

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Organizational Meeting
Monday, Feb. 23, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Tiger Den, Delano High School
Delano Public Schools
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

1. Call to order at 7 p.m.

A. Record of members present or absent.

Members present: R. Depa, R. Schaust, J. Gierke, S. Roeser, S. Baker, J. Moyryla and C. Black.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Upon motion by Schaust, seconded by Baker, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Work Session

The board was briefed on an extended field trip for girls volleyball, football, dance team and boys soccer and the Eagle Bluff Environmental Center. DES principal Rachel Schultz provided an in-depth report from the elementary school. DES is researching implementing WIN time at DES, prioritizing their tiers and documenting what various SpEd settings look like and implementing the new math curriculum. The teachers, paras and staff are doing great work at DES. Teachers are nearing the end of their LTRS training and behaviors are decreasing. This spring, the school will implement loosely supervised playtime to foster independence. Kindergarten open house is on March 3, 153 parents volunteered during the Valentine's parties and the WATCH DAWGS program is going strong. DES is still working through pieces of the READ ACT and deciphering what is required and what is recommended.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Program Review

I Love to Read. Five second-grade students wrote what the Tiger Way means to them and read it to the school board.

7. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Depa, seconded by Black, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Jan. 26, 2026 School Board Meeting Minutes.

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments

2. Investment Transactions

3. CARES Act Budgets

4. Wire Transfers

5. Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund

6. Cash Report

7. Revenue Report by Fund

8. Expense Report by Fund

9. Expense Report by Program

10. Expense Report by Object

11. List of Bills Presented for Payment

8. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts

Upon motion by Black, seconded by Moyryla, the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Roll call passed 7-0.

9. Personnel Matters

Upon motion by Black, seconded by Gierke, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 7-0.

10. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent

Superintendent M Schoen briefed the board on a recent city/school meeting regarding a CE/City partnership. The CE task force is meeting with the architects to start conceptualizing a CE. The CE task force will grow to include community members. The district has two vacant positions: HS principal and a director of finance. Teachers are in Phase II of the READ Act training. Schoen will include reports from monthly meetings in the Thursday email.

B. Principals

Principal **K. Thompson** reported on behalf of the intermediate school. The DIS site-based leadership team recently reviewed its fourth action card, which focuses on emergency procedures. Staff continues to report strong confidence in our four key protocols—Secure, Hold, Evacuate, and Lockdown. In March, we review the 2026–27 student handbook. Professional development this month continued center on LETRS training and curriculum work. Staff participated in Phase 2 of the state-required READ Act training, attended an informational session and will begin coursework this spring, with completion expected by spring 2027. The MTSS team continues monitoring the effectiveness of intervention programs. In April, students will participate in the second universal social-emotional screening using SAEBRS. February was also a busy month at DIS. Highlights included: Conferences and book fair, the annual 4th grade ice fishing trip, 4th grade’s visit to Powder Ridge, the 6th grade roller skating field trip, Student Council “Happy Mail” fundraiser to support the local food shelf, and DIS PIE Family Bingo Night.

Principal **Barry Voight** reported on behalf of the high school. Voight recognized the DHS Kick Team made it to state and took 5th place overall for AA Kick. SBLT Update: Registration /Scheduling has started, working with facilitators to determine appropriate numbers of sections and teaching assignments. Moving ahead will be full-on scheduling Student Handbook changes - Changes coming to AI (resulting from the AI ad hoc committee) - stop light approach, staff will pilot this approach in the third trimester. EduClimber - continued training and utilization. Developing an early warning system - key component of MTSS at the 9-12 level. All students flagged as high risk across the domains of attendance, academics, and behavior already have plans in place. Next focus is better planning and intervention curriculum for these students (fidelity). Action Cards - DDDM - early release time is being used in a choose your own adventure style, staff are reporting that their time is effectively used to unpack standards, analyze common assessments, curriculum adoption, and more.

Principal **Rachel Schultz** reported on behalf of the elementary school. SBLT: Handbook Revisions, MCA Planning and Class Creator. Summer School: Getting staff solidified and student recommendations: Summer school focuses on maintaining gains met during the year, not closing the gap. If we can increase some of the skills - great, but there is not enough time with 16 half days of school to make a ton of headway. Kindergarten: there are 134 kindergarteners registered. Revamping our two-day round-up to one evening Open House. More interactive and resources/staff available for questions. Schultz invited the board to attend the open house on March 3 from 5-7. Celebrations/Successes: PBIS Committee embedding monthly staff boosts - very fun and interactive, PLC work and progress of goals is outstanding - thank you LPC’s and building advisor, 98% attendance for conferences - 670/687 families, Book Fair/Media Center, shout out to Jenna Verhey and Jill York for their work on the new media center and the book fair.

C. Business

Business Manager, **M. Reeder** briefed the school board on the School Board Financial Board Report. The reports are included in the official minutes.

D. Community Ed

Community Education Director, **A. Lang** presented Community Ed updates. Fall DPSP is OPEN! Currently have 88 registered students. Would like to begin school with 120, there is room for 154. Art Night at DQ was tonight. Another Preschool Open House is on Thursday, Conferences coming up. Summer TKC/School year 2026-27 is OPEN! 176 registered grades K-6, 39 registered preK, 215 total. Approximately 130 are registered for fall. Early Childhood Screening - 76 potential kindergartners to be screened, 73 of the 88 registered preschool children to be screened, added and extended days, added screeners, reaching out to local partners to share the opportunity. Delano Education Foundation - helping promote the Adult Prom coming up in May by providing registration services for them. Wrapping up summer planning - planning to open summer registration early-mid April.

11. Student School Board Reports

Student School Board Representatives met with the principals at all three schools. Two students participated in the interviews for the next high school principal. Students in NHS will be working on the Tiger Fun Fair and students representing activities and athletics read to students at DIS and DES.

12. Board Reports

A. Wright Tech Center

Gierkd reported on behalf of the Wright Tech Board. January was the organizational meeting. The house that students built was sold to a church in Howard Lake.

B. MAWSECO

S. Baker reported on behalf of the MAWSECO board. January was the organizational meeting. Baker offered a room at MAWSECO for a retreat.

13. Old Business

A. None

14. New Business

A. None

14. Adjournment

Upon motion made by Schaust, seconded by Moyryla, with a 7-0 vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke
RECORDER