



Prepare Each Student To Be Successful

Boston School Forest

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STEVENS POINT
AREA PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Boston School Forest Advisory Council Quarter 2 Meeting January 28, 2026 Oelke Lodge

- Arrival & Welcome:
- Present: Jim Lepak, Jeff Mlsna, Jeremy Lebrick, Terry Rothmann, Kelly Rowe, Sally Ellingboe, Christie Nystrom, Mike Kurtz, Chris Nyman, Angela Hintz, Karla Lockman
- Review/Discussion of Q1 Notes: Review on your own
- Financial Report
 - General Monetary Donations – Cub Scout Pack 222 \$25; Jersey Mike’s Fundraiser \$430.28; Meg Eler \$200; Prime WATER Anglers \$2,000; Donation jar cash from Winter Open House \$22; FFA Food Stand \$220 (-\$230)
 - CFCW Recent Contributions – Daniel & Donna Marx \$250; Jenna & Jeremy Fritsch \$200; Cory Hirsbrunner
 - In-Kind Donations – Sally Ellingboe mittens; Point Trophy plaque; Brian and Janice Gralla in Memory of John Ganski moose antlers; Jean Diedrich \$100 Petco Gift Card; Power of 5 cross country ski boots and shelving;
 - Polar Pool Plunge Donations – Jeff Mlsna \$75; Joe and Sue McVey \$100; Tiffany Kania (Revtrak) \$20; PJ Jacobs \$180.33; Chris Nyman \$100; Brzezinski Family \$100; Ryan and Elizabeth Schmid \$100; Dr. Mark and Anne Jordan \$500; James and Deborah Billings/Final Score \$50; Wendy Losinski \$30; David and Christine Greco \$25; Mike & Steph Feltz \$10; Larry and Mary Feltz \$20; Wanda Citron Family \$40; Karl Bancker Family \$20; Dale and Amy Okray \$20; Stevens Point Brewery LLC \$50;
 - Polar Pool Plunge Business Sponsors – Springville Sports Barn \$5 cards x 40; Founders of Freedom Coffee House coffee pouches x 50; Feltz’s Dairy Store cheese curd cups x 50; Eagle Tree Care LLC beanie hats x 40; Mission Coffee BOGO coupons x 40; McDonalds cups x 500; Culvers value basket or free custard coupon x 35; Anytime Fitness 2-week trial coupon x 40; Food+Farm free entry coupon x 10; Dunkin’ Donuts \$5 coupon x 40; Cash donations \$696.73
 - Earnest Money received from Yoder Lumber to hold during timber harvest; \$7,879.50
 - Grants – Alex finished spending the additional budget on maple syrup supplies from Educational Enrichment Grant;
 - Fund 21 expenditures: \$450 in food booth supplies for Winter Open House. As of 12/31/2025 there is a balance of \$92,628.39
- Old Business (Use and Activity)
 - Student groups
 - 1st Grade – 409 students, 163 adults
 - 4th Grade – In progress
 - SPAPSD R.V.A – 2 students, 2 adults
 - Scout groups
 - Boy Scout Pack 299 11/15-16, 2025

- Samoset Council BSA 11/20/25 – 23 people
 - Girl Scouts 6165 11/22/25 – 22 people
 - Girl Scouts 6165 12/4/25 – 20 people
 - Samoset Council BSA 12/18/25 – 25 people
 - Girl Scouts 6165 12/18/25 – 22 people
 - Cub Scout Pack 222 12/22/25 – 55 people
 - Girl Scouts 6165 1/15/26 – 19 people
 - Cub Scout Pack 297 – cancelled due to cold
- Other groups/visitors/volunteers
 - Polar Pool Plunge – 100 people
 - Polar Pool Plunge volunteers – 12 people
 - UWSP Observation Students – 19 people
 - UWSP Winter Educator Interns – 3 people (180 hours total)
 - Winter Open House Day 1 = 17 people; including staff/volunteers = 31 people
 - Winter Open House Day 2 = 60 people; including staff/volunteers = 76 people
- Past events & activities
 - Polar Pool Plunge – Polar Pool Plunge was held on December 13, 2025. Due to windchills below zero, this event was moved to PJ Jacobs. Thank you Jen Knecht and Mike DeMarco for opening up your facility to us! We made over \$2,000. Thank you to this year’s sponsors and plungers!!
 - **McKinley** - Josh Hodsdon, Callie DeGroot, Teri Pinter, Megan Mapes-Martins
 - **PJ Jacobs** - Jen Knecht, Kurt Freund, Kam Anderson, Maya Moody, Charlie Sensenbrenner, Jess Smith, Chelsea Peeters
 - **Washington** - Jacque Gerritsen,
 - **Kennedy**- Brian Leahy, Bre Leahy
 - **Madison** - the Feltzy Flop
 - **BSF** - Alex Brzezinski, Amberle Schwartz
 - **School Board/Stevens Point Orthopedics** - Jim Lepak, Dr. Jordan
 - **SPASH Students** - Carter Hildebrand, Mathias Gebeau
 - **SPASH Debate Team** - Scott Ahern, Penny Ahern, Luke Frisk
 - **BSF VIP** - Ally Koehnke, Treven Hofmann
 - **Ben Franklin** - Joel Burgener, Jason Bull, Olivia DeValk, Trevor Neukirchen, Jeremy Husnick
 - **BSF** - Brenna Lockman, Karla Lockman
 - Alex constructed the wood/plexi case for the skull display. Check it out downstairs.
 - Lake Pacawa Story Walk – New story will be put out when temperature gets above freezing and no precipitation.
 - Winter Open House – This event was held on January 19 and January 26, 2026. Both days featured highs in the single digits with wind chills below zero. Although outdoor activities were still available, most families took advantage of the indoor activities like crafts and Discovery Center play time. All the perishable food stand items were frozen. We plan to hold a food stand at the Earth Day event to try to make back our food stand money.
 - Timber Harvest – Yoder Lumber from Wautoma won the bid with \$35.02 per unit and total estimated \$36,367 for the SPAPSD property. LaVerne from Yoder Lumber has met with Karla and Alex and walked the property. They intend to log in February and March.
 - Ski Shack Project Updates -
 - Karla spoke with Mike Cheslock from Rhinelander regarding how students built the addition to their school forest education building. At that time (10+ years ago) their

shop teacher had a prior career as a general contractor and took on that project. He is no longer with their district.

- Karla spoke with Andrew Halverson from Ellis Construction. Although they likely can't commit to the build, they would like to support us with advice... potentially with a design, commercial building specs, permits, etc. He is also sure the milling the lumber from the BSF trees will likely be much more expensive than whole sale from a distributor. We would still like to run the numbers and find out how much different it would be so when we have a cut list, Karla will contact DW Sawmill in Wautoma for estimate.
 - Karla has the county zoning permit application. Karla spoke with the commercial building inspector in Madison. It is so confusing and although we have to submit plans to the state, we may not need a commercial building permit (?)
 - Mid-State HVAC Solutions is a club that promotes interest and knowledge in HVAC. Mark Haferman is the advisor and we are hoping to have students in all the HVAC for the new Ski Shack.
 - Raffle fundraiser at events - Karla reached out to Rotary and they will host a 50-50 raffle at the Earth Day event with tickets for sale at the front table and flag pole area, with a ticket drawing at 3:30pm.
 - BSF merch sale - Yes! Website being built with Boneyard Screen printing and Design and will have online orders that will also be a fundraiser featuring vinyl stickers, t-shirts and hoodies, etc. Other ideas included neck warmers and a special shirt for District Staff.
 - Next steps – Continue work on the design. Get estimated cost of the project. Establish partners. Write Community Foundations grant in May. Prevail Bank grant in March
- New Business (Discussion Items)
 - Upcoming activities/needs
 - Winter Family Camps x 2 – There was a huge response for the Winter Family Camp so we added a second weekend. They are January 30-31 and February 6-7. Four families are signed up for each weekend with several on the waiting list. Alex and Jessica are running the January 30-31 weekend and Alex and Jean are running the February 6-7 weekend with Dorothy O'Connor assisting.
 - Project Life Work Site – BSF will be a work site for 5 Project Life students. We look forward to welcoming Kevin, Logan, Ethan, Scully, and Valentina in February – June.
 - Maple Syrup Event in March possible (?)
 - Earth Day Celebration – This event is scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2026. We have had a great response from activity station hosts so far. Jarad Schroeder, UWSP Forestry Outreach, will bring his harvester simulator. Thanks for that contact, Gretchen! Fingers crossed for warm, dry weather on April 19. Jeff said to make sure we involve Sarah and Brooke in the promotion.
 - Summer School Planning – We are expanding the offering for the Great Outdoors at BSF summer school to include 35 students this year. Jean Diedrich and Rose Helm will be the instructors for this course. We plan to run Hunter Safety again the first week of August with 30 students enrolled in only a morning session. Kurt Freund, Landon Dehnel, Alex and myself will instruct.
 - Open Discussion, Questions, Comments
 - Upcoming Meetings:
 - Wednesday, April 8, 2026 – 4:00pm (Oelke Lodge and/or via Google meet)
 - TBD
 - Adjournment