approved to award the bid to replace the Wausau West Chiller System replacement in the amount of \$1,248,000 to Fore Front Mechanical and to authorize administration to execute an agreement for the completion of the project. The amended motion carried 8-0.**

B. Wausau East Hockey Update

An informational presentation was shared on the disbandment of the East/Merrill Boys Hockey Co Op and potential options for the district, Wausau East, and East Hockey players.

C. Education/Operations Committee Meeting

1. Presentation of Financial Projection Model Assumptions

At the January Education/Operations Committee Meeting, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Elizabeth Channel, shared many of the key variables contributing to the District's multi-year financial projection model.

2. Governance Model Option (**Possible Action**)

**Charles Burger moved to change the name of the “Education/Operations Committee of the Whole” to “Committee of the Whole” while changing the responsibility of reviewing the “Audit of the Bills” to the new “Committee of the Whole” to take place during that meeting. The “Audit of the Bills Committee” would then dissolve, seconded by Lance Trollop. The motion carried 8-0.**

XI. OPEN FORUM

A. Board Member Professional Growth & Development Report

Sarah Brock shared that she attended a great State Education Convention. She also shared that most districts were very aligned to Wausau in respect to support of the resolutions presented at the State Delegate Assembly.

B. Legislative Liaison

There was none.

C. Superintendent Commentary

Mr. Bushman shared that East and West coming together for our kids is inspiring and that doing what is best for kids is what it is all about. He also shared that the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester is in full swing.

D. Presiding Officer Commentary

The Board Liaison Report for February is as follows: Jim Bouche attended and spoke at the State Education Convention; Cory Sillars visited Franklin, Lincoln, and John Marshall; Sarah Brock attended the State Education Convention, a WASB Legislative training session, and the GD Jones Reading Assembly and Slimefest.

XII. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO STATE STATUES

Jon Creisher moved to enter into closed session, seconded by Pat McKee. The motion carried 8-0 via a roll call vote at 6:15 pm.

Sarah Brock – Yes

Charles Burger – Yes

Jon Creisher – Yes

Nick Crochiere – Yes

Pat McKee – Yes  
Jennifer Paoli – Yes  
Lance Trollop – Yes  
Jim Bouche – Yes

A. Discussion regarding the Competitive Negotiations of a Purchase/Sale of Real Estate s. 19.85 (1)(e)

B. Reconvene in Open Session, and if Necessary, Take Action as a Result of the Closed Session

**Charles Burger moved to reconvene in open session, seconded by Jennifer Paoli. The motion carried at 6:30 pm.**

XIII. ADJOURN

**Pat McKee moved to adjourn, seconded by Charles Burger. The motion carried at 6:31 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cory Sillars,  
Board Clerk

CS:cp