

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST ALLIS-WEST MILWAUKEE, ET AL.  
1300 S. 109th St., West Allis, WI 53214 (Boardroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
9333 W. Lincoln Ave., West Allis, WI 53227 (District Administration Office)

**Public Budget Hearing & Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**September 8, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order**

President Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on September 8, 2025, at 1300 S. 109th Street, West Allis.

**2. Ms. Carr led the pledge of allegiance.**

**3. Roll Call**

Roll was called with the following members present: Joe Becker, Brendan Burns, Jane Carr, Amy Deal, Brian Keller, Kristen Keyser (excused), Rebecca Lee, Noah Leigh, and John Verbos.

**4. Declaration of Public Notice**

**5. Modifications to Agenda**

Consent Agenda Item 10.3. Supplementary Contracts is tabled until Monday, September 22, 2025.

**6. Public Budget Hearing**

**6.1 Introductory Comments**

President Burns explained Wisconsin law requires all public school districts to hold an annual budget hearing. The annual budget hearing offers the public a chance to review and provide input on the proposed budget for the current (2025–26) school year. The Board will take action on the final 2025-26 budget on October 27, 2025.

**6.2 2025-26 Budget Presentation & Annual Report on OPEB Trust**

Assistant Superintendent Aaron Norris presented the 2025-26 budget and annual report on the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) trust, which included the budget adoption timeline, revisions from the preliminary budget, 2025-27 State biennial Budget, and how the budget is developed (revenue limit computation, tax levy computation, total tax levy computation, and mill rate computation).

Mr. Norris reviewed equalization aid and tax levy trends and mill rate trends. Additionally, Mr. Norris detailed Funds 10 (general), 21 (special revenue trust), 27 (special education), 38 (non-referendum debt service), 39 (referendum debt service), 46 (long-term capital improvement trust), 49 (capital projects - referendum), 50 (food service), 73 (employee benefit trust), 80 (community service), as well as Transfer of Service (TOS). Lastly, Mr. Norris reviewed and discussed the projected tax levy for 2025-26, areas of continued budget consideration, and gave a report on energy efficiency measures.

Click on the appropriate link to view the [2025-26 Public Budget Hearing presentation](#) and the [2025-26 Public Budget Hearing report](#).

**6.3 Public Comment(s) from Citizens on the Budget**

None

**6.4 Concluding Remarks**

Mr. Norris gave concluding remarks and thanked everyone for their time.

**7. Superintendent's Report**

**7.1 Legislative Updates:**

**What is ahead for K-12 Policy:**

Legislative session will resume this month. Below are new legislations that were introduced over the summer:

- SB 389: Rescinding the Governor's "400-Year" Veto
- LRB 3688: Immunization Waivers
- LRB 2195: School Bus Drivers Over 70 or with Medical Conditions

- LRB 2151: Equipment of School Buses with Audiovisual Recording Devices
- LRB 2150: Driver Education Instruction Related to School Bus Safety

## **7.2 District Recognitions:**

### **Back to School Bash:**

Our Back to School Bash was a wonderful way to kick off the new school year and bring our community together. Families from across the district joined us for an evening of celebration, connection, and fun. We were thrilled to welcome 40 community partners who shared resources, activities, and support to help set our students up for a successful year ahead. A special thank you goes to the WAWM Recreation Department for providing games, our school administration for staffing them, and Chartwells for providing the food that made the evening complete.

### **First Day of School Greeters:**

On the first day of school, we invited community partners, district office staff, and building staff to serve as greeters at our schools. Their warm smiles and words of encouragement helped create a welcoming atmosphere for students as they walked through the doors. This effort was designed to start the year with energy, enthusiasm, and a strong sense of community support. We are grateful to everyone who participated and helped make the first day extra special for our students. A special thank you to West Allis Rotary, West Allis Knights of Columbus, WAWM Board Member Jane Carr, Ridge Church, Marquette Women's Basketball, United Health Care, PTA Members, 414 Church; Luther Memorial, UWM School of Education, Wisconsin Athletic Club, WAWM Rec Department, Fruity Fusions, Groth Architecture, CG Schmidt, and WAC Construction Crew.

### **Student Advisory Committee: The Voice:**

The 2025-26 Student Advisory Committee: The Voice is comprised of the following students: Victoria (Vic) Sundquist, Joseph (Joey) Dombrowski, and Tobi Weimer from Dottke PBL; Elena May, Brandon Landis, and Djurdja Davidovic from Nathan Hale; and Quentin Crumble, Zahira Price, and Toby Jesse from West Allis Central. A student Voice representative will be at the Monday, October 13 meeting.

## **7.3 Other Updates & Information Items:**

### **Community Visits and Meetings:**

Dr. Robinson gave an update on his recent meetings and community visits since August 25, 2025, which included the following: Districtwide Opening Day at Nathan Hale; Back to School Bash; EMLSS meeting with AWSA; meeting with Dr. Anthony Cruz, President of MATC; one on one meetings with Cabinet Members; Nathan Hale JV/Varsity Boys and Girls Cross Country Meet at Greenfield Park; Nathan Hale Football game versus Riverside and Germantown, and Visits to all schools.

## **8. Public Comment(s):**

None

## **9. Board Reports:**

### **9.1 Review of Board Calendar**

President Burns reviewed the Board calendar.

### **9.2 Board Committee Reports:**

#### **9.2.1 College & Career Readiness – Becker**

Committee Chair Beker reported that the Committee met on September 8, 2025. The Committee was provided with updates on the 6-12 Carnegie Math Curriculum implementation from Aliscia Benetti, Secondary Coordinator of Math & Science; collaborative learning efforts across schools from Alyssa Burrage, Director of Teaching & Learning; and bus safety from Connie Bergmann, Director of Student Enrollment and School Services.

### **9.3 Board Member Reports of Community Events:**

- Mr. Becker attended several Hale volleyball games, worked at the concession stand at one of the games and reflected on how polite the Rufus King students were, and attended Opening Day to welcome back staff.

#### 9.4 Other Updates & Information Items – Burns

None

#### 10. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Keller, second by Ms. Carr to approve Consent Agenda items 10.1 and 10.2. Consent Agenda item 10.3 is tabled until Monday, September 22, 2025, as noted in the Modifications to Agenda.

##### 10.1 Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the August 25, 2025, Regular Board meeting.

##### 10.2 Employment Summary:

###### Appointments:

Full Name	Title	Location	Hire Status	Contract Type	Effective Date
Brendemihl, Jennifer	EA (SPED/IS)	Franklin	New	EA	9/8/2025
Puffer, Genevieve	School Counselor	W. Milw	New	Renewing	9/8/2025
Schlaefer, Ella	EA (SPED/IS)	Hoover	New	EA	8/28/2025
Sims, Gabrielle	EA (SPED/IS)	Franklin	New	EA	8/28/2025
Zuniga, Celeste	EA (SPED/CC)	Hoover	New	EA	8/28/2025

###### Resignations/Retirements:

Full Name	Title	Location	Type	Effective Date
Gandari, Esther	EA (SPED/CC)	Central	Resignation	9/2/2025
Hibbard, Lauren	Teacher (Math)	NHL	Resignation	8/28/2025
Malinger, Cheryl	Secretary I	W Milw	Retirement	11/14/2025
Olson, Judy	Secretary I	H. Mann	Retirement	12/19/2025
Opara, Adaeze	EA (SPED/CC)	Pershing	Resignation	9/04/2025
Quinn, Kathryn	Teacher (Grade 4)	H. Mann	Resignation	8/22/2025
Volkmar, Katelyn	EA (SPED/CC)	W. Milw	Resignation	End of the 24-25 SY
Westendorf, Melissa	EA	H. Mann	Rescinded Acceptance	8/31/2025

##### 10.3 Supplementary Contracts

Supplementary contracts as listed on the September 8, 2025, report are tabled until Monday, September 22, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items 10.1 and 10.2.

#### 11. Workshop(s):

##### 11.1 Strategic Plan Workshop – Hahn & School Perceptions

Director of Communications and Engagement Carolyn Hahn and Derek Gottlieb from School Perceptions presented the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: Destination West Workshop, which can be viewed [here](#).

#### 12. Adjournment

There was no further business and no objections to the meeting adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Carr, Board Clerk