

Minutes of Board Meeting

Kind of Meeting

Regular

Place

HS Cafeteria

Date

December 17, 2025

Time

6:00 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call with all seven members present.

2. Consent Agenda

Dahlberg moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Schauer. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence

3.1 Kathy Stierman was not present to discuss the time capsule opening. Wes Heiar spoke on her behalf. A time capsule was created in 2000 by the 5th grade classroom teachers Cheryl Knutson and Bill Reisen. The capsule was meant to be opened in 2025. It will be opened on Friday, Dec 19th at the elementary school. It is in the works for a new time capsule to be created with students to be opened in 2050.

3.2 Student Council was represented by Sally Sirianni. Sally updated the board on what they are planning for Friday, the last day before the holiday break. There will be movies being played in classrooms as well as activities and prizes in hopes to keep the upper classmen involved and most students at school since they will be wrapping up finals week.

4. Staff Reports

4.1 Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal:

October events: During Fire Prevention Week our PTO hosted a Touch a Truck and Trunk or Treat event in the lower parking lot of the Elementary School. The PTO decided to combine these two enjoyable family

friendly events into one exciting outing. This was a terrific event with a nice combination of vehicles of all sizes giving out treats and even more families coming out to enjoy the festivities. A huge thank you Jessica Schonhoff and the PTO for hosting this enjoyable activity. Fire Prevention Week also brought several Poster Contest Winners from Kindergarten through 6th grade.

November events: On November 11th, the district hosted our annual Veteran's Day assembly. As expected, it was a terrific opportunity to honor so many of our local veterans. A huge shout out to those who coordinated the event. Later that afternoon, two of our local veterans, Chad Strauser and Mike Ellis, visited the Elementary School and led a presentation with our 2nd grade classes. They did a wonderful job of educating our students on military history, sharing artifacts, telling lots of stories and even leaving us with some MREs for our student body to sample.

4.2 Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal:

Activities: Winter Activities are all in full swing. JH Boys Basketball wrapped up their season this past week. HS Girls and Boys Basketball are playing in Holiday Tournaments this week and then have a break before ramping up for the second half of the season. Wrestling has had a handful of meets so far. Archery Tournaments and Scholastic Bowl meets begin in January, along with JH Girls Basketball.

Giving Tree: Thank you to all who helped out families in need by taking tags off of the Giving Trees that were in the HS/JH lobby for the past few weeks. Student Council did a great job of getting everything organized and hopefully helped spread some joy over the Holidays for some people in a tough place. Thank you to the Sandy Hook for also donating and helping out again this year.

End of Semester: December 19th will be the end of the 1st Semester. HS Final Exams are take place this week on

Wednesday, Dec. 17th and Thursday, Dec. 18th. On Friday, Dec. 19th , both the JH and HS Student Councils have some different activities/snacks planned for everyone to enjoy before the break. Students will return on Tuesday, Jan. 6 for the beginning of the 2nd Semester.

Internet: The HS/JH building was without internet for a good portion of the day Wednesday with it coming back on by about noon.

Enrollment: Glenn Foote asked about the JH/HS enrollment numbers dropping to 162 with 7 less students since the beginning of the year. Some students have decided on home school, or to pursue their GED. There will also be 2 Seniors potentially graduating at semester.

4.3 Mr. Potts, Superintendent:

Maintenance: The mezzanine boiler is up and running and working well. The new heaters in the shop are in place and running well. We will be replacing two heat pump units for the east side of the cafeteria. That will be done over Christmas break. We replaced the heat pump unit in Mr. Hesslebacher's room. These units are original to the building and are slowly needing to be replaced. Winter sports season is in full swing. Maintenance staff have been rather busy. The winter weather is keeping them busy. The guys have been doing a great job with snow removal and salting. With the forecasted rain, we had to shovel some of the flat roof of the high school to allow rain to get to the drains. Had our walk through with Prairie State insurance Co-op and are awaiting their report.

Transportation: On December 18th, the Bus Driver Singers will entertain both the AM and PM preschool classes with Christmas song and dance. At our December 5th bus driver meeting we had an AED refresher lesson.

We are currently preparing the fleet for its bi-yearly State inspections in January. All of our fleet will make individual trips for a total of 2,058 miles to the closest State sanctioned inspection station in Lanark, IL. Oil changes, lube, repair, routine maintenance and brake inspection for all sixteen student carrying vehicles is on the slate. We are still in need of bus drivers. We, along with just about every school transportation department across the country, are searching for drivers.

Superintendent:

Belonging Survey for Students:

We have completed the belonging survey for all students in grades 7-12. We were able to get great information from these surveys and will now have the teachers in those grades split up into PLC teams to address the issues and needs of the students. It was great to see that many of our students feel safe in school

and feel like they do belong here. Some do not and those are the things that we want to work on. It could be as simple as making sure we are greeting kids as they come through the door. In some cases, it is much more intricate.

Meeting with Architect: On Monday, Dec. 8th, I met with FEH architects, Kevin Eipperle, Bryce Eipperle, and Gary Schulte. We discussed the Health, Life, Safety program for all three buildings and where we are at in the process of planning for potential moves in the future. As you know, the goal is to get East Dubuque to be a one campus district. Our potential moves will likely happen in phases. We discussed the BRIC grant, the building replacement funds from HLS, and HLS funds for early elementary education. We have potential for one or all of these programs. The timeline is pretty loose right now though.

Corridor Training: On Wednesday, December 10th we had our second round of training with JH/HS staff on the Corridor program. Remember, this is a pilot program year for this building and then we will implement it in both buildings next year. We have been able to give input to the developers of the program as to how we would like to use the program as we see how it is developed.

5. Unfinished Business

All 7 members attended the IASB Joint Conference in Chicago November 21-22. All members spoke about their experience and the sessions they attended they thought were helpful. All members thanked the school district for the opportunity.

6. New Business

- 6.1 Lisa Barklow shared the Levy documents and the proposed increase is \$344,623. We are under 5% at 4.99% for Truth & Taxation. The District will look into in house cuts before needing to increase taxes. A large increase was allocated to Special Education. A motion was made by Sendt to Adopt the 2026 Levy with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 7-0.
- 6.2 The Calendar Committee will meet January 21st at 5:00pm.
- 6.3 FOIA from Public Info Access - a current staff list was provided.
- 6.4 Rise Grant was not approved. We can apply again next year.
- 6.5 A motion was made by Ryan to approve the Agreement with Rosecrance, Inc. with a second by Poulton. All voted aye and motion passed 7-0.

7. Personnel

- 7.1 A motion was made by Sendt to grant Amanda Blakemore an upcoming maternity leave and the hire of Cassandra Martin as a HS Science Teacher with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 7-0.

8. Executive Session

No executive session took place.

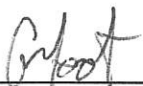
9. President's Prerogative

Glenn Foote wished everyone Happy Holidays and invited all board members to attend the District party on Friday, December 17th at Frentress Lake.

10. Adjourn

Sendt made a motion to adjourn with a second from Ryan. Motion carried 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Signed:



Glen Foote, President

Attest:



Esta Poulton, Secretary