

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, August 24, 2026

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

Absent and excused: Chris Zwygart

1. Opening Items

A. Call to Order

School Board Vice President Kelly Lang called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Approval of Agenda

Kelly Lang moved approval of the agenda; Ms. Ehrgott seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

2. Public Participation

- None

3. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the August 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

B. Contracts

C. Resignations

D. Retirements

E. Burlington Stores Donation

Mr. Jenkins moved approval of the consent agenda, Mr. Pichler seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

4. Reports

A. Financial Report

Lenny Hanson, Assistant Superintendent, presented the financial report, reflecting budget performance through June 2026, noting that the audited figures will come before the Board in January. He reported that the district ended the fiscal year in balance, with expenditures within budget and revenues received. The July 27, 2026 budget amendment included an additional \$250,000 contribution to the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund, marking the second consecutive year the district has exceeded its required funding schedule. The unassigned general fund balance remains within the Board's policy range. Mr. Hanson also gave advance notice that administration plans to bring a recommendation this fall to shift employee dental insurance premiums to a percentage-based cost-share model, similar to the approach adopted for health insurance, while maintaining the current cost-share percentage.

B. Superintendents Report

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

5. Discussion

A. 2026-2027 Budget Overview

Lenny Hanson, Assistant Superintendent, presented a preview of the 2026-2027 budget, noting figures remain preliminary until the state releases key data in October, with the full budget presented at the September 28, 2026 Annual Meeting and final approval on October 26, 2026. He identified four factors outside the district's control that significantly impact the budget: flat state equalization aid, the state-imposed revenue limit, an anticipated state special education reimbursement shortfall, and a 7% rise in equalized property value. Despite these pressures, the administration has developed a balanced budget and proposes holding the mill rate flat at \$6.14 for a third consecutive year. This approach will align with the district's long-term debt service strategy. Mr. Hanson shared comparative cost

data from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), which highlighted the District's operational efficiency and focus on allocating dollars to the classroom. That comparative state data show the district directs a higher share of spending to instruction and less to administration, transportation, and operations than the state average, while spending less overall per pupil.

B. Agenda and Resolutions for September 28, 2026 Annual Meeting

Lenny Hanson, Assistant Superintendent, presented the agenda and draft resolution for the 2026-2027 Budget Meeting and the 107th Annual Meeting of Electors to be held on Monday, September 28, 2026. This will be brought to the Board for approval at the September 14, 2026 meeting.

7. Future Agenda Items

A. Board Meeting Calendar

- Curriculum Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., September 8, 2026
- Regular Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., September 14, 2026
- Policy Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m., September 15, 2026
- Budget Hearing, 6:30 p.m., September 28, 2026
- 107th Annual Meeting of Electors, 7:00 p.m., September 28, 2026

B. Items for Follow-up and Communication

- None

12. Adjourn

Mrs. Lang moved to adjourn; Ms. Ehrgott seconded. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Ehrgott

Clerk