

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
January 12, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

President Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on January 12, 2026, at 1300 S. 109th Street, West Allis.

2. Ms. Lee 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

Dr. Robinson requested and was granted permission to remove agenda item 12.2. Student Services Workshop: High School Bag Restriction.

6. Nathan Hale High School Student Showcase

Nathan Hale High School Principal Lesar reviewed the District's Theory of Action and how it connects to the learning that the students would be sharing. The following groups presented: Jostens Renaissance Leadership Team, which includes Council members Zoey, Evan, Ester, and Violet; Mentors Kaelie and Isabella; Voice representatives Djurdja, Brandon, and Elena; and BIPOC members Isabella and Brandon. Lena presented on behalf of the newly formed Student Athlete Leadership Team (S.A.L.T.), which has two representatives from each grade level. President Burns and Dr. Robinson thanked parents, students, and staff for attending.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.1 Legislative Updates:

Assembly Education Committee Public Hearing and Executive Session:

On January 8, the Assembly Committee on Education conducted a public hearing and an executive session on bills affecting K-12 education. The public hearing addressed Assembly Bill 678, which mandates school boards to implement policies by July 1, 2026, concerning appropriate communication between school employees, volunteers, and pupils, while also outlining consequences for violations. The second bill, Assembly Bill 122, proposes to extend the deadline for open enrollment applications related to changes in residency due to military orders from 30 to 90 days. The executive session also discussed previous bills, including a lifetime license to teach an American Indian language and a mandate for blood and organ donation education in schools.

7.2 District Recognitions:

January Celebrations:

January celebrations include National Thank You Month, National Mentoring Month, Happy New Year, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The Crucible:

The Crucible has performances on January 29th, 30th, 31st and February 1st at Nathan Hale High School. Purchase Tickets at wawmtheater.com. Thank you to The Crucible cast members for attending: Lyric Reade, West Allis Central Senior, who plays Rev. Samuel Paris; Kenzie Lotze, Nathan Hale Junior, who plays Betty Paris; and Maggie Eggert, West Allis Central Junior, who plays Rebecca Nurse.

Snacks with the Sup & Cabinet:

Over the next month or so, Dr. Robinson, along with several members of cabinet, will be visiting each school during lunchtime. These visits are an opportunity for staff to share questions, concerns, or ideas in a conversational setting and to engage directly with district leadership. Snacks will be provided.

Fieldhouse Grand Opening:

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the E.H. Stech Fieldhouse Grand Opening last Tuesday—it was a fantastic event! A special shoutout to Bill Smith, Facilities Project Manager, for overseeing the project from start to finish.

7.3 Other Updates & Information Items:

Student Advisory Committee - The Voice:

Dr. Robinson introduced the Student Advisory Committee - The Voice representative Brandon Landis. Mr. Landis is a senior at Nathan Hale High School; Vice President of Rotary; participates in theater, choir, and orchestra; dual enrolled at MIAD, and co-starter of BIPOC Union. Mr. Landis shared that Nathan Hale had a BIPOC Food Drive and is planning a cultural mural in the cafeteria to represent people and cultures as a whole rather than individual country flags. Final exams are approaching quickly, and the school has also had recent sports events, including the annual Nathan Hale versus West Allis Central basketball games and a varsity hockey win. Additionally, there is an upcoming winter band concert on January 14 and Snow Blast, which was introduced last year and builds teamwork and school spirit.

8. Public Comment(s):

President Burns opened the floor for public comments at 6:59 p.m., allowing district residents up to three minutes each to speak in person or via Zoom, and provided instructions for participation. President Burns noted that the Board could not discuss, debate, or act on any items raised, and that the Superintendent may provide follow-up at the next regular Board meeting. The following person made a public comment: John Molling, district resident. President Burns closed public comments at 7:05 p.m.

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 Becker reported that the committee met on January 12, 2026. The committee discussed a parent concern about how grades are impacted by enrichment opportunities like study abroad, which led to a thoughtful conversation with follow-up questions still to be addressed. The committee also reviewed a proposed high school backpack restriction, which would mirror current middle school restrictions, with input from all three high school principals, and plan to continue the discussion in an upcoming board workshop.

9.3 Board Member Reports of Community Events:

- Mr. Becker attended a couple of recent wrestling meets, including the E.H. Stech Invitational at the newly renovated fieldhouse, and was moved by seeing students push themselves to their limits while showing sportsmanship and respect for their opponents.

9.4 Other Updates & Information Items – Burns

There were no other updates or information items.

10. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Ms. Deal to approve Consent Agenda items 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3, seconded by Mr. Leigh.

10.1 Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the December 15, 2025, Regular Board meeting.

10.2 Employment Summary:

Appointments:

| Full Name | Title | Location | Hire Status | Contract Type | Effective Date |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Alberswerth, Dan | Spec Ed Instructional Coord | District | New | At Will | 1/26/2026 |
| Atchison, Molly | Custodian II | Hoover | New | Maintenance | 1/05/2026 |
| Castillo, Luis | Custodian II | NHL | New | Maintenance | 1/05/2026 |
| Fay, Daniel | Teacher (SPED CC) | Hoover | New | Renewing | 1/05/2026 |
| Griffin, Latoya | EA (SPED-IS) | Hoover | New | EA | 1/05/2026 |
| Licary, Emilia | District Semester Sub | Walker | New | Limited Term | 1/27/2026 |
| McClain, Shannon | Custodian II | Walker | New | Maintenance | 1/05/2026 |
| Simonson, Josh | EA (SPED-CC) | Wilson | New | EA | 1/08/2026 |

Resignations/Retirements:

| Full Name | Title | Location | Type | Effective Date |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Acker, Mya | District Semester Sub | H. Mann | Rescinded Offer | 12/28/2025 |
| Agnew, Catherine | Teacher (Chem/Science) | NHL | Resignation | End of the 25-26 SY |
| Austin, Omar | Custodian II 2nd Shift | Central | Termination | 12/17/2025 |
| Dahl, Amber | Secretary II /12-mos | Central | Resignation | 1/02/2026 |
| Horvath, Erin | Asst Principal | Central | Resignation | 1/30/2026 |
| King, Mary Jo | Secretary / 10 mos. | W. Milw | Resignation | 12/16/2025 |
| Schaefer, Nikayla | EA (Reg Ed) | Franklin | Resignation | 1/07/2026 |

10.3 Supplementary Contracts

Supplementary contracts as listed on the January 12, 2026, report.

Motion carried unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3.

11. Action Items:

11.1 February 2026 Extended Travel to Orlando, Florida - Strasser & Riche

Approval of Nathan Hale High School's pom/dance team's field trip to Orlando, Florida from February 11-16, 2026.

Motion by Ms. Carr to approve the February 2026 Extended Travel to Orlando, Florida, seconded by Mr. Keller.

Motion carried unanimously.

11.2 WASB Resolutions - Leigh & Becker

The board discussed and agreed that Mr. Leigh, delegate, should vote "yea" on the district's behalf on all proposed 2026 WASB Resolutions except for: (2) Revisions to the School District and School Report, (3) Amendment to Resolution 5.22 Funds Distribution, and (11) Opposing "Decoupling" of Public and Private School Funding, as well as vote "nay" on the Proposed Amendment to the WASB Bylaws at the WASB Delegate Assembly on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

12. Workshops:

12.1 Financial Stability & Efficiency Workshop: Enrollment Projections & Open Enrollment Seats for 2026-27 – Bergmann & Norris

Connie Bergmann, Director of Student Enrollment and School Services and Aaron Norris, Assistant Superintendent, presented the Financial Stability & Efficiency Workshop: Enrollment Projections & Open Enrollment Seats for 2026-27. Based on the presentation, Bergmann will seek the board's approval of 160 Open Enrollment In-Person Seats and 225 Virtual Enrollment Seats for the 2026-2027 school year at the January 26, 2026, board meeting.

12.2 Student Services Workshop: High School Bag Restriction - Sage & Martin

The Student Services Workshop: High School Bag Restriction is rescheduled for January 26, 2026.

13. End of Recording/5-Minute Break

Motion at 8:08 p.m. by Mr. Leigh to convene into executive session, seconded by Mr. Keller, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section §19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering a student disciplinary expulsion order, which if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial effect upon the reputation of the student involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Carr, Board Clerk