

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 272 ~ EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 2026
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

A Regular Meeting of the Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools, was held on February 23, 2026 in the Eden Prairie District Administrative Offices, 8100 School Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

1. Convene: 6:00 PM (Roll Call)

Present: Ann Bradsher, Aaron Casper, Debjyoti "DD" Dwivedy Abby Libsack, Kim Ross, Jody Ward-Rannow, Steve Bartz, School Board Clerk, participated remotely.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Member S. Bartz left the meeting at 6:00 PM (Technical Difficulties)

3. Agenda Review and Approval

Approval of the agenda for the Monday, February 23, 2026, meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools.

Motion by D. Dwivedy, **Seconded** by K. Ross to approve tonight's Agenda as presented - Passed 6 -0

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Approval of the UNOFFICIAL Minutes of the School Board Regular Business Meetings for January 26, 2026, and the Board Workshop Notes for February 9, 2026.

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by A. Bradsher that we approve January 26, 2026 unofficial minutes as well as February 9, 2026 workshop notes - Passed 6 -0

A. January 26, 2026 UNOFFICIAL Minutes

B. February 9, 2026 Workshop Notes

Member S. Bartz arrived at 6:05 PM

5. Spotlight on Success

A. Prairie View Elementary - *Grade 4 Mosaic (MN Zoo Zooms STEM project)*

6. Public Comment –Student Concern (1), Calendar (1)

7. Announcements

- Well, I have to start the evening with some historic news: Earlier this month, EPHS English teacher Linda Wallenberg was named one of five finalists for National Teacher of the Year. Because Wally is the first-ever Minnesota Teacher of the Year from Eden Prairie, this is also the very first time we have ever had a national finalist. Wally has been teaching English at Eden Prairie High School for nearly 50 years, and we couldn't be more proud of her incredible achievement. She has inspired countless students to follow their dreams, and many to become teachers themselves. The National Teacher of the Year, a role that brings national public attention to the importance of teachers, will be announced in the coming months — and I know we are all cheering Wally on. **Congratulations**, Linda!
- And continuing our Teacher of the Year success, three incredible educators have been selected as semifinalists for the 2026 Minnesota award! **Congratulations** to Jessica Brent, who teaches computer science and math at Eden Prairie High School and EP Online; Lauren Koller, who is an English teacher at Central Middle School; and Maria Villavicencio, who is a third grade teacher at Eden Lake Elementary School. These educators are being recognized for their excellence, dedication and impact on students. Next up: The selection panel reviews semifinalist portfolios before naming the finalists.
- We're sending our **congratulations** to EPHS 12th Grader Tarun Tammana, who is one of only 150 high school seniors who have been named Coca Cola Scholars this year. Selected from an initial pool of 107,000+ applicants from across the country, Tarun is the recipient of a \$20,000 college scholarship in recognition of his leadership, service and academic achievements. Recently, Tarun was also awarded a \$3,200 National Honor Society scholarship, representing just one of four semifinalists in the state of Minnesota. A pretty impressive student. **Congratulations**, Tarun!
- DECA students continue to shine! EPHS delivered an outstanding performance at the recent District Competition, with 209 students competing and an impressive 174 qualifying for the Minnesota State DECA Competition. Students who advance from the state level will earn the opportunity to compete at the

International Career Development Conference this April in Atlanta, Georgia.

- Two shout-outs for our Speech & Debate teams:
 - First up, the Central Middle School Speech Team finished first in their final tournament of the season at CMS last month! All around, students performed incredibly well, with 40 students placing across 12 categories. In eight of those categories, our students placed first.
 - And at the high school level, 11th grader Prajna Keenigi qualified for the 2026 *National Speech & Debate Tournament*! Plus, her teammates Saatvik Kundoor, Zoha Siddiqui and Nithila Meganathan finaled in the Senate and House at the Southern Minnesota District Tournament. **Congratulations**, Eagles; we're so proud of all of you.
- In January, the College Board announced that Eden Prairie High School had once again been named to its AP School Honor Roll, which acknowledges a high number of students in the previous year's graduating class who took Advanced Placement (AP) courses and earned high scores on AP exams to earn college credit. 58% of the Class of 2025 took at least one AP exam during high school; 42% scored a 3 or higher (meaning a passing score) on at least one AP test; and 22% took five or more AP exams, with at least one of those taken in ninth or 10th grade. Those accomplishments earned EPHS silver-level recognition. We're proud of both the students who took these tests and the staff members who prepared them for success!
- On February 4, 12 Eagles signed their National Letter of Intent to play NCAA Division I and Division II athletics next year! During a brief ceremony, featuring a heartfelt message about gratitude from Eagles head football coach Mike Grant, students shared words of thanks and the excitement they have for the future. We're so excited for their journeys ahead!
- Our district's Director of Technology, Tina Moses, was recently selected as a 2026 EDSAFE Artificial Intelligence (AI) Alliance Vanguard Fellow. This fellowship brings together educational leaders from across K-12 and state and local education agencies to shape and establish AI policy and best practices grounded in real-world implementation. We send our **congratulations** to Tina and know she will continue to demonstrate our district's AI leadership on a national stage.
- This month, we have recognized many dedicated professionals who make a difference in Eden Prairie Schools every day. From school counselors guiding student success, to Juvenile Liaison Officers ensuring student safety, to bus drivers navigating each commute with care, we are grateful for their hard work and deep commitment.
- **Congratulations** to Vice-Chair Abby Libsack who has been awarded the Leaders Development Certificate for completing the MSBA Leadership Workshop series – phases I through IV. Thank you Abby for your dedication to our students and family and Eden Prairie community
- And last but not least, our district has once again been nominated for the Star Tribune's Minnesota's Best Schools, recognizing the dedication of our teachers, staff, and students! You can show your support by casting your votes in the Education category for EP Online, Eagle Heights Spanish Immersion, Central Middle School, Eden Prairie High School, and the district as a whole, and encourage friends and family to vote before the contest closes on Wednesday, February 25. The URL is VoteMNBEST.com.

8. Board Education & Required Reporting

A. Ends 1.2 & 1.3

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to take a short five minute **Recess** at 7:50 PM – Passed Unanimously

9. Board Work

A. Decision Preparation

B. Required Board Action

1) Approval of Declaration of Easements, Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (DECCR)

Motion by A. Libsack, **Seconded** by K. Ross to approve the Declaration of Easements, Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions as presented – Passed Unanimously

C. Record of Board Self-Evaluation - *No Updates*

1) 2024-25 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Board-Management Delegation (BMD's)

2) 2024-25 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Governance Process (GP's)

3) 2024-25 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Executive Limitations (EL's)

4) 2024-25 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Ends 1.1 - Ends 1.6

10. Superintendent Consent Agenda

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by S. Bartz for approval of our Consent Agenda tonight – Passed Unanimously

- A. Approval of FY 2026-27 School Calendar
- B. Approval of Preliminary FY 2027-28 Calendar
- C. Advance Capital Purchases
- D. Monthly Reports
 - 1) Resolution of Acceptance of Donations
 - 2) Human Resources Report
 - a. 2026-29 Cabinet Contracts
 - 3) Business Services Reports
 - a. Board Business
 - b. Financial Report - Monthly Revenue/Expenditure Report
- E. E-Bike Handbook Addendum

11. Superintendent's Incidental Information Report

- A. Flight Plan 2035 Study Team Update

12. Board Action on Committee Reports & Minutes

- A. Negotiations Committee
- B. Board Development Committee
- C. Community Linkage Committee
- D. Policy Committee
 - 1) Policy Committee Definitions - *DRAFT*
 - 2) Policy Committee Minutes for 2/11/2026 and 2/19/2026 Meetings

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by J. Ward-Rannow to accept the Policy minutes from February 11 and February 19 – Passed Unanimously

13. Other Board Updates (AMSD, BRIGHTWORKS, ISD 287, MSHSL)

- A. BRIGHTWORKS - *Ann Bradsher*
- B. MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League) - *Ann Bradsher*
- C. ISD 287 (Intermediate School District 287) - *Kim Ross*
- D. AMSD (Association of Metropolitan Schools) - *Abby Libsack*

14. Board Work Plan

- A. Work Plan Changes Document

Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by A. Casper to accept the Work Plan Changes document as presented with the addition of adding a policy discussion on definitions, March 9th – Passed Unanimously

Eden Prairie School Board
2025-26 Work Plan (Proposed) Changes
February 23, 2026



Date of Meeting/Workshop	Changes Requested
Monday, March 9, 2026 – Workshop	
Monday, March 23, 2026	Add From January 26, 2026: - Assessment 101 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Add From February 23, 2026: - American Indian Education Report Add: UAC: Rebranding Common Ground
Monday, April 13, 2026 – Workshop	
Monday, April 27, 2026	Moved From February 23, 2026: - Safety & Security Update
Monday, May 11, 2026 – Workshop	
Tuesday, May 26, 2026	Add: Superintendent Incidentals – Citizens in Our Schools
Monday, June 8, 2026 – Workshop	
Monday, June 22, 2026	
Placeholder – General Board Work	
- Negotiations Committee Process for Superintendent Contract	
Placeholder – Policy Review	
- Policy Definitions Workshop	

B. School Board Annual Work Plan FY 2025-26 (Jan-Jun)

15. **Adjournment: 8:53 PM**

Motion by A. Casper , **Seconded** by A. Bradsher – Passed Unanimously

Steve Bartz – Board Clerk