

**WEST BEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**Education Service Center**  
**735 S. Main Street**  
**West Bend, WI 53095**

**Regular School Board Meeting**  
**Education Service Center**  
**Monday, April 13, 2026**

**Members present:** Chris Jenkins, June Kruger, Kelly Lang, Chris Zwygart, Melanie Ehrgott, Joe Pichler, and Chad Tamez.  
Chad Tamez joined the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

**1. Opening Items**

**A. Call to Order**

School Board President Chris Zwygart called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Approval of Agenda**

Chris Zwygart moved approval of the agenda; Mrs. Lang seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0.

**2. Recognition**

**A. State Recognition: West Bowling**

Erin Felber, West Athletic Director, introduced Head Coach Paul Voge who and recognized athletes from the West bowling team who qualified for State.

**B. State Recognition: West Bend Boys Swim and Dive**

Erin Felber, West Athletic Director, introduced Diving Head Coach Pete DeTuncq and Boys Swim Head Coach Jim Sachse. The coaches recognized athletes from the diving team and boys swim team who qualified for State.

**C. State Recognition: West Bend Wrestling**

Erin Felber, West Athletic Director, introduced Head Coach Aaron Spaeth who recognized athletes from the West Bend wrestling team who qualified for State.

**D. State Recognition: West Bend Snowboarding**

Erin Felber, West Athletic Director, introduced Head Coach Hunter Zaskowski who recognized athletes from the West Bend snowboarding team who qualified for State.

**E. State Recognition: West Bend Ski Team**

Erin Felber, West Athletic Director, introduced Head Coach Aidan Sison who recognized athletes from the ski team who qualified for State.

**3. Student Reports**

Student reporters: Hailey Kuester, East senior, and Isabella Downs, East junior, presented recent achievements of athletic teams, clubs, and students at the high school, as well as upcoming high school events.

**4. Public Participation**

- None

**5. Consent Agenda**

**A. Minutes of the March 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting and Executive Session**

**B. Contracts**

**C. Resignations**

**D. Retirements**

**E. Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Contract**

**F. Special Inspection Services Contract**

**G. Education for Employment Plan (E4E)**

**H. Disbursements Posted to April 3, 2025**

Mr. Zwygart moved approval of the consent agenda, Joe Pichler seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0.

## **6. Reports**

### **A. Canvass Report from April 7, 2026 Spring Election**

The Canvass of the Spring Election took place on April 10, 2026. A total of 24,749 votes were cast, resulting in the election of Kelly Lang, Chad Tamez, and June Kruger. New board members will take office on Monday, April 27, 2026 for a three year term that ends in April of 2029.

### **B. Construction Report**

Tim Harder, Director of Facilities and Technology, provided a construction update. Underground utility work is underway at the new Jackson Elementary School site. Mr. Harder and Superintendent Wimmer attended the City of West Bend Planning Commission meeting, where the Commission approved exterior improvements at Green Tree Elementary, including a redesigned parking lot, drop-off lane for improved safety, additional parking to support the Early Learning program relocation, as well as internal and external community use. The Planning Commission also approved planned exterior work at Silverbrook. The full Common Council will review. The district is actively planning the end-of-year transition to move quickly on referendum construction at Silverbrook and Badger once the school year concludes.

### **C. Financial Report**

Lenny Hanson, Assistant Superintendent, presented the monthly financial performance review through February 28, 2026. Expenditures are tracking at or slightly under budget, with salaries trending consistently compared to prior years. Some purchased services and fixed asset purchases expected in March and April will bring totals more in line with historical norms. Revenue is within one percentage point of recent years, and cash flow is at its second-best performance over the past five years. Food service was noted as an area of continued monitoring due to rising food, labor, and materials costs. The current negative fund balance is expected to turn positive by year-end as federal claims are processed. The district is also on track with all required financial filings. Hanson provided a brief update on two benefit-related Requests for Proposals. A recommendation on the employee health clinic is expected before the board within four to six weeks, while a pharmacy benefit manager recommendation is anticipated in July.

### **D. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, reported on highlights, events, and celebrations happening in the West Bend School District

## **7. Discussion**

### **A. 2026-2027 Budget Development**

Lenny Hanson, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on the 2026-2027 budget development. He confirmed that the district remains on track to deliver a balanced budget and outlined the core principles guiding the process: maintaining historical class size ranges, remaining within regional staffing norms, continuing to prioritize instruction at a higher rate than the state average, and preserving a competitive total compensation package for employees. Hanson noted that as positions are reduced or adjusted, the district is working to place displaced employees elsewhere within the district wherever possible, with the majority expected to find alternative placements. Mr. Hanson acknowledged that work remains beyond the staffing plan, and indicated that he will continue presenting additional budget reduction opportunities to the board through May and June with the goal of establishing a sustainable, multi-year balanced budget approach.

### **B. 2026-2027 Staffing Plan**

Sarah Leatherman, Director of Human Resources, presented the initial 2026-2027 staffing plan, with formal approval and certified staff contract renewals scheduled for the April 27th board meeting. The plan is driven by student needs, enrollment trends, and budget considerations, and maintains historical class size ranges, current programming, and support services. Staffing adjustments are aligned to enrollment rather than arbitrary cuts, with attrition through retirements, resignations, and limited contracts serving as the primary mechanism. The district remains optimistic that most affected employees will have positions available to them. Residential development within district boundaries presents a potential long-term opportunity for the district.

## **8. Future Agenda Items**

### **A. Board Meeting Calendar**

- Regular Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., April 27, 2026
- Curriculum Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., May 5, 2026
- Regular Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., May 11, 2026
- Policy Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m., May 19, 2026

### **B. Items for Follow-up and Communication**

- None

### **9. Adjourn into Executive Session**

Mr. Zwycart moved to adjourn into executive session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 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, and take any such action, if necessary, based on its discussion, namely: employment, and to consider non-renewal of teacher contracts; Mr. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0 upon roll call vote: Mr. Pichler, Dr. Tamez, Mrs. Kruger, Mrs. Ehrgott, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Zwycart, Mrs. Lang. The meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:51 p.m. There was a discussion regarding employment and to consider non-renewal of teacher contracts.

### **10. Reconvene into Open Session**

Mr. Zwycart moved to reconvene back into open session, Mrs. Lang seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0 upon roll call vote: Mrs. Kruger, Mrs. Ehrgott, Mr. Pichler, Mr. Zwycart, Mr. Jenkins, Mrs. Lang, Dr. Tamez. The meeting reconvened into open session at 7:15 p.m.

### **11. Action**

#### **A. Possible Action Regarding the Issuance of Preliminary Notices of Non-renewal of Contracts for Employees Discussed in Executive Session**

Mr. Zwycart moved to approve the issuance of the preliminary notices of contract non-renewal of employees discussed in executive session as presented, Mr. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0 upon roll call vote: Mrs. Ehrgott, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Zwycart, Mrs. Kruger, Mr. Pichler, Mrs. Lang, Dr. Tamez.

### **12. Adjourn**

Mr. Zwycart moved to adjourn; Dr. Tamez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Melanie Ehrgott**

**Clerk**