



School District of Onalaska

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 27, 2025

President Aaron McDonald called the Onalaska Board of Education regular meeting to order on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at 237 2nd Ave S, Onalaska, WI.

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Roll Call/Verification of Quorum:** The Board President verified a quorum is present.
Members Present - Erik Archer, Bridget Thomas, Mark Cassellius (virtually), Tracy Laufenberg, Ann Garrity, and Aaron McDonald.
Members Absent - Brian Haefs.
Administrators/Directors Present - Ben Barton, Lish Olson, Janet Rosseter, Laurie Enos, Jared Schaffner, Charlie Ihle, Jason Thiry, Abby Davis, Kelly McMahon, Todd Saner, Ben Burns, Sonya Ganther and Amanda Gamroth.
Student Representative - Kaarina Dunn.
Others Present - Kurt Gutknecht, Dave Kazda, Elizabeth Witcik, Jamie Tranberg, Andy Beckstrom, AnnMarie Dahl, and girls' golf and tennis students.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag:** Aaron McDonald led the group in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Reading of the Mission Statement:** Tracy Laufenberg read the School Board Mission Statement.
5. **Public Notice:** Public notice was given to the requesting news media. The agenda was posted in district buildings, and on the district website.
6. **Agenda Revisions:** Request to move Items 17 (donations), 19 (trip request), and 18 (library plan) to after item 10 - donations.
7. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by T. Laufenberg, to approve the agenda with moving Items 17 (donations), 19 (trip request), and 18 (library plan) to after item 10 - donations. Motion carried.*
8. **Public Input:** There were no public comments.

Recognition Items:

9. **Student Recognition:**
 - Mara Klein was recognized for her recent state appearance in girls tennis.
 - The Girls Golf team was recognized for their recent state appearance.

10. **Donations:**

- \$250 from Altra Federal Credit Union for classroom needs for Irving Pertzsch teacher Stacy Bossingham
- \$200 from the Northern Hills PTO toward the Love and Logic Workshops
- \$500 from Mia's Kitchen for the Onalaska Middle School WEB program

Action Items:

11. **Donation:** *Motion by B. Thomas, second by T. Laufenberg, to approve a donation of \$37,000 from the Eagle Bluff Elementary PTO for a walking path at Eagle Bluff Elementary. Motion carried.*
12. **Trip Request:** *Motion by T. Laufenberg, second by A. Garrity, to approve a student trip to Washington DC in fall of 2026. Motion carried.*
13. **District Library Plan:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by B. Thomas, to approve the Library Plan. Motion carried.*

Informational/Discussion Items:

14. **Conference Recep:** AnnMarie Dahl, LMC Director at Irving Pertzsch Elementary, shared information about her recent attendance at the American Association of School Librarians Conference.
15. **Student Representative and Administrator Reports:** The student representative and administrators gave an update on staff and student activities related to academics and co-curricular activities.
16. **Middle and High School Building Projects Update:** Jared Schaffner and Ben Burns gave an update on the middle and high school building projects.
17. **Summer School Report:** Kelly McMahon presented the 2025 summer school report for Board information.
18. **WI Student Assessment System (WSAS) and ACCESS for ELLs Results:** Lish Olson shared the WSAS results and the ACCESS for Multilingual Learners assessment results for Board information.
19. **Board Policies:**

The Board Policies Committee members presented the following Board policies revisions for a first reading and Board consideration:

100 - Definitions	5310.01 - Emergency Nursing Services/Plan	8420 - School Safety
0144.5 - Board Member Behavior, Communications, and Code of Conduct	5411 - Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At-Risk Students	8500 - Food Services
0166.1 - Consent Agenda	5464 - Early Graduation	8510 - Wellness
1461 - Unrequested Leaves of	5530 - Student Use or Possession	8531 - Free and Reduced-Price

Absence / Fitness for Duty	of Intoxicants, Drugs, or Paraphernalia	Meals
2522 - Library Media Centers	7440.03 - Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)	8550 - Competitive Food Sales
4124 - Notice of Reasonable Assurance	7450 - Property Inventory	9151 - Use of Cameras and Other Recording Devices in Locker Rooms
4213 - Student Supervision and Welfare	7455 - Accounting System for Capital Assets	
5112 - Entrance Age	7460 - Conservation of Natural and Material Resources	

Action Items:

20. **Board Policies:** *Motion by T. Laufenberg, second by A. Garrity, to approve the following Board Policies: 1130/3230/4230 - Ethics and Conflict of Interest. Motion carried.*
21. **2025-26 Original Budget Adoption:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by E. Archer, to approve the 2025-26 original budget. Roll call vote: T. Laufenberg - yes; A. Garrity - yes; E. Archer - yes; M. Cassellius - yes; B. Thomas - yes; A. McDonald - yes. Motion carried.*
22. **2025-26 Tax Levy:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by B. Thomas, to approve Resolution 2025-007, the 2025-26 tax levy. Roll call vote: A. Garrity - yes; B. Thomas - yes; E. Archer - yes; T. Laufenberg - yes; M. Cassellius - yes; A. McDonald - yes. Motion carried.*
23. **2026-27 Calendar:** *Motion by T. Laufenberg, second by A. Garrity, to approve the 2026-27 district calendar. Motion carried.*
24. **Title I Agreements:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by T. Laufenberg, to approve agreements for payment of Title I funds with St. Patrick's Elementary School and St. Paul's Elementary School. Motion carried.*
25. **Independent Contractor Agreement:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by E. Archer, to approve an independent contractor agreement for Jill Avoles, to cover speech and language services for an employee on leave, from approx. January 15 - April 17, 2026, not to exceed 60 days, at \$82/hour. Motion carried.*
26. **Consent Agenda:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by B. Thomas, to approve the following under the consent agenda:*
 - A. *Budgetary Disbursements and Payroll in accordance with enclosure.*
 - B. *Personnel Report -*
 1. *New Employee - Hourly Staff*
 2. *Substitute Speech and Language Pathologist*
 3. *Resignation Notifications - Hourly Staff*

- C. *Minutes - October 13, 2025 public hearing minutes, October 13, 2025 regular meeting minutes, October 13, 2025 development meeting minutes.*
- D. *Financials - September 2025.*
- E. *Board Policy Technical Corrections - 168.1 - Meeting Minutes, 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, 2416 - Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information, 2431 - Interscholastic Athletics, 3214/4214 - Staff Gifts, 3243 - Professional Meetings, 3281/4281 - Personal Property of Staff Members, 3419.01/4419.01 - Privacy Protections of Self-Funded Group Health Plans and Related Benefits, 3419.02/4419.02 - Privacy Protections of Fully-Insured Group Health Plans and Related Benefits, 5130 - Withdrawal/Dropout from School, 5200.01 - Full-Time Student, 5410 - Promotion, Placement, and Retention, 5500 - Student Code of Classroom Conduct, 6144 - Investment Income, 6231 - Budget Implementation, 6235 - Fund Balance, 8450.01 - Personal Protective Equipment During Pandemic/Epidemic Events, 8451 - Pediculosis (Head Lice), 8660 - Transportation by Private Vehicle for District-Sponsored Activities or Trips, 8710 - Insurance, 8800 - Religious Activities and Observances, 9150 - School Visitors.*
- F. *Field Trip Request - Onalaska Middle School 6th grade to Viterbo University, November 12, 2025. Motion carried.*

27. **Adjourn:** *Motion by T. Laufenberg, second by A. Garrity, to adjourn at 7:35p.m. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by Amanda Gamroth

Aaron McDonald, Board President

Brian Haefs, Board Clerk