



School District of Onalaska

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 9, 2026

President Aaron McDonald called the Onalaska Board of Education regular meeting to order on Monday, February 9, 2026 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, Ann Garrity, Tracy Laufenberg, Brian Haefs, and Aaron McDonald.
Administrators/Directors Present - Ben Barton, Janet Rosseter, Lish Olson, Laurie Enos, Jared Schaffner, Jason Thiry, Sonya Ganther, Ben Burns, Kelly McMahon, Abby Davis, Todd Saner, and Kristen Fay.
Student Representative - Kaarina Dunn.
Others Present - Brittany Geary, Elise Tomashek, Kaelin Tomashek, Dani Schmit.
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:** No changes.
7. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by T. Laufenberg, to approve the agenda as published. Motion carried.*
8. **Public Input:** There were no public comments.

Recognition Item:

9. **Dance Team Recognition:** Members of the Onalaska Dance Team were recognized for their recent state appearance, finishing 1st in jazz and 4th in poms.
10. **Donations:**
 - \$100 from Edith MacDougal for the student lunch fund at Irving Pertzsch Elementary
 - \$2,500 in gift cards from the St. Patrick's Church giving tree for student/family needs
 - Clothing, headphones, and board games from Bernie Buchner, Inc for student needs

Informational/Discussion Items:

11. **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.
12. **Second Friday in January Pupil Count:** Janet Rosseter presented the second Friday in January pupil count for the district for Board information.

Action Items:

13. **Online Charter School:** *Motion by T. Laufenberg, second by B. Thomas, to accept a notice of intent with Venture Upward for an online charter school. Roll call vote: E. Archer - yes; T. Laufenberg - yes; B. Thomas - yes; Motion carried.*
14. **Consent Agenda:** *Motion by M. Cassellius, second by A. Garrity, to approve the following under the consent agenda, with the removal of Item B1 - Retirement Request - Certified Staff.*
 - A. *Budgetary Disbursements and Payroll in accordance with enclosure.*
 - B. *Personnel Report -*
 1. *Retirement Request - Certified Staff*
 2. *New Employee - Hourly Staff*
 3. *New Employee - Limited Term Construction Representative*
 - C. *Minutes - January 26, 2026 regular meeting minutes*
 - D. *Unpaid Leave - Asher Athnos, Eagle Bluff Elementary custodian, January 12-February 10, 2026, Jeni Hinitt, Northern Hills Elementary Paraprofessional, January 16, 2026.*
 - E. *Fundraiser Request - OWLS Club (OHS Writing and Literature Society), Valentine's Day fundraiser. Goal is \$500 with proceeds being used to purchase books and other items for the club.*

Motion carried.

Motion by A. Garrity, second by B. Thomas, to approve Item B1 - Retirement Request - Certified Staff.

Motion carried.
15. **Adjourn:** *Motion by B. Thomas, second by B. Haefs, to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Fay

Aaron McDonald, Board President

Brian Haefs, Board Clerk