

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
Monday, Jan. 27, 2024, 5:30 p.m.  
District Training Room  
**Delano Public Schools**  
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

**1. Call to order at 7:05 p.m.**

A. Record of members present or absent.

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

**2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda**

Upon motion by S. Baker and seconded by R. Depa, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

**3. Work Session**

Activities Director, M. Chatterton provided a deep dive into activities. Working well is the program handbook for athletes and coaches; PAC meetings are well attended. Coaches share expectations and responsibilities. Chatterton is creating professional development for coaches Emily's Place recently came out to see if they can partner with coaches. Chatterton talked about the development of coaching with purpose and results, sports psychologists and student-athletes reading to students at DIS and DES during I Love to Read Month. Challenges include coaching turnover - problem - everywhere. Creating a student store and a coaching mentor program for 1st and 2nd year coaches. C. Black asked about conversations about switching athletic conferences. No discussion. The board reviewed a draft of the 2025/2026 School calendar. Late starters have moved to early releases, the calendar supports 173 student days and 181 teacher days. The spring and winter breaks were based on academic transition and critical times for students. The board will vote on the calendar during the Feb. 24 board meeting. The work session went into recess for board members to get their pictures taken.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

**5. Program Review**

Brian Koslofsky, Wright Technical Center reported on the enrollment numbers, program success and his departure (retirement). Finances were impacted by facilities and by the pandemic in 2020. Brian thanked DPS for its continued support.

**6. Consent Agenda**

Upon motion by R. Schaust and seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Dec. 16, 2024, and School B, adequate funding and Board Organizational Meeting, Jan. 6, 2025.

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

**7. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts**

Upon motion by R. Schaust, and seconded by R. Depa the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Motion passed 7-0.

## 8. Personnel Matters

Upon motion by S. Baker and seconded by R. Schaust, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 7-0.

## 9. Administrative Reports

Superintendent M. Schoen provided a legislative update encompassing adequate funding, and expanding the educator workforce. Schoen briefed the board on the next steps in creating a strategic plan; refining the vision card and drafting a vision card created by the board.

### A. Principals

**Rachel Schultz** reported on behalf of the elementary school. SBLT/PD update: Analysis to Action Plans - intervention needs; LETRS - seeing direct implementation; Summer School and ESY planning is underway; Math Site Visits to Observe Potential Curriculums; Report Card Alignment. Schultz provided Winter FAST Data: Fall to Winter, 2024 FAST data (2nd/3rd) - aReading, 2nd - 71% to 73%; 3rd - 75% to 76%, aMath, 2nd - 73% to 83%; 3rd - 79% to 79% with a 2% reduction in our High Risk range; Early Reading, K - 89% low/some risk, 1 - 89% low/some risk. Early Math, K- 93% low/some risk, 1- 94% low/some risk. Successes at DES include; Staffing - Hired a Special Education teacher and a float para. Most of the long term sub positions are filled for the spring. Welcomed seven new students since winter break. Paraprofessionals Week - celebrating them this week with treats and notes, invaluable to our school.

**Katie Thompson** reported on behalf of the intermediate school. SBLT: Planning for conferences coming in February. Exploring some options for PD next year. PD: 2-hour late start and MLK day. Staff had LETRS training, along with PLC and Curriculum work time, did some grade-level check-in meetings, discussed FAST testing, and scheduling for next year. MTSS: Recently completed Winter FAST testing and results; some students in the some Risk and High Risk ranges, focusing on those with concerning scores or a pattern of several consecutive lower scores. Several students currently in interventions have shown a consistent pattern of strong scores. Events: Class meetings for January are this week, character trait focus for the next two months are Independent and Dependable. ELA team has arranged a few fun activities for I Love to Read Month including welcoming HS students to the intermediate school. 4th graders are taking an ice fishing trip (finally) on February 7.

**Barry Voight** reported on behalf of the high school. Voight recognized Delano Varsity Science Olympiad who earned a 3rd place finish out of 30 teams at the Border Battle at UW-River Falls on Saturday. JV1 finished 8th. Total event medal count for the three teams combined: 1st place medals: 3, 2nd place medals: 3, 3rd place medals: 8, 4th place medals: 3. SBLT Update: Registration Season is upon us - encourage all families to reach out to teachers, counselors, administration for questions and support through this process. Informational presentations have been shared with all students and families, registration will take place Feb 6-11. Adding three new CIS classes, two of which will appeal to the average student (will talk more about that in my deep dive next month). High Honors Diploma - ad hoc committee to make changes to checklist so that it's accessible to a broader group of students and their interests. Student listening sessions coming up - will be field testing the DDE statements.

### B. Business Manager

Business Manager **M. Reeder** briefed the school board on finances. The 2024 2025 budget has been updated to reflect updated state aid revenue driven by enrollment, salaries and benefits for staff who were hired this year. The original budget had estimated the enrollment to be 2,378; the current enrollment is 2, 413 which is an increase of 35 students. The largest growth was in the high school. The original budget had the General Unassigned Fund Balance being in deficit by \$675, 835; the revised budget now has a deficit in the unassigned Fund Balance being \$480, 983. The deficit decreased because of the additional General Ed Aid to be received due to the increase in enrollment. Based on the revised budget, the unassigned fund balance will be 15.9 percent. The board-approved fund balance is 12 percent.

**C. Community Ed**

Interim Community Education Director, **C. Runke** presented competitor is \$96 more expensive than the Tiger Activity Center! The TAC averaged 2,566 active members a month during the 2024 calendar year, an increase of 205 members from the previous year! Throughout 2024, there were 57,188 members and daily pass users who checked in to use the TAC! An increase of 4,245 check-ins from 2023. District also has the opportunity to connect with the community through facilities, which include two turf fields, seven baseball/softball fields, six multi-purpose grass fields, ten tennis courts, a disc golf course, ten basketball courts, a pool, two auditoriums, and various flex spaces! In 2024, 41 different user groups utilized our facilities. These groups included various school groups, local youth sports associations, individual users, and entertainment acts. Outside of the school day, our facilities were reserved by users for a total of 63,522 hours. This was an increase of 17,822 hours from 2023. Runke acknowledged the hard work of Kim Finn and her staff in managing the Activity Center seven days a week. Their efforts benefit the school and community members in many positive ways that often go unnoticed. Thank you to them for all that they do! Some areas we are working on: enhancing fitness class offerings at the TAC. The TAC is in the process of developing new class offerings with current TAC staff who are completing their certifications. CE is considering restructuring personal training plans available to ensure offerings meet the community's needs. Community Ed updates. Community Members can purchase a membership or a daily pass that gives them access to the TAC courts, the lap pool, the Weight Room, and the Circuit Room. The TAC offers a variety of memberships to choose from (Student/Adult/ Family/Senior). The Family Complete Membership available for \$310 a year. Compared to similar facilities, the next closest co.

**10. Student Board Representative Reports.**

- A. Student representatives Sophia Grant and Logan Wermager presented student reports. NHS students visited students and helped teachers in the elementary school. Representatives did not have a lot of interactions at DIS due to FAST testing. Reps had a listening session and met with the Best Buddy groups. Reps are working on ways to communicate clubs and opportunities for students to get involved.

**11. Board Reports**

- A. MAWSECO  
Board member S. Baker reported on behalf of MAWSECO. MAWSECO is discussing the large enrollment of the STEP Program and how to meet the diverse needs of students.
- B. Wright Tech  
Board member J. Gierke reported on behalf of Wright Tech. Wright Tech is still going through the process of hiring a new director.

**12. Old Business.**

- A. Approve the second read of Policy 721, Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources due to substantive changes. Upon a motion by R. Depa, and seconded by S. Baker, the Board of Education approved the second read of Policy 721, Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources due to substantive changes. Motion passed 7-0.
- B. Approve the second read of Policy 509, Enrollment of Nonresident Students. Upon a motion by R Depa, and seconded by S. Baker, the Board of Education approved Approve the second read of Policy 509, Enrollment of Nonresident Students. Motion passed 7-0.

**13. New Business**

- A. Approve not acting on agenda item 18, Annual Designations, tabled from the Jan. 6, 2025, organizational meeting. Upon a motion by R. Depa and seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved not acting on agenda item 18, Annual Designations, tabled from the Jan. 6, 2025, organizational meeting. Motion passed 7-0.
- B. Approve the 2025 Pay Equity Report. Upon a motion by R. Schaust and seconded by A. Johnson the Board of Education approved the 2025 Pay Equity Report. Motion passed 7-0.

**13. Public Comment**

No public Comments.

**14. Adjournment**

Upon motion made by J. Gierke, seconded by J. Moyryla, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

---

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke  
RECORDER