

REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2026

6:07 PM

The regular meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Karen Wang at 6:07pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Dalon Dyke, Cody Strandbakke, Jodi Varner and Jay Quenzer were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Associate Elementary Principal Maranda Hastig, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler and Head of Maintenance Yvonne Skogen. Guests were Amanda Tunby, Cathy Frye, Kelly Graham, and Kristi Burns.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 60852 to 60921 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Wang approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Tunby addressed the board that as we are moving into the new fiscal year and want to make sure as negotiations ends and mentions of sacrifices having to be made, they look forward to seeing where those sacrifices will be made. Oil and gas was mentioned repeatedly as a concern so they are looking forward to seeing what the board has in mind for the next fiscal year as sacrifices were made in negotiations.

Cathy Frye wanted to thank the board for settling the contract and it was said during negotiations the bottom end would have to sacrifice. Last year, 20 of the 43 teachers were at the bottom of the salary schedule and if the base doesn't increase, they don't have any way to increase their pay. She said she has seen some of the new hires being brought to the District with all their years of experience, so what is the message, welcome to Baker, we gave you all your years of service now make sacrifices. Our union was the first in the region to get negotiations started and second to last to settle and it is exhausting and demoralizing were the words that came to mind as she thought about it. We have an amazing staff, with dedicated teachers and highly qualified people. They need to feel valued and supported by the board and administration and the CBA which will always be here long after all of us retire. She wanted to share those things with the board but thanks them for getting through this negotiation cycle.

EDUCATION REPORT

None

ACTION ITEMS

EXTRACURRICULAR HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Skogen presents to the board the recommendation for extracurricular positions on behalf of Mr. Van Zee.

Mrs. Alyson Lineback – Head Fall Cheer Coach
Mrs. Jill Whiteman – Head Band & Choir Director
Mrs. JoDee Hess – Assistant Band & Choir Director
Mrs. Cori Enders – Academic Olympic Advisor
Ms. Tai Setinc – Assistant Fall Cheer Coach
Mrs. Marisa Varner – MS Volleyball Coach

Jay Quenzer moved to hire the individuals as presented for the positions listed. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Skogen presented a list of classified hiring considerations as follows:

Ms. Leah Gardner – Lifeguard Aide
Mr. Bracyn Hastig – Lifeguard Aide
Mr. Wyatt Wyrick – Lifeguard Aide
Mrs. LaCinda Huether – Elementary Secretary
Mrs. Shanya Stoddard – Custodian

Jodi Varner moved to hire the individuals as presented and all hires are contingent upon completion of a background check. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

THERAPY ANIMALS BP 8426

Mr. Skogen presented to the board for adoption of Board Policy 8426 – Therapy Animal; it has been on the agenda for the past few meetings and is up for discussion again. The policy outlines procedures and expectations for the request of a therapy dog.

Cody Strandbakke moved to adopt Board Policy 8426 as presented. Jodi Varner seconded the motion; Cody Strandbakke and Jodi Varner voted Aye; Jay Quenzer, Karen Wang and Dalon Dyke voted nay. Motion dies and policy is not adopted.

BOARD POLICY 8600 – HOUSING

Mr. Skogen presents to the board revisions to Board Policy 8600; last meeting there was some discussion to add to the policy language that housing would be reserved for teachers or teachers would have priority.

Jodi Varner asks if we changed to have administrators max lease of 3 years and not the 5 years as teachers would that be agreeable to the board as a change so we prioritize the teachers. Mr. Skogen stated it will be changed and presented back to the board at the August board meeting.

Dalon Dyke moved to table Board Policy 8600. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

OBSOLETE PROPERTY DISPOSAL

Mrs. Skogen presented to the board a list of obsolete equipment to dispose. It mostly contained obsolete books and miscellaneous out of item items to dispose from the storage area at Longfellow.

Jay Quenzer moved to dispose of the obsolete property as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Kristi Burns

Complex usage is up in both the pool and cardio/weight rooms. There are 93 kids signed up for this session of swim lessons.

2. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Nothing to report.

Next scheduled board meeting is August 11, 2026 at 7 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Karen Wang

Chairman