

Eau Claire School Board Minutes

Monday, August 18, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream

Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members present

Lori Bica (arrived at 7:01 p.m.), Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Members absent

Pa Thao

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 Erica Zerr, second by Stephanie Farrar to adopt the Board agenda for August 18, 2025.

Motion carried

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

RECOGNITION (R-1)

Superintendent Johnson recognized Manz Elementary School, Memorial High School student Mirabai Rickert, and Partnership Coordinator Carin Keyes for their collaborative effort in building raised garden beds, highlighting the project's educational and community value.

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

Multiple students and a community member addressed the School Board to express concerns and advocate for the continuation of the Hmong language class: Valerie Yang (student), Cinra Lor (student), Lucia Niendorf (student), Jessica Xiong (student), Youa Vang (from Power Up Eau Claire and treasurer for Hmong PTA), Finn Meier-Smith (student), and Seth Roberts (student).

REPORTS

No report, as Commissioner Thao was not in attendance.

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: Math Teacher, Phy Ed Teacher, Social Studies Teacher; HIRE: Assistant Principal - Robbins/Sherman, English Language Learners Teacher, Grade 2 Teacher, Grade 4 Teacher, Reading Interventionist, Special Education Teachers, Speech & Language Pathologist, Tech Ed Teacher; OVERLOAD: Vocal Music Teachers; RESIGN: Grade 3 Teacher; TRANSFER: English Teacher, Grade 3 Teacher, Health/Phy Ed Teacher, Instructional Coach – Literacy]
- Neola Policy Update

Motion carried

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

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

- Jerim DesJarlais began serving as Assistant Principal at Robbins and Sherman Elementary Schools, supporting students, staff, and families on August 11, 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 - August 4, 2025
- Equity Statement: Update and Affirm
- R-1 Mega Result: Affirm
- OE-1 Global Operational Expectation: Affirm
- OE-13 Emergency Superintendent Succession
- Changes to OE-5 Student Success
- Changes to Board Work Calendar

Motion carried

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

ITEM RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

Self-Insurance Update

The Board, with input from Dr. Mark Elworthy (Executive Director of Business Services) and administrative staff, discussed and approved Option 2 for changes to the District's direct access clinic arrangement, addressing concerns about provider access, referral processes, and the impact on staff healthcare options.

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by to provide notice to Insite (formerly Security Health Plan who provides access to Sanford; formerly Marshfield Clinic Health System) to end Oakwood Direct Access Clinics (Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls) effective December 31, 2025, and increase primary care services as summarized in Option #2 with Achieve Health for a cost of \$128,000/month no later than January 1, 2026.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin

No: Erica Zerr

WORK SESSION

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to adjourn to work session at 7:45 p.m.

Motion carried

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

President Nordin reconvened the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Board members discussed the possibility of increasing school board stipends, which have not changed since 2002, considering comparisons with other districts, CPI adjustments, and the impact on Board diversity and recruitment. They agreed to tentatively plan this as an action item for the October 2nd Board meeting.

Commissioner Bica presented proposed updates to the Board's code of conduct policies (GC-7 Board Members' Code of Conduct, GC-8 Board Member Conflict of Interest, GC-9 Process for Addressing Board Member Violations) using Neola language. The Board discussed and agreed to changes, including clarifying procedures for handling violations.

Commissioner Dement introduced draft resolutions for the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) delegate assembly, including proposals for free student meals and a state endowment fund for school funding. The Board discussed the process, potential impact, and next steps for submission.

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, Erica Zerr

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.