

Minutes of Regular Meeting - Open

The Board of Education Waunakee Community School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Waunakee Community School District was held Monday, October 13, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Waunakee Community School District, 905 Bethel Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Ensign called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Heinrichs, second by Sonne, to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(c), (e), (f) and (g) to review individual teacher contract recommendations, resignations and retirements, review individual co-curricular contract recommendations, review individual support staff/custodial staff recommendations, resignations, and retirements, and review student requests. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote. Time 5:58pm

II. ROLL CALL

Eaton – Yes, Ensign- Yes, Frey – Yes, Hetzel- Yes, Heinrichs – Yes (virtual), Murray - Yes, Sonne - Yes

III. CLOSED SESSION - ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION PER WISCONSIN STATUTES 19.85 (1) (c), (e),(f) and (g).

- A. Review Minutes of September 8, 2025 Meeting
- B. Update and Consideration of Legal Matters Related to the School District Including Current and Potential Actions Involving the School District.
- C. Review Individual Administrator, Teacher, Co-Curricular, Support Staff & Custodial Recommendations, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements

IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Frey, second by Heinrichs, to adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session. Motion carried 7-0. Time: 6:17pm

V. BOARD DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

- A. *Great on Their Behalf* by AJ Crabill book study
The board reviewed chapters 8, 9, & 10 of the book.

Ensign reconvened in open session at 7:01 by welcoming all in attendance.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. A motion was made by Heinrichs, second by Hetzel, to approve the minutes as posted.
Motion carried 7-0.

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS

A motion was made by Eaton, second by Frey, to approve the agenda as posted with the modification of having the Teacher representatives report before the student representatives. This change is so the teachers may be available for parent/teacher conferences that are being

held during this time. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments for this meeting.

IX. TEACHING STAFF, STUDENT, & BOARD REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Student Reports

1. Student Council Report

Abigail Anderson and Alena Wagoner are the student representatives presented updates from the High School. They gave updates on the fall sports season, Halloween in the Halls organized by the National Honor Society, FFA, DECA/FBLA Homecoming and all the activities, upcoming student trips, and One Act performances.

2. Warrior Spotlight

A brief update was shared by the Future Educator's Club and Best Buddies.

B. Teacher/Staff Report

1. Staff Report

Marta Rocco, Autumn Pedersen, and Ellen Willrett from the WTA provided a teacher update to the board. They are celebrating all the school building's participation in Hispanic Heritage Month, the flexibility given for parent teacher conferences, the elementary schools fun runs, the dress up days at the Intermediate school and the freshmen homecoming dinner. They expressed gratitude for Kurt Eley subbing at Heritage, discussions to make transportation smoother, and Professional Development around AI.

C. Board Reports/Action Items

1. Board Reports on Educational Related Events, Meetings, or Trainings Attended by Individual Board Members

Several board members along with Dr. Brown and Mr. Schell attended the WASB Region 12 recognition and meeting. WCSD Board members Joan Ensign and Dawn Heinrichs were recognized for their participation in WASB activities.

Several board members joined Representative Joers' visit to Waunakee High School to meet with the Best Buddies program. A special thank you to Heather Murray for arranging this meeting.

2. Board Action on Board Coaching by Ted Neitzke, CESA 6.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Heinrichs, second by Eaton, to approve moving forward with the board coaching process through CESA 6, but to look for dates starting in September 2026. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Board Action on District Administrator Performance Evaluation (DAPES)

A motion was made by Sonne, second by Hetzel, to adopt this evaluation tool for use during the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Curriculum Committee

The minutes of the September 24, 2025 curriculum committee was reviewed. Board members on this committee encouraged that they presentation shared be watched by all interested. It is a very good snapshot of where we are at right now.

B. Facility Committee October 6, 2025

The minutes from the October 06, 2025 facility committee meeting were reviewed.

1. Approval of Capital Maintenance Requests

Summers presented and answered questions regarding the review of the district-wide capital maintenance requests. Summers and Cramer shared additional information on the robotic mowers and the basketball hoop technology. A motion was made by Frey, second by Hetzel, to approve the capital maintenance requests as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Budget Committee Meeting

The minutes of the October 6, 2025 budget committee meeting were reviewed.

1. 2025-26 Tax Levy Options

Summers presented and answered questions regarding the review of tax levy options for the 2025-26 school year.

XI. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Third Friday Count

Summers presented and answered questions regarding the 3rd Friday in September report.

B. Administrative Recommendations for Consideration from the Board Workshops in February, March, & August, 2025

1. Branding

Dr. Brown introduced this topic and reviewed the history. A board member asked that this be brought back for consideration. Dr. Brown asked that all board members share their thoughts on this topic. After much discussion, a motion was made by Hetzel, second by Ensign, to fully implement and use BOE approved branding guidelines districtwide with all our programs and activities, including staff representing the district on company time appropriately noted in the revised handbooks, with the exception of personal attire, unless the personal attire shows Native American imagery, beginning January 1, 2026. Motion failed 2-5 on a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL

Eaton – No, Ensign- Yes, Frey – No, Heinrichs – No, Hetzel- Yes, Murray - No, Sonne – No

A motion was made by Heinrichs, second by Eaton, to fully implement and use BOE approved branding guidelines districtwide with all our programs and activities, including staff representing the district on company time appropriately noted in the revised handbooks beginning January 1, 2026. Motion failed 3-4 on a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL

Eaton – Yes, Ensign- No, Frey – No, Heinrichs - Yes, Hetzel – No, Murray - Yes, Sonne – No

Dr. Brown instructed that at this time we will remain as we are regarding this topic.

C. Administrative Update from the Information Technology Director

Technology Director, Rick Franz, presented and answered questions regarding a presentation on the district technology department.

D. Announcements/Correspondence

1. WASB WI State Education Convention, January 21-23, 2026

The registration and hotel blocks will open on November 3, 2025. In order to book rooms, the registration process has to be started. Please let Rebecca know no later than October 24th if you are planning on attending the convention this year. For your convenience, attached please find the convention registration form.

2. School Funding Informational Sessions will be on November 19th at 9am and 6pm

XII. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board acknowledged the generous gifts from the Lake Melvin Yacht Club of \$3,000 and The Meffert Oil Co. for the Pride Pump campaign for \$1,000.

A motion was made by Heinrichs, second by Frey, to approve the consent agenda in full as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

- A. Approval of Checks
- B. Finance
 - 1. Monthly Finance Reports
- C. Consideration of School Safety Drills
- D. Gifts and Field Trips
 - 1. Gifts
 - a. Lake Melvin Yacht Club - \$3,000.00 to WCSD Food Service Program.
 - b. Meffert Oil Pride Pump Campaign - \$1,000.00
 - 2. Field Trips
 - a. Consideration of the MS Washington DC trip in 2027
 - b. Consideration of Music and Drama trip to Chicago, Il. on February 12, 2026
 - c. Consideration of 2025 National FFA Convention October 29-November 1, 2025 - Indianapolis, IN
 - d. Consideration of MSAN students attending National Conference in Virginia - November 12-15, 2025
- E. Approve Individual Teacher, Co-curricular, Support Staff & Custodial Recommendations, Resignations, Leaves & Retirements
 - New Teaching Staff**
 - Kali Rickey, Cross Categorical Special Education Teacher, PES
 - New Support Staff**
 - Krystle Barman, Para Educator Special Education, AES
 - Jimmy Chaney, Crossing Guard
 - Sarah Kraegel, Para Educator Special Education, PES
 - Laurie Mercurio, Para Educator Special Education, HES
 - Laura Milbrath, Para Educator Special Education, HS
 - Resignations**
 - Dominic Harris, Crossing Guard
 - Bobbi Hartley, Para Educator Special Education, HS
 - Retirements**
 - Tom Grunder, CD Teacher, HS

The Co-Curricular staff updates is posted on the extras section of the agenda.

XIII. BOARD BUSINESS

- A. Board Correspondence

XIV. FUTURE AGENDAS AND MEETINGS

- A. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- B. Special Meeting - Setting the Tax Levy Meeting.
 - October 30, 2025 @ 5:30pm
 - Additional Agenda items.
- C. Budget Committee - November 7, 2025 @ 8:00am

D. Co-Curricular Committee

E. Curriculum Committee

F. Facility Committee

G. Human Resources Committee

H. Policy Committee

I. DEI Committee - November 3, 2025 @ 5:30pm

XV. **RETURN TO CLOSED SESSION** – N/A

XVI. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION** - N/A

XVII. **ACTION AS APPROPRIATE, ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION** – N/A

XVIII. **ADJOURN**

The Board of Education adjourned at 8:37PM on a motion by Murray, second by Heinrichs, and passed unanimously by voice vote 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlena Eaton, Clerk

Date: _____
CE/rm