

Eau Claire School Board Minutes
Monday, July 21, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
ECASD Administration Building
Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Lori Bica

CONVENE (GC-1)

President Nordin called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was offered.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to adopt the Board agenda for July 21, 2025.

Motion carried

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

RECOGNITION (R-1)

President Nordin announced the new student representatives for the upcoming school year: Winter Fedie (McKinley Charter School) will be rejoining for a 2nd year, Karsten Geske (North High School), and Rebeca Ponce Cehualatl (Memorial High School). The Board is still working to identify a representative from the Eau Claire Virtual School and will add them once selected. The formal welcome for the new student representatives will occur at their first meeting in September.

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

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

REPORTS

Legislative Liaison Report

Commissioner Thao provided a Legislative update, which included the following:

- The state budget recently passed.
- Assembly Bill 377 proposes making English the official language in Wisconsin and allowing the use of artificial intelligence or other machine-assisted translation tools instead of appointing English language interpreters when required by law. It mandates that all government entities use English, impacting various aspects of government operations.
- The Department of Public Instruction has joined a multi-state lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Education. This lawsuit concerns the requirements for schools to meet certain standards, which could affect Title funding.
- Commissioner Thao mentioned that many community members have discussed the budget, highlighting its shortcomings for public education. Teri Piper Thompson and Dr. Mark Elworthy are available for any budget-related questions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

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

- Human Resources – Employment Report [ADDITIONAL TIME: German Teacher; CORRECTION: Music Teacher, Spanish Teacher; HIRE: Adapted Phy Ed Teacher, Art Teachers, Dual Immersion Teacher, Early Learning Head Start Classroom Teacher, English Language Learner Teachers, Grade 1 Teacher, Grade 1 Teacher (Intern), Grade 2 Teachers, Grade 4 Teacher, Grade 4 Teacher (Intern), Grade 5 Teachers, Grade 6 Teacher, Health Teacher, Instructional/SEL Coach, Kindergarten Teacher, Math Teacher, Media & Technology Integration Specialist, Mental Health Coordinator, Occupational

Therapist, Phy Ed Teachers, Reading Teacher, School Counselors, School Social Workers, Science Teachers, Social Studies Teacher, Special Education Teachers, Special Education Teacher (Intern), Speech & Language Pathologists, Student Services Coordinator, Teaching & Learning Coordinator – Social, Emotional, & Behavior Supports; OVERLOAD: Spanish Teacher; RESIGN: Elementary Assistant Principal – Robbins/Sherman, English Language Learner Teachers, Grade 1 Teacher, Grade 3 Teacher, Grade 6 Teacher, Health Teacher (before start), Instructional Coach, School Counselors, Special Education Teacher; TRANSFER: Behavioral Interventionist, Elementary Literacy/SEL Coach, English Language Learner Teachers, English Teacher, Grade 1 Teachers, Grade 6 Teacher, Kindergarten Teacher, Social Studies Teacher, Special Education Teachers, Speech & Language Pathologist; Plus SUMMER SCHOOL]

- Cash balances by financial institution as of April 30, 2025
- Cash balances by financial institution as of May 31, 2025
- Financial Report - April 2025
- Financial Report - May 2025
- Gifts in the amount of \$21,091.82 for the period of May 1, 2025, through May 31, 2025
- Payment of all bills in the amount of \$7,825,078.42 and net payroll in the amount of \$5,277,527.25 for the period of May 1, 2025, through May 31, 2025
- Annual Approval of Curriculum Standards
- Referendum Project Bids
- Property Insurance Renewal

Motion carried

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

BOARD'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Pa Thao, second by Erica Zerr to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Closed Session - June 2, 2025
- Minutes of Board Meeting - June 2, 2025

Motion carried

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

WORK SESSION

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to adjourn to work session at 7:07 p.m.

Motion carried

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

President Nordin reconvened the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Communication Plan

The Board is shifting from previous "key communicators" sessions to a new outreach model, focusing on direct Board-to-community engagement. The plan involves Board members visiting 14 diverse community organizations, reaching both traditional supporters and less-engaged or marginalized voices, throughout the school year (October to April), with each Board member leading two presentations and supporting two others as a partner/note-taker. These Board-led presentations will use a standardized script and slide deck created by the Administration team. The content will highlight the District's achievements, financial status, equity commitments, and challenges, with opportunities for Q&A. The Board discussed the importance of documenting feedback from the presentations, as well.

BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)

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

ADJOURN

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

Motion carried

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.