



DETROIT LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AGENDA
ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING
Monday, January 5, 2026 - 5:30 PM
City Council Chambers, 1025 Roosevelt Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

The mission of the Detroit Lakes Public schools is to fill our sails with Laker PRIDE.

District Office ~ 702 Lake Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 ~ 218.847.9271 ~ Website: www.dlschools.net
Superintendent: Mark Jenson Director of Finance & Operations: Jason Kuehn Education Director: Renee Kerzman

BOARD MEMBERS:

Julie Smith-Yliniemi, Clerk
25961 Brolin Beach Rd
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
218.204.0420

Michael Walther
28030 County Hwy 34
Callaway, MN 56521
218.841.3709

Michelle Okeson, Treasurer
24842 County Rd 113
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
218.841.6065

Mary Rotter, Vice Chair
23625 Pebble Beach LN
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
651.335.0396

John Steffl, Chair
22370 Steffl Road
Callaway, MN 56521
218.850.5060

Sanford Nelson
28633 North Buffalo Lake Rd
Callaway, MN 56521
218.847.8360

Student Representative: Marian Martin 26martimari@detlakes.k12.mn.us, Hayden Wilson 27wilsohayd@detlakes.k12.mn.us

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ADMINISTER THE ANNUAL RENEWAL OF THE OATH OF OFFICE
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - A. Agenda Approval
Approval of the Agenda for the January 5, 2026, Special School Board Meeting as presented.
- V. COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM VISITORS
A fifteen-minute time limit will be allowed for audience comment. Those requesting audiences will inform either the Board Chairman or the Superintendent prior to the meeting that you wish to address the Board.
- VI. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
 - A. Board Chair calls for the nominations for the position of **Board Chair**.
 - B. Board Chair calls for the nominations for the position of **Board Vice-Chair**.
 - C. Board Chair calls for the nominations for the position of **Board Clerk**.
 - D. Board Chair calls for the nominations for the position of **Board Treasurer**.
 - E. **** The 2025 Committee Assignment Report is attached. Please review for consideration of newly appointed offices for the 2026 calendar year.**
- VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS
Discussion items receive individual attention because of the nature of the issues and need for introductory or other discussion in order to review the information prior to taking action. This is also the agenda location for items which simply need school board review, but no formal action on the items is required. Discussion items will typically return to the agenda at a future point for more specific action.
- VIII. **ACTION ITEMS**
Action items receive individual attention because of the nature of the issues, the need to discuss or review the information prior to taking action, or the specific kind of action required for the item.
 - A. Motion to Approve the 2026 Board Calendar Meeting Schedule. The following are proposed

board meeting dates for the 2026 calendar year.

- B. Motion to Establish 2026 Salary for Board Members. The current School Board Compensation is \$200.00 per day for regular monthly meetings, special board meetings, and work sessions, and \$60.00 per day when attending any convention, seminar, committee meeting, Bridge session, or an event at which a Board Member is representing the district
- C. Motion to Designate Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger PA as Legal Counsel for Detroit Lakes Public Schools.
- D. Motion to Designate the Detroit Lakes Record/Tribune as the Official School Newspaper school publication.
- E. Motion to Designate the following banks as Official Depositories for K-12 depository accounts respectively: Bremer Bank, Midwest Bank, Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund, and Ehlers/Pershing.

IX. UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- A. Joint Governance- 01/06/26 7:00AM City Hall
- B. MSBA Leadership Conference- 01/15/26-01/16/26
- C. Finance Committee - 1/20/26 12:00PM District Office
- D. Regular School Board Meeting- 01/26/26 5:30PM City Council Chambers.

X. MEETING ADJOURNED

**DIRECTORS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #22
JANUARY 5, 2026
FORM OF OATH TO BE ADMINISTERED
SCHOOL OFFICERS**

I swear/affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and this State, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office of School Board Member of Independent School District No. 22 to the best of my judgment and ability.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date Elected</u>	<u>Length of Office</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
_____ Julie Smith-Yliniemi *January 1, 2025	November 5, 2024	Four Years	December 31, 2028
_____ Mary Rotter *January 1, 2023	November 8, 2022	Four Years	December 31, 2026
_____ Michelle Okeson *January 1, 2023	November 8, 2022	Four Years	December 31, 2026
_____ Michael Walther *January 1, 2025	November 5, 2024	Four Years	December 31, 2028
_____ John Steffl *January 1, 2017	November 5, 2024	Four Years	December 31, 2028
_____ Sanford Nelson *January 1, 2025	November 5, 2024	Two Years	December 31, 2026

*Date began as School Board Member

**DETROIT LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2025 BOARD COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Board Committees	Steffl	Rotter	Okeson	Smith-Yliniemi	Walther	Nelson
Activities-Rob Nielsen		X	X	X		
Employee Insurance-Kylie Johnson	X				X	
Facilities-Jason Kuehn	X	X			X	
Finance-Jason Kuehn			X	X		X
Health and Safety-Colin Gedrose	X		X			
Lane Change-Mark Jenson					X	
EMDL Meet and Confer-Kylie Johnson				X	X	X
Other Employee Negotiations-Kylie Johnson			X	X	X	
Teacher Negotiations-Kylie Johnson	X	X				X
Transportation-Jason Kuehn	X	X				

Board Assignments to Other Committees and Boards	Steffl	Rotter	Okeson	Smith-Yliniemi	Walther	Nelson
Arena Commission-City	X					
Becker County Children's Initiative-Denise Warren		X				
DL Substance Use Prevention Coalition- Amy Goodwater			X	X	X	
Community Education Advisory Council- Andrew Lesch		X				X
District Advisory Committee- Renee Kerzman		X				X
High School League Rep. Rob Nielen				X		
MSBA Legislative Liaison						X
Policy Committee-Katrena Lende	X		X		X	
Schedule C & D Committee-Rob Nielsen				X		X
Student Reassignment- Mark Jenson		X	X			
Title VII-Kylie Johnson	X			X		
Wellness/Nutrition-Kylie Johnson			X			
AIPAC-Joe Carrier		X		X		
Fundraising- Mark Jenson		X		X		
	8	10	8	10	7	8
Adopt a School	High School	Rossman	Roosevelt	Middle School	ALC/ Transitions	Lincoln

(01/7/2025 8:54 AM)

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2026 Board Meeting Schedule

- Monday, January 5, 2026 5:30 p.m. Organizational Meeting
- Monday, January 26, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, February 23, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, March 23, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, April 27, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, May 18, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, June 22, 2026 7:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, July 27, 2026 7:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, August 24, 2025 7:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, September 28, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, October 26, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, November 23, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Monday, December 14, 2026 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting