

Eau Claire School Board Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream

Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members present

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

CONVENE (GC-1)

Superintendent Mike Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Duane D. from South Middle School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

NOMINATION & ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Mark Elworthy, Executive Director of Business Services, led the Reorganizational Meeting (virtually).

Election of President

Tim Nordin nominated Stephanie Farrar as President. No second required. Stephanie Farrar accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Vice President

Tim Nordin nominated Lori Bica as Vice President, second by Jarrett Dement. Lori Bica accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Clerk/Governance Officer

Jarrett Dement nominated Jarrett Dement as Clerk/Governance Officer, second by Tim Nordin. Jarrett Dement accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Clerk Designee

Tim Nordin nominated Mark Elworthy as Clerk Designee, second by Jarrett Dement. Mark Elworthy accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Treasurer

Tim Nordin nominated Jasmine Case as Treasurer, second by Stephanie Farrar. Jasmine Case accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Secretary

Tim Nordin nominated Terri Grzyb as Secretary, second by Lori Bica. Terri Grzyb accepted the nomination. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT

Board members randomly selected their new seating arrangement and promptly moved to their designated seats.

ADJOURNMENT OF REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Motion by Erica Zerr, second by Jarrett Dement to adjourn the reorganizational meeting.

Motion carried

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)

Motion by Tim Nordin, second by Lori Bica to adopt the Board agenda for May 4, 2026.

Motion carried

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

RECOGNITION (R-1)

Superintendent Johnson recognized School Principals' Day, National Teacher/School Staff Appreciation Week, National School Nurse Day, National Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and National Mental Health Awareness Month.

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

The following citizens addressed the School Board:

1) John Moskal shared feedback from community members regarding the school district while campaigning for a seat on the school board.

The following citizens addressed the School Board, expressing concerns about reductions in force:

2) Ryan Gadke; 3) Mindy Gadke; 4) Jeremy Traynor ; 5) Oliver Phillips; 6) Jeff Reitz; 7) Alex Moua; 8) Ben Janot; 9) Emily Freeman (also spoke about the impact of opting out of lesson plans); 10) Tim Schwagel.

REPORTS

Board Debrief Report

The Board had no questions or comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

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

- Human Resources – Employment Report [ADDITIONAL TIME: Speech & Language Pathologist; HIRE: English Teacher, Grade 3 Teacher – Intern, Head Start Early Learning Teacher, Head Start Early Learning Teacher – Intern, Kindergarten Teacher, School Counselor, Spanish Teacher, Special Education Teachers; RESIGN: Band Teacher, Multilingual Teacher, School Counselor, School Nurse]
- WIAA Membership Renewal for 2026-2027
- Final Notice of Non-Renewal of Teachers with Limited Term Contracts
- Re-employment of Certified Staff for the 2026-2027 School Year

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 Jarrett Dement, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Board Meeting - April 20, 2026
- Minutes of Closed Session - April 28, 2026
- Board Summary Statement for OE-8 Communication with the Board
- Board Summary Statement for OE-12 Facilities
- Job Description and Labor Market Review for Year Two 12-Month Hourly Staff
- Ratification of ECASD and ECAE Master Agreement

Motion carried

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

ITEM RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

Final Notice of Non-Renewal due to Reduction in Force

The Board acknowledged the difficulty and emotional impact of this decision, citing chronic underfunding, declining enrollment, and state-level funding issues, and urging community advocacy for structural change.

Motion by Tim Nordin, second by Jarrett Dement to Provide Final Notice of Non-Renewal due to Reduction in Force, as presented.

Motion carried

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

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

ECAE Equity Resolution

Several members of the Eau Claire Association of Educators presented their equity resolution to the Board, advocating for comprehensive supports for LGBTQIA+ students, including inclusive policies, professional development, curriculum audits, and strengthening student-led alliances, with Board members expressing alignment and commitment to these goals.

Understanding the Eau Claire Virtual School: Structure, Impact, and Future Direction

Kaying Xiong, Executive Director of Special Education & Student Services; Misti Trowbridge, Director of Student Services; and Holly Stanley, Student Services Coordinator, presented a comprehensive overview of the Eau Claire Virtual School, detailing its history, enrollment trends, instructional models, student demographics, performance data, and future plans to focus on grades 6-12. Discussion and questions followed.

BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)

President Farrar asked Board members to complete the survey before adjourning.

ADJOURN

Motion by Pa Thao, second by Lori Bica to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.