

Minutes of Board Meeting

<u>Kind of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Regular	HS Cafeteria	October 15, 2025	6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Glen Foote, President	David Sendt - Vice President
Daniel Dalberg	Stephen McDermott
Esta Poulton - Secretary	
Christina Schauer	
Angie Ryan	
Others Present:	
Darren Sirianni – JH/HS Principal	
Wes Heiar – Elem Principal	
Grover Priebe – Maintenance Director	

1. Call to Order

The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll call with 5 members present. Sendt and McDermott absent.

2. Consent Agenda

Dalberg moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Schauer. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence

3.1 The Drama Club presented a teaser of their current play The House on Haunted Hill for the board. Special effects were great and the actors did an amazing job. Congratulations to the entire cast and Mrs. Kenkel and Mr. Lange for their leadership of the play.

3.2 Student Council member Christopher DeMotta updated the board on what they are planning for the next couple of months. There will be a Halloween dress up day with prizes for the best costume. Turkey grams will be put in each of the student’s locker before Thanksgiving break. Before Christmas break there will be a Christmas assembly with games to get into the holiday spirit and classes will also be decorating the hallways along with some fun dress up days.

A board member asked what their goals are this year and it was to work on leadership and student engagement.

4. Staff Reports

4.1 Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal – The annual Pumpkin Run for all students in 1st and 2nd grade took place on September 26th. This group of young runners ran with passion and determination. We had terrific weather that afternoon and a wonderful turnout of supportive parents and grandparents to cheer our kids along. Nice work to Mr. Eyres for another successful race.

Here are the top 10 finishers:

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Maverick Kemp | 1) Letty Culbertson |
| 2) Ryker Clifton | 2) Brooklyn Berning |
| 3) Auggie Sweet | 3) Olivia Wandsnider |
| 4) Liam Hoftender | 4) Ainsley Scharpf |
| 5) Brayden Puls | 5) Laura Brady |
| 6) Theo Sertle | 6) Audri Schilder |
| 7) Jackson Stochl | 7) Nora Sawvell |
| 8) Theo Sand | 8) Aeri Fletcher |
| 9) Holden Freund | 9) Tessa Steger |
| 10) Warren Blackburn | 10) Isabel Meana |

We once again hosted (this is our 6th year) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Night, in partnership with the University of Dubuque, on Monday, October 6. This was by far our largest turnout for a STEM Night and ended up being an incredible evening. There were 20 hands-on stations placed throughout the building for ED families to explore and enjoy. As you would suspect, we can't wait to continue making an annual event.

A huge thank you for a generous donation of a white board for a classroom at the Elementary School. We ordered one late in the summer and they generously waived the cost without hesitation.

4.2 Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal –

Activities: Fall activities are wrapping up. JH Football concluded with a 1-5 record. JH Volleyball finished with the 8th Grade Conference Tournament on October 11th. I will give an update of their results at the meeting. JH Cross Country ran in 4 meets this year, with a final meet on Tuesday. HS Football will conclude their season on October 17th. HS Volleyball begins Regionals on October 27th, with location and pairings to come. HS Cross Country will begin their postseason on October 25th. Winter Activities are just around the corner.

The High School Fall Play will take place on November 8th and 9th. More information to come at the October meeting.

Corridor: The activation of the security system has been delayed, with the new date of deployment scheduled now for October 16th. In November, we will give more updates as to the system and how the initial phase goes. We were awarded a \$47,092 from the US Dept of Justice for a grant to put towards the cost of the Corridor project. Thank you to Lisa Barklow for writing that grant.

Veteran's Day: We will have our District-Wide Veteran's Day Assembly on Tuesday, November 11th at 9:00 am in the HS Gym.

JH/HS Projected Enrollment: (As of August 11, 2025)

Grade	Students				
7	44		(Totals)		
8	42			May25	Aug 25
9	37	7-8		82	86
10	48	9-12		174	169
11	37	Total 7-12		256	255
12	41				249

4.3 Mr. Potts, Superintendent,

Maintenance-From Grover Bleachers have all been inspected and passed. Some minor repairs were done. One item that I need to do is replace all the non-slip tape for the step for the outside bleachers. Safety and security side of things, we added two more cameras to the elementary and replaced two outside lights. I attended two webinars that have to deal with school violence. More and more it comes down to faculty and staff to deal with mental needs of students today before violence happens. They also emphasize on being more proactive than reactive. Most technology advances are in AI technology components. For example, cameras that recognize guns or knives. Cameras that read license plates that notify school officials if they are on school grounds. Door access seems to be an increasing goal for schools. It will come with a hefty price tag. I will be checking on any new ideas and new technology coming from our vendors in the safety areas. In doing my preventive maintenance on my boilers, we discovered a problem with our mezzanine boiler that heats the south side of the building. Gym, shop, locker rooms, and weight room. We are looking at different options on either fixing the items that are wrong or going with a new unit, that would be much more efficient. The current boiler is a 1979 Burnham hot water boiler. October 2nd was National Custodian Appreciation Day! Thank you to my custodians for keeping our facilities clean and friendly!

Transportation- From Jeff:

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK – October 20-24, 2025 Please help promote this national event with all your school transportation providers. School transportation providers across the nation annually celebrate National School Bus Safety Week every third full week of October. This is an excellent time to recognize the transportation department and all the extraordinary work they have been doing. Extra info.

We are still in need of bus drivers We, along with just about every school transportation department across the country, is searching for drivers. So please, if you know of anyone interested in driving a school bus let me know, we will provide training and help them to become an East Dubuque bus driver.

Superintendent: Belonging: We have focused on the idea of belonging to start the school year. We did a short survey with staff and have met weekly at the JH/HS to think and talk about the concept of belonging as adults. We are now moving into the student piece and what makes them feel as if they belong. We will be sending a survey to all 7-12 students to find out about their feelings of belonging. Staff have already started brainstorming ways to help students feel as if they belong in our schools. We will build these things out to be district wide over the course of the year.

Morning Announcements: Each day either Mr. Sirianni or I read the morning announcements to the staff and students. We include any updates or results from activities or the classroom that teachers/coaches/directors send to us. We include activities coming up, lunch, birthdays, messages from teachers or clubs, and any other information staff or students need to know. Finally, we add a Did You Know every day. Usually this is a fun piece of trivia for the day. We then email these announcements to the staff and post them for families. The elementary school does the same.

AED's: Our school nurse and I met with from NICC/Dubuque FD to make sure Phil Arensdorf all of our AED's are up to date. We did have to purchase a few new ones (Lisa wrote a grant as well) and some new pads and batteries. We feel really good about the number of AED's we have and that they are all up to date.

Strategic Plan: Goals are done. Please review them for questions or updates.

5. Unfinished Business – Dan Dalberg updated the board on the Division meeting he attended. He will continue his role as a division officer. Thank you Dan for your extra efforts for the school board.

6. New Business

- 6.1. A FOIA from WI IL News for names of newly inducted NHS members and name of IL state scholars was completed.
- 6.2. Oct 13-18 is Principals Appreciation Week. Thank you to Mr. Sirianni and Mr. Heiar for all they do.
- 6.3. Nov 15th is School Board Members day. Thank you to the School Board!!

- 6.4. A motion was made by Dalberg to authorize the transfer of funds from fund 60 to fund 30 for Bond Series 2020 Phase I(Dec 2025 pmt) \$135,000.00 principal and \$28,153.75 interest for a total of \$163,153.75 with a second by Poulton. All voted aye and motion passed 5-0.
- 6.5. A motion was made by Ryan to authorize the transfer of funds from fund 60 to fund 30 for Bond Series 2022-ARS (Dec 2025 pmt) \$65,000 principal and \$34,475.00 interest for a total of \$99,475.00 with a second by Poulton. All voted aye and motion passed 5-0.

7. Personnel

Sue Kessler and Tracy Priebe will be switching jobs at the end of October.

8. Executive Session

Schauer moved to enter into executive session to discuss the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matter relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10) it was seconded by Ryan. The motion carried 5-0. The Board entered executive session at 6:35pm.

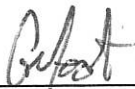
Dalberg moved to return to open session. It was seconded by Poulton and the motion carried 5-0 with the board returning to open session at 7:04pm. Nothing came from the executive session

9. President's Prerogative –

10. Adjourn

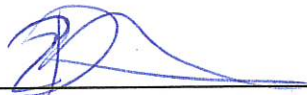
Poulton made a motion to adjourn with a second from Schauer. Motion carried 5-0 and meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Signed:



Glen Foote, President

Attest:



Esta Poulton, Secretary