

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 27, 2026

Members present: June Kruger, Chris Jenkins, Kelly Lang, Chris Zwygart, Melanie Ehgott, Joe Pichler, Chad Tamez

Chris Jenkins left the meeting at 6:15 p.m., his absence is excused.

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. CESA 6 Regional Spelling Bee Champion Recognition

Kelly Egan, Gifted and Talented Program Specialist, introduced Miles Riemer, 8th grade Badger student, who was recognized by the School Board for earning first place at the CESA 6 Regional Spelling Bee.

3. Public Participation

- None

4. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the April 13, 2026 Regular Board Meeting and Executive Session

B. Contracts

C. Resignations

D. Retirements

E. 2026-2027 Food Service Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

F. Approval of Workout Room Equipment Donation from the YMCA

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

5. Reports

A. Construction Reports

Tim Harder, Director of Facilities and Technology, reported on construction progress. At Green Tree Elementary, equipment will mobilize for parking lot demolition and reconstruction within the final days of the school year, with completion expected in early August at Green Tree. Work will include storm sewer improvements, lighting upgrades, and curb modifications. At Badger Middle School, preparatory work in the locker room spaces will begin within the next few weeks. Installation of a new fire alarm system is also planned, with early work scheduled to allow sufficient time for programming and testing before the school year begins. At Silverbrook Intermediate, coordination is underway to transition the building for construction immediately following the last work day. The site will remain partially active this summer, hosting YMCA programming and summer school. A safety plan has been established with Findorff to separate students from construction workers, and all contractors are required to complete background checks and a site safety orientation before receiving clearance to enter the building. At the future Jackson Elementary site, utility work is progressing on schedule. Foundation work is expected to begin within the next few weeks.

B. Superintendents Report

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

6. Discussion

A. Review Board Operations

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, reviewed the Policies related to School Board Operations which can be found in the 100 Series of Policies on the District website.

B. Review Board Officers, Terms, and Election

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, reviewed the Board officer positions, the duties assigned to each position, and the process of electing Board officers.

C. Review Board Committee and Delegate Assignments

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, reviewed committee and delegate assignments, which include Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) Board of Controls, Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) Convention delegate and alternate, Head Start, Policy Committee, and Curriculum Committee.

D. School Board Meeting Calendar 2026-2027

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, presented the recommended dates for Board meetings for the 2025-2026 school year. Discussion was held regarding meeting time, with a suggestion to consider moving from the current 5:30 p.m. start time to 6:00 p.m. Administration indicated that July and December meetings could be condensed.

E. Early Onboarding of Mechanical Sub-Contractors for High School Construction

Tim Harder, Director of Facilities and Technology, along with Michelle Hammerling from owners representative firm Huffman Keel and Justine Berens from general contractor Findorff, presented a recommendation to early onboard HVAC and electrical subcontractors for the high school renovation project. Due to the complexity of the building's existing systems, many of which are original to the structure, it was recommended that these subcontractors be brought on during the design phase to investigate existing conditions, identify efficiencies, assist with project phasing, and allow for early procurement of long-lead time items such as electrical switchgear and air handling units. This approach, known in the industry as a design assist contract, is intended to reduce costly change orders during construction by uncovering potential issues before walls and ceilings are opened. The process will include a competitive public bid using a 50% schematic design set, with a minimum of three bids sought. The contract would be structured in two parts, with the district and Findorff retaining the right to part ways with a subcontractor if investigative work is not completed satisfactorily or if the final bid number falls outside an acceptable range.

F. High Schools Configuration Planning Update

Dr. Jennifer Wimmer, Superintendent, provided an interim update on high school consolidation planning following the board's vote to consolidate to one campus beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. She has met with officials from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association regarding conference alignment and the transition to a new entity. The Superintendent and Communications Manager Nancy Kunkler have also been connecting with other districts to gather lessons learned. A request for proposals may be issued to engage a marketing or communications firm to assist with community engagement and design work. The goal is to reach a decision regarding school identity, including mascot and colors, by the end of 2026, allowing adequate time for branding and uniforms to be in place for the 2027-2028 school year. A formal timeline and milestones will be brought forward at a future meeting.

7. Action

A. 2026-2027 Staffing Plan

Mr. Zwygart moved to approve the 2026-2027 Staffing Plan as presented, Mr. Pichler seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

B. 2026-2027 Employee Contract Renewals

Mr. Zwygart moved to approve the 2026-2027 Employee Contract Renewals as presented, Dr. Tamez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

8. Future Agenda Items

A. Board Meeting Calendar

- 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
- Regular Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., May 26, 2026

B. Items for Follow-up and Communication

- None

9. Adjourn into Executive Session

Mr. Zwygart 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; Dr. Tamez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0 upon roll call vote: Mrs. Kruger, Mrs. Lang, Mr. Zwygart, Dr. Tamez, Mrs. Ehrgott, Mr. Pichler. The meeting adjourned into executive session at 6:31 p.m. There was discussion regarding employment.

10. Reconvene into Open Session

Mr. Zwygart moved to reconvene back into open session, Dr. Tamez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0 upon roll call vote: Dr. Tamez, Mr. Zwygart, Mr. Pichler, Mrs. Kruger, Mrs. Ehrgott, Mrs. Lang. The meeting reconvened into open session at 7:02 p.m.

11. Adjourn

Mr. Zwygart moved to adjourn; Mrs. Kruger seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Ehrgott

Clerk