

Minutes of Board Meeting

<u>Kind of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Regular	HS Library	January 29, 2026	6:00 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, January 29, 2026. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call with six members present.

2. Consent Agenda

Dahlberg moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Ryan. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence

3.1 Coach Joe Edler spoke on behalf of the Softball team and their request for an overnight Softball trip to Mauston, WI.

3.2 Sarah Engle spoke on behalf of the Archery team and their request for their out of town Archery State trip as well as their out of town Archery Nationals trip. Some questions were asked about student participation and whether it was difficult for families to afford the travel these tournaments require. Sarah said that fund raising has been happening for any participants that may not be able to financially contribute. The archery program makes sure no student is left out due to financial hardships.

4. Staff Reports

4.1 Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal:

On November 7, the Elementary School held our first Accelerated Reader (AR) celebration for our 1st quarter superstar reading students (our 2nd quarter celebration will be taking place this month). Each quarter this year we will be celebrating students who are gung-ho about achieving their AR goals and reading. As you

know, in our current society students have access to more online distractions than ever before. Our hope is that by celebrating some of our exceptional young readers we will encourage and inspire other students to do the same. Thank you to Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Oney for coordinating this initiative. Here are the students who earned this first quarter honor:

2nd grade- Theo Sand, Maverick Kemp, Isabelle Meana, Tessa Steiger, Holden Freund, Theo Sertle

3rd grade- Mayble Huseman, James Lechnir, Sophie Schonhoff, Aurora Shimak

4th grade- Evy Edge, Peityn McGurn, Ethan Fasano, Wyatt Howell, Libby Runde, Sophie Pitts, William Meana, Thomas Sertle, Eviana Yaeger

5th grade- Hadley Freund, Abel Breitbart, Lawson Weber, Trey Beecher, James Lange, Abe Sweet

6th grade- Jensen Williams, Lex Winders, Kaya Roby, Nolan VanOstrand, Kieffer Naab, Vaida Pitts, Jack Kenkel, Avery Brokus, Jorja Culbertson

Every year during the holiday season, our ED staff and community really comes together to help a significant number of financially strapped ED families. For the last five years the Elementary staff has purchased Christmas gifts for a number of families. The staff does a great job of raising money by offering members the opportunity to wear jeans during the month of December for \$20 each and hosting a couple of Jimmy John luncheons which generates some revenue to purchase these gifts. These efforts raised just over \$1000 this year. In addition to these internal fundraisers, Runde Auto Group, Kunkel and some other local families contributed an additional \$3000. With these combined efforts, we were able to bless 35 East Dubuque students and their families this Christmas season.

4.2 Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal:

Activities: Winter Activities are in Full Swing. Archery began tournaments in January and has had success at all levels so far. Scholastic Bowl will begin meets with the Conference Tournament beginning on January 24th here in East Dubuque. Boys and Girls Basketball are having good seasons, with both teams standing undefeated in Conference play at this time. JH Girls Basketball will play their first game on January 20th. Wrestling has started back up after break and the boys are having some great improvements.

JH Play: Mr. Lange, Mrs. Kenkel, and the HS Student Directors have begun practicing for the JH Play, which will be performed on Friday, March 13th @ 7:00 pm and Saturday, March 14th @ 3:00 pm.

New Semester: We are now 2 weeks into the 2nd Semester at the HS/JH building. There were a couple of hiccups with the Grade Calculations with the transition from SkyWard to Qmlativ, but we were able to get those worked out and the 2nd semester should go much smoother.

Grad Partnership: I will share information from a new partnership that East Dubuque has been invited to join in connection with several of the Dubuque and local Iowa schools with Grant money available to help identify and address student attendance, graduation, and post-secondary success.

4.3 Mr. Potts, Superintendent:

Maintenance: The three new heat pump units have been installed and are working awesome. We also had to have a compressor replaced in one other unit. We were also able to complete all maintenance on all units during the break. The Ansul system in the high school kitchen has been inspected, serviced and passed inspection. Installed a new slide at the elementary school that had been damaged. Just wear and tear damage. The hot water heater at the square school went out the day of break. We were able to get a tankless water heater installed at a lesser cost than it would have if we went with the same style. We have a new water softener at the square school as well. It has made a vast difference compared to the old one. I received our annual risk control report from PSIC. I will be going over the results with the team at our next admin meeting. With the flu bug and other illnesses going around, my team has ramped up our extra cleaning and disinfecting of all furniture and high touch areas throughout both campuses. The winter sports have been in full swing keeping us busy. We also have a full month with weekend activities going on. Thank you to my staff for stepping up and working on the weekends.

Transportation: We are currently running the fleet for its bi-yearly State inspections in Lanark. 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. All sixteen student carrying vehicles will make the trip. So far every vehicle has passed. We will be purchasing the two buses coming off lease this summer. Dave Glab will be returning to drive bus for the district, Dwayne Baker has resigned as bus driver, and Ed Gau will be leaving in February. We are again, very short on bus drivers.

Superintendent:

Calendar Committee: We met with a group of teachers and with the board subcommittee on the calendar for next year and shared thoughts and took questions about it. One of the biggest challenges is ending the first semester before winter break and still getting the number of days that you need for the semester.

Jo Daviess Mitigation Meeting: On Tuesday, January 20th, Grover and I attended a meeting in Elizabeth hosted by AEC of Springfield. This will be a series of meetings with every entity in Jo Daviess County invited (school districts, cities, townships, fire departments, hospitals, etc.) The objective is for our county to have an all inclusive, proactive plan for any hazard (natural or Man-made) that may come about. This is to ensure that we are ready for anything that may happen, and that we may be able to tap into funding for the resources and structures necessary to be ready for these potential hazards. We need to be part of this plan to be able to apply for FEMA or BRICC grants.

Winter Weather: Err on the side of caution and utilize virtual days when we have a heads up that we may not be in school on certain days. For our younger students, and the teachers of younger students, virtual days are tough. If those teachers don't have time to prepare, we will not utilize those days. Winter weather is what it is, but I do not want to put young drivers in harm's way. Our buses can usually handle the weather out there, as well as our bus drivers. It is really young drivers, in the dark, or young kids waiting for a bus in the cold. I also really try to take into consideration our staff that are traveling from greater distances. There have been many days where the weather just 10 miles away is much different than what it is here in East Dubuque. We can always make up a day of school, or start a little late.

5. Unfinished Business

The cancelled school day on Monday, January 26th due to weather conditions will now be made up on Friday, February 13th which was originally on the calendar as an emergency day.

6. New Business

- 6.1 A motion was made by Ryan to approve the State Archery trip with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.
- 6.2 A motion was made by Poulton to approve the Nationals Archery trip with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.
- 6.3 A motion was made by McDermott to approve the overnight Softball trip to Mauston, WI with a second by Dalberg. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.
- 6.4 A motion was made by Ryan to approve the purchase of two leased buses with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.
- 6.5 A Reminder that the Policy Committee will meet Wednesday, February 18th at 4:45 p.m. Sent , Schauer & McDermott are committee members.
- 6.6 A Reminder that the Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, February 18th at 5:15 p.m. Sendt, McDermott & Poulton are committee members.
- 6.7 FOIA from SmartProcure for PO/Vendor Information was provided.
- 6.8 FOIA from NW Illinois News for Full-Time Aide Contracts was provided.
- 6.9 FOIA Request Vendor Contract - Extension was requested
- 6.10 Notice of Public Meeting to solicit input on the Draft Port Master Plan regarding the Savanna Army Depot.
- 6.11 Northwest Division Hybrid Meeting will take place on Thursday, March 5th. Please contact Sue if you would like to attend either in person or virtually as she will need to register you.

7. Personnel

7.1 A motion was made by Dalberg to accept the resignation of Dwayne Baker as bus driver with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.

8. Executive Session

No executive session took place.

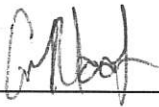
9. President's Prerogative

Glen asked if there was any other business, and Julie Harmann asked if she could get clarification on how the district decides on a Virtual day or a cancelled day due to weather. She said there was confusion with the students thinking that Monday was a Virtual day. Everyone decided that the communication that goes out to families needs to be more clear if school is totally canceled.

10. Adjourn

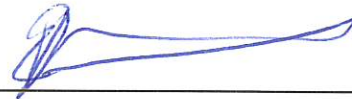
Dalberg made a motion to adjourn with a second from Schauer. Motion carried 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Signed:



Glen Foote, President

Attest:



Esta Poulton, Secretary