

Eau Claire School Board Minutes

Monday, February 16, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream

Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members present

Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement (left at 8:26 p.m.), Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

CONVENE (GC-1)

President Nordin called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. Board Secretary Terri Grzyb confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. A roll call was conducted to verify quorum.

CLOSED SESSION (B/SR-5)

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Jarrett Dement to move to closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

RECONVENE (GC-1)

President Nordin reconvened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. and announced that the Board took no action during closed session. The following students from Roosevelt Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance: Ava R. and Evelyn T.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Erica Zerr to adopt the Board agenda for February 16, 2026.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

RECOGNITION (R-1)

Superintendent Johnson recognized the following:

- Black History Month
- National School Counseling Week
- Pride in Foodservice Week
- Wisconsin School Bus Driver Appreciation Week
- Adult Crossing Guard Recognition Week
- We Love Our Public Schools Week
- National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

The following citizens addressed the School Board:

1) Chris Hambuch-Boyle expressed support for public schools; 2) Jamiah Hillman shared personal experiences and support for School Resource Officer; 3) Mike Major shared the benefits and community impact of School Resource Officers

REPORTS

Legislative Liaison Report

Commissioner Thao provided a Legislative update, which included the following:

- Senate Bill 1026 would require the Department of Public Instruction to develop a model curriculum for African American Studies for grades K-12
- Assembly Bill 859 proposes shifting special education reimbursement to a sum-sufficient model, which would improve budgeting predictability for districts
- Senate Bill 835 would amend existing state statutes to create appropriations for teaching education grants and adjust school revenue limits based on Consumer Price Index

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Superintendent's Consent Agenda items:

- Human Resources - Employment Report
- ECVS Language Changes in Contract
- Referendum Project Bids

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

BOARD'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Erica Zerr, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Board Meeting - January 26, 2026
- Minutes of Closed Session - February 6, 2026
- Minutes of Board Meeting - February 6, 2026
- Board Summary Statement for OE-5: Student Success
- Board Summary Statement for OE-11: Asset Protection
- Resolution in Support of We Love Our Public Schools Week

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

ECASD 2024-2025 Audit Review

April Anderson from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented the 2024-25 Annual Audit Review, reporting an unmodified opinion with no internal control issues, a significant increase in fund balance, and manageable long-term obligations. The Board had no questions.

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Pa Thao to approve the presented 2024-25 financial audit.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Petitioners Samantha Gardner and Joseph Bohlinger Request to Alter School District Boundaries

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Erica Zerr to temporarily suspend regular rules to allow petitioners to speak and present during a public hearing.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to approve Petitioners Samantha Gardner and Joseph Bohlinger request to alter school district boundaries to detach the property from the Eau Claire Area School District and attach it to the Elk Mound School District.

Motion carried

Yes: Jasmine Case, Stephanie Farrar, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

No: Lori Bica, Jarrett Dement, Tim Nordin

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to adopt a resolution authorizing issuance of an order to alter school district boundaries.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Jarrett Dement to adjourn public hearing.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Superintendent Johnson presented the strengths, risks of discontinuation, and strategic expansion considerations for the Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School, with Board members expressing strong support for renewal and discussing the importance of potential expansion. A vote is planned for the March 16 Board meeting.

MONITORING DISTRICT RESULTS

Superintendent Johnson presented the monitoring report for OE-7, Community Engagement. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr Motion to accept the monitoring report for OE-7 Community Engagement, as presented. *No action taken until after proposed amendment.*

Motion by Erica Zerr, second by Pa Thao to amend 7.1 (as a whole) and 7.1, indicator 4, from In Compliance to In Compliance w/ Exception.

Motion failed

Yes: Stephanie Farrar, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

No: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Tim Nordin

Not Present at Vote: Jarrett Dement

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to accept the monitoring report for OE-7 Community Engagement, as presented.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao

No: Erica Zerr

Not Present at Vote: Jarrett Dement

BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)

President Nordin asked Board members to complete the survey before adjourning. Commissioner Bica mentioned an adjustment that was made allowing for flexible completion options.

ADJOURN

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jasmine Case, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Pa Thao, Erica Zerr

Not Present at Vote: Jarrett Dement

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.