

Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools – ISD 2172  
School Board Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2026

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Craig called the meeting of the Kenyon-Wanamingo Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. in the media center in Kenyon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Tonya Craig, Madilynn Lurken, Erica Aronson, James Jarvis, AJ Lindell, Marilyn Syverson and ex-officio member Superintendent Pat Heiderscheit. Absent: Debb Paquin.

II. Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda. M/S/C Lindell/Aronson, 6-0.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Announcements/Recognitions

Elsie Braaten and Bryan Jacobson were selected to represent K-W Schools as the Triple 'A' Award program nominees. Bryan Jacobson was then selected as the Sub-Region 4 Triple 'A' nominee and then Region 1A Triple 'A' Award Winner.

V. Approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from December 8, 2025 and January 5, 2026. M/S/C Aronson/Lindell, 6-0.

VI. Personnel Report

Motion to approve personnel report. M/S/C Lindell/Craig, 6-0.

Appointments

Heather Breyer, Speech Coach, Year 1; effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Maxson Blauer, Robotics Coach, (90%), Year 2 effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Demian Jackman, Robotics Coach, (10%), Year 1 effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Leave of Absence

Corey Douville, Special Education Paraprofessional, FMLA and PFML request from 1/5/2026-3/19/2026.

Katie Valek, Kindergarten Teacher, extend general leave of absence for 2026-2027 school year (Year 2).

Change in Employment

Christina Alexander, Special Education Teacher, Lane Change from BA+30 to MA effective 12/12/2025.

Hannah Eckblad, English Teacher, Lane Change from BA+10 to BA+20 effective 12/27/2025.

VII. Items for Discussion

A. Update on Sale of Wanamingo building

The sale of the Wanamingo building is final as it closed on January 15, 2026 for a purchase price of \$350,000. It was sold to Freedom Enterprise LLC and Two Oak Hill Properties LLC. The money from the sale will be applied to older bond payments. Breanna Kohn was the realtor. The sale took longer than expected due to paperwork for a TIF district and to separate the property and create an easement with the buyer, the school and the city for the parking lot for the ballfields and pool.

B. Statutory Operating Debt Plan

Dawn Sandbulte and Pat Heiderscheit presented the statutory operating debt plan.

VIII. Items for Individual Action

A. Recovery from Statutory Operating Debt Resolution

Member Erica Aronson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption. The motion for adoption was duly seconded by Member AJ Lindell and upon roll call vote being taken thereon, 6-0, Paquin absent, the board approved the resolution as follows:

**RESOLUTION FOR RECOVERY FROM STATUTORY OPERATING DEBT (SOD)**

**WHEREAS**, School District 2172 has moved into Statutory Operating Debt as of June 30, 2025 as defined by Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.81, Subdivision 2; and,

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.83, Subdivision 4, requires a school district in SOD to submit to the commissioner a special operating plan to reduce deficit expenditures; and, to receive aids contingent on the school district's continued compliance with the plan;

**WHEREAS**, School District 2172 has prepared a Special Operating Plan which has been presented, reviewed and understood by the school board;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of School District 2172:

1. Approves the attached Special Operating Plan and accompanying SOD Recovery Spreadsheets and transmits same to MDE;
2. Agrees to reduce current year expenditures by all legal means possible, without negatively impacting current programs or contractual obligations;
3. Agrees to immediately discontinue the practice of approving deficit budgets;
4. Creates an unreserved fund balance target of 5 percent within 5 years after the removal of SOD;
5. Agrees to a 'dollar for dollar' cut in current and future budgets to respond to a negative variance in revenues and expenditures as displayed in the SOD plan;
6. Agrees to use any aid formula improvement from the legislature to reduce debt;
7. Agrees to remove the condition of SOD by the end of FY 29 and achieve a positive fund balance by FY 30 ;
8. Requests specialized training as appropriate; and,
9. Agrees to submit preliminary budgets to MDE showing the discontinuance of deficit spending, prior to their formal board approval, each subsequent year until the removal of negative fund balances.

B. Ash Tree Removal on Football/Track Facility

Motion to accept the quote from Boyum Tree Service LLC for \$13,500 to remove 44 ash trees and stumps to the ground, disposal and dirt to fill stumps on the football/track facility. M/S/C Craig/Lindell, 6-0.

C. Resolution Directing the Administration to Recommend Reductions

Member AJ Lindell introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption. The motion for adoption was duly seconded by Member Erica Aronson and upon roll call vote being taken thereon, 6-0, Paquin absent, the board approved the resolution as follows:

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFOR**

**WHEREAS**, the financial condition of the school district dictates that the school board must reduce expenditures immediately, and

**WHEREAS**, there has been a reduction in student enrollment, and,



Fund 02	\$47,254.05
Fund 04	\$3,687.72
Fund 07	\$0.00
Fund 18	\$6000.00
Fund 50	<u>\$18,293.64</u>
Total	\$514,197.73
Electronic Fund Transfers	\$807,763.74
MNTRUST Transfers	\$750,000.00

X. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. M/S/C Lindell/Craig, 6-0.

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Debb Paquin, School Board Clerk