

Eau Claire School Board Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream

Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members present

Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

CONVENE (GC-1)

Superintendent Mike Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Board Secretary Terri Grzyb confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. A roll call was conducted to verify quorum. Sadie B. from Memorial High School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

NOMINATION & ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Mark Elworthy, Executive Director of Business Services, led the Reorganizational Meeting.

Election of President

Jarrett Dement nominated Tim Nordin as President, second by Stephanie Farrar. Tim Nordin accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Vice President

Stephanie Farrar nominated Lori Bica as Vice President, second by Pa Thao. Lori Bica accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Clerk/Governance Officer

Erica Zerr nominated Stephanie Farrar as Clerk/Governance Officer, second by Jarrett Dement. Stephanie Farrar accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Clerk Designee

Jarrett Dement nominated Mark Elworthy as Clerk Designee, second by Stephanie Farrar. Mark Elworthy accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Treasurer

Stephanie Farrar nominated Jarrett Dement as Treasurer, second by Pa Thao. Jarrett Dement accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Secretary

Erica Zerr nominated Terri Grzyb as Secretary, second by Tim Nordin. Terri Grzyb accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT

Board members randomly selected their new seating arrangement and promptly moved to their designated seats.

ADJOURNMENT OF REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to adjourn the reorganizational meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to adopt the Board agenda for May 5, 2025.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

RECOGNITION (R-1)

Superintendent Johnson recognized School Principals' Day, National Teacher/School Staff Appreciation Week, National School Nurse Day, National Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and National Mental Health Awareness Month.

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

No members of the public signed up to address the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Superintendent's Consent Agenda items:

- Human Resources - Employment Report [ADDITIONAL TIME: Music Teacher; HIRES: Director of Secondary Programming and Post-Secondary Readiness – District Office, Academic Interventionist, English Language Learner Teacher, Phy Ed Teachers, Reading Interventionist, Special Education Teacher (Intern); RESIGNATIONS: Science Teacher, Special Education Teachers; RETIREMENTS: Grade 6 Teacher; TRANSFERS: Teaching & Learning Coordinator - Curriculum & Instruction, Montessori Teacher]
- WIAA Membership Renewal for 2025-2026
- Meal Prices for 2025-2026
- Final Notice of Non-Renewal of Teachers with Limited Term Contracts
- Re-employment of Certified Staff for the 2025-2026 School Year
- Authorization to the Executive Director of Business Services for Summer Months

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Superintendent Johnson announced the following administrative position upon approval of the employment report:

Cynthia Porter will serve as the Director of Secondary Programming and Post Secondary Readiness starting July 1, 2025.

BOARD'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Board Meeting - April 21, 2025
- Board Summary Statement for OE-8 Communication with the Board
- Board Summary Statement for OE-12 Facilities

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

ITEMS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

Mark Elworthy, Executive Director of Business Services, presented a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds and the establishment of an escrow account to pay down debt early, saving the community over \$400,000 in interest. Discussion followed.

Motion by Erica Zerr, second by Lori Bica to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds, the Establishment of an Escrow Account with Respect to and the Defeasance of Certain of the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, dated March 9, 2023

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

FOCUS ON RESULTS

Kaying Xiong, Executive Director of Student Services and Special Education, and others presented the System of Care program, which aims to support students and families in building positive relationships, developing skills, and accessing community resources to avoid court involvement. The program has been in place for three years and focuses on middle and high school students. Students qualify based on specific focus acts, such as disorderly conduct, theft, and truancy.

Misty Trowbridge, Director of Student Services, and Cindy Waller, System of Care Coordinator, provided data on the program, including the number of referrals, focus acts, and successful completions.

Principal, Michele Wiberg, and Assistant Principal, Lars Long, discussed the implementation of the program at DeLong Middle School, including building relationships with students and families, coordinating with community partners, and providing various supports and services.

The team outlined the next steps, including the continuation of working with the county and other community partners to add mentoring, AODA, and school-based mental health services, as well as aligning with changes to truancy policies.

Discussion and questions followed.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Michelle Golden, Executive Director of Human Resources, provided detailed insights into the staffing process, including the challenges and considerations involved. The staffing process is crucial for the financial sustainability of the district, starting in January and involving an analysis of enrollment, staffing requests, and budget considerations. Discussion and questions followed.

BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)

President Nordin asked Board members to complete the survey before adjourning.

ADJOURN

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Jarrett Dement to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.