

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Organizational Meeting
Monday, Jan. 26, 2026, 5 p.m.
Tiger Den, Delano High School
Delano Public Schools
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

1. Call to order at 5 p.m.

A. Record of members present or absent.

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

Black arrived at 5:45 p.m.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Upon motion by Schaust, seconded by Baker, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Work Session

The board was briefed on an extended field trip for the Boys Lacrosse team to Moorhead. Megan Chatterton, Activities Director, provided an in-depth report from the Activities Dept. Chatterton congratulated Luke Gilliland for advancing in the Triple-A award. Gilliland is the first male Triple A recipient to advance in the history of DPS. Chatterton is reviewing a post-season rubric to use with coaches. She is looking for areas of improvement. Tickets for events will be sold through Our School. Many schools already use it. Co Op speech team is growing; this year, there are 20 people on the team. Spring sports season begins March 9. Students in activities are reading at DIS and DES to kick off I Love to Read Month. World Architects briefed the board on a new Community Ed building. The district needs a minimum of 10-15 acres plus 1 acre for every 100 occupants. The district needs 15-20 acres. The district is discussing a partnership with the city or a levy for land and the building. The TAC is increasing the membership fees for individual adults and families. The increase in fees will offset necessary operating and equipment costs. The district has a communications plan to inform the community of the increase and the reasoning behind the increase. Black made a motion to recess, Moyryla seconded the motion, 7-0.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Program Review

Superintendent of Wright Tech, Brian Nutter, briefed the board on enrollment at Wright Tech Center. WTC continues to be an opportunity for hands-on/critical thinking students. Construction Technology is back and students will be building a house. Law enforcement moved from EMR to Investigations due to skills of the new instructor. Early Childhood and element careers can earn college credits.

7. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Depa, seconded by Black, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Dec. 15, 2025 School Board Meeting Minutes.

2. Jan 5, 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 district has two critical vacant positions: HS principal and at a director of finance. Teachers are in Phase II of the READ Act training. Schoen will include reports from monthly meetings in his Thursday email.

B. Principals

Principal **K. Thompson** reported on behalf of the intermediate school. SBLT: Last week met with board members to give input on Super. Next week DIS review Action Car #4--continued staff understanding of SRPs, using crisis team for communication loop and case study. PD: MLK day was dedicated to LETRS, Curriculum and CEU work with some smaller team meetings scheduled throughout the day. Early Release was also dedicated to LETRS and Curriculum work but staff also reviewed Winter FAST data and some of our staff worked on the beginning of K-12 Health standards review. MTSS: DIS recently completed our Winter round of FAST screening for reading and math. Staff reviewed that data last week and our building MTSS team will look at it as well. We are excited to finally have a part-time math corps tutor to serve some intervention needs of our students. Results: Reading:

- 4th grade: 75% (5% decrease)
- 5th grade: 80% (1% increase)
- 6th grade: 89% (2% decrease)
- Math:
 - 4th grade: 77% (same)
 - 5th grade: 79% (4% increase)
 - 6th grade 87% (3% decrease but still very high and a fairly minimal) implementation dip considering a challenging new curriculum implementation along with a key member of our department being on a medical leave--lots of credit to that math team)

Events: In January, last week was Para Appreciation Week and we are incredibly grateful for our paras. We have a great team with some young, new hires that have been great assets--and we don't always get that lucky! February will have 4th grade Ice Fishing, 6th grade will go Roller Skating. PIE has a family Bingo Night on the 5th and we have Conferences on the 10th and 12th.

Principal **Barry Voight** reported on behalf of the high school. Voight recognized the DHS Kick Team that won it's first conference champ in 15 years; they also took 2nd at their showcase, this past weekend. Kaia Georges and Luke Gilliland (previously recognized for being AAA winner at DHS), were recognized at an event yesterday at Gustavus Adolphus College. Luke won the AAA award for Region 2AA - will move forward to the state recognition event. SBLT Update: Registration has started (students and families have received several videos) - opens February 5 and closes Feb. 10, Conferences tonight, thanks to all the parents that have come; registration information Q and A happened as well; PSEO meeting right now. High is discussing Handbook changes for next school year. AI strategies will likely be the most significant change - stoplight system.

Principal **Rachel Schultz** reported on behalf of the elementary school. SBLT: Analysis to Action Plans - intervention needs for Winter. LETRS - seeing direct implementation: only 2 Units left to complete!! Summer School and ESY - planning is underway. Master Schedule Review to work on building in WIN time for next year. Winter FAST Data (Fall to Winter Comparison) Second and Third Grade: aReading

- 2nd - 66% to 70%
- 3rd - 83% to 71% - will analyze the dip in scores
- aMath
 - 2nd - 70% to 81%
 - 3rd - 85% to 85%

Kindergarten and First Grade

- Early Reading (K/1)
 - K - 89% to 93% low/some risk
 - 1 - 89% to 86% low/some risk
- Early Math
 - K- 93% to 98% low/some risk
 - 1 - 94% to 94% low/some risk

Highlights/Successes. DES celebrated our Paraprofessionals last week - they are amazing people and support our students and staff in the very best ways! I Love to Read Month gets underway next month.

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. Preschool is a broad widely used term that includes private and sometimes public school options - depending on curriculum and other factors. School Readiness programs help to prepare children for Kindergarten through a comprehensive program, aligned with state early childhood guidelines and Kindergarten standards, and based on early childhood research. Project-based exploration rooted in children's interests (teachers have a framework for lesson plans but are tasked with quickly learning the interests of their students and tailoring content towards those interests. Emergent literacy through storytelling, labeling, and dictation. Mathematical thinking through building, measuring, sorting and dramatic play. Scientific inquiry through experimentation and observation. Social-emotional growth through collaboration, empathy and relationship/community building. Executive function through self-directed play, planning and problem-solving. We use TSG (Teaching Strategies Gold) for our assessments and our core curriculum (Creative Curriculum) aligns with the ECIPS (Early Childhood Indicators of Progress). DPSP's Family Information Night is January 27. This is a stop in and explore a preplanned, mapped out path with an activity to meet our teachers-learn what happens in preschool, earn Tiger swag-take a fun picture-and then leave type of event which gets families excited to register for DPSP on February 3. Families will also receive information about TKC childcare options and early childhood screening information/sign-up. We're excited about this opportunity as it's the first time we're trying it. All families are welcome - DPSP registration opens to current families on the 3rd and new families on the 10th.

11. Student School Board Reports

Student School Board Representatives met with the principals at all three schools. Working on ways to get NHS students to assist at DES and DHS. DES is busy with FAST testing, DIS had a hot chocolate day, HS is boosting morale with planned fun activities. Blood Drive is Feb 4.

12. Board Reports

- A. Wright Tech Center
R. Schaust reported on behalf of the Wright Tech Board. WTC had a regular scheduled meeting in Jan.
- B. MAWSECO
S. Baker reported on behalf of the MAWSECO board.

13. Old Business

- A. None

14. New Business

- A. Approvethe new Tiger Activity Center Fees. Upon a motion made by Black, seconded by Baker, the School Board of Education approved the new Tiger Activity Fees. Motion passed 7-0.

14. Adjournment

Upon motion made by Schaust, seconded by Moyryla, with a 7-0 vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke
RECORDER