



School District of Onalaska
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2026 6:00 p.m.
District Office - 237 2nd Ave S, Onalaska, WI

Board of Education

Aaron McDonald	President
Ann Garrity	Vice President
Brian Haefs	Clerk
Mark Cassellius	Treasurer
Erik Archer	Director
Tracy Laufenberg	Director
Bridget Thomas	Director

Administration

Ben Barton	Superintendent
Janet Rosseter	Director of Finance and Business Services
Lish Olson	Director of Instructional Services
Laurie Enos	Director of Student Services
Sonya Ganther	Director of Human Resources
Jared Schaffner	Onalaska High School Principal
Charlie Ihle	Onalaska High School Associate Principal
Jason Thiry	Onalaska High School Associate Principal/Activities Director
Ben Burns	Onalaska Middle School Principal
Jana Yashinsky	Onalaska Middle School Associate Principal
Todd Saner	Eagle Bluff Elementary Principal
Abby Davis	Irving Pertzsch Elementary Principal
Kelly McMahon	Northern Hills Elementary Principal

Mission Statement	Working together to ensure high levels of learning for all
Vision Statement	A model school district in service of students, staff, and community

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.

Any appendix or other supplemental resource that is cross-referenced in connection with a noticed item of business is not itself part of the public notice and is subject to change unless such supplemental resource is directly attached to (and thereby incorporated into) the notice of the meeting that is physically posted at the district's designated posting locations.

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Roll Call - Verification of Quorum:**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
Aaron McDonald will lead the group in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Mission Statement:**
Bridget Thomas will read the School Board Mission Statement.
5. **Public Notice:**
The Board secretary will verify that public notice was given in accordance with the requirements for the State of Wisconsin's public meeting law. (Wis. Stats. 19.84(2))
6. **Agenda Revisions:**
No new items may be added to the agenda.
7. **Approval of Agenda:**
The Board of Education will approve the agenda as published, less any items which are removed by the Board or Administration.
8. **Public Input:**
Public Comment is governed by Board Bylaw 0167.3. Members of the public may request permission to speak on any item on the agenda for a maximum of three minutes. A form to speak to an agenda item is available in the Board room. The form must be filled out prior to the start of the meeting and submitted to administration.

Recognition Item:

9. **Donations:**
 - \$50 from the Onalaska American Legion Auxiliary Unit #336 for school supplies at Northern Hills Elementary
 - \$500 from Catholic Financial Life for the Kid Wind Club at Onalaska High School
 - \$100 from Fran & Billie Finco for the district holiday meal drive
 - \$150 from Mike & Mary McKee for the lunch fund at Irving Pertzsch Elementary
 - \$1,000 from ALM Charities/Mathy family for winter clothing and the lunch fund at Northern Hills Elementary
 - \$600 from Brooke Rihn for the district food pantry
 - Winter coats from Patti Brethel for students at Irving Pertzsch Elementary
 - \$500 from Elizabeth Brock Jones for food needs for students at Onalaska High School in memory of Tom Brock and in honor of Jan Brock
 - \$500 from Katharine Brock for food needs for students at Onalaska High School in memory of Tom Brock and in honor of Jan Brock
 - \$400 from Bob Raasch & Colleen Brogan-Raasch for the district food pantry
 - \$625 from the Bruce & Margie Bartschenfeld family for the district food pantry

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Informational/Discussion Items:

10. **Venture Upward:**
Representatives from Venture Upward will be in attendance to discuss their program and possible online schooling options for the School District of Onalaska.
11. **Student Representative and Administrator Reports:**
The student representative and administrators will have the opportunity to update on staff and student activities related to academics and co-curricular activities.
12. **High School Building Project Update:**
Jared Schaffner will give an update on the high school building project.
13. **Resolutions to be Considered by the 2026 WASB Delegate Assembly:**
Ben Barton will present the 2026 WASB Delegate Assembly Proposed Resolutions for Board recommendations. (Enclosure: 13.Delegate Packet)

Action Items:

14. **Action Research Projects:**
 - A. Eagle Bluff Elementary teacher Noah Looney will present for Board approval his action research project as part of his master's program. (Enclosure: 14.Looney)
 - B. Eagle Bluff Elementary teacher Claire Bartol will present for Board approval her action research project as part of her master's program. (Enclosure: 14.Bartol)
15. **Pre-Kindergarten Program:**
Administration will request board approval to start an all-day pre-kindergarten program effective the 2026-27 school year.
16. **Open Enrollment:**
Laurie Enos will present the 2026-27 open enrollment restrictions for Board approval.
(Enclosure: 16.OE)
17. **WIAA Co-ops:**
Jason Thiry will request Board approval of the following co-curricular co-ops:
 - Gymnastics with Luther (We are host) for the 2026-27 school year
 - Boys Wrestling with Luther (We are host) for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years
 - Boys Hockey with Central and Logan (We are host) for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years
 - Girls Hockey with Holmen, Central, Logan, Aquinas, West Salem, Bangor, and GET (West Salem is host) for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years
 - Boys Lacrosse (Central is host) for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years
18. **Consent Agenda:**
The following items will be presented for approval. Items may be removed for separate consideration:
 - A. Budgetary Disbursements and Payroll in accordance with enclosure.
(Enclosure: 18.Disbursements)

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- B. Personnel Report -
 - 1. Retirement Request - Administration
 - 2. Resignation Request - Administration
 - 3. New Employees - Hourly Staff
 - 4. Position Creations
 - 5. Co-Curricular Resignations
 - 6. Co-Curricular Contracts(Enclosure: 18.Personnel Report)
- C. Minutes - December 8, 2025 regular meeting. (Enclosure: 18.Minutes 12.08.25)
- D. Financials - December 2025. (Enclosure: 18.Financials)
- E. Fundraiser request - OHS Choir Parent Support Group - Pizza Ranch Dine Out Night.

19. **Closed Session:**

The Board of Education will entertain a motion to convene in closed session pursuant to s.19.85 (1)(c)(d)(e) and/or (f), to discuss, and, when appropriate, to take action on individual administrator employment contracts, and to consider and take action, as appropriate, on minutes from the following closed sessions: June 2, 2025, July 28, 2025, October 8, 2025, and December 8, 2025. The Board may take other related, appropriate action in closed session. The Board will adjourn from closed session.

20. **Adjourn:**

Upcoming Board Meeting Schedule:

January 26 - Board of Education Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Upon request to the District Office, submitted twenty-four (24) hours in advance, the District shall make reasonable accommodation including the provision of informational material in an alternative format for a person with disabilities to be able to attend this meeting. For additional information or to request this service, contact the District Office at 608-781-9700. Sent to:

Media

Board of Education

District Buildings: District Office, Onalaska High School, Onalaska Middle School, Eagle Bluff Elementary, Irving Pertzsch Elementary, Northern Hills Elementary

The agenda as noted above was sent to the official newspaper (La Crosse Tribune) more than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting date. Due to this fact, the Agenda published in the newspaper(s) listed above may have been altered after delivery to the above listed newspaper(s). The most up to date Agenda information is also available on the District Website: www.onalaskaschools.com.

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