



School District of Onalaska Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, September 14, 2026

President Aaron McDonald called the Onalaska Board of Education regular meeting to order on Monday, September 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at 237 2nd Ave S, Onalaska, WI.

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Roll Call/Verification of Quorum:** Aaron McDonald verified a quorum is present.
Members Present - Tesia Marshik, Tracy Laufenberg, Mark Cassellius, Brian Haefs, Ann Garrity, Bridget Thomas, and Aaron McDonald.
Administrators/Directors Present - Ben Barton, Tyler Hougom, Lish Olson, Jennifer Gimmer, Jared Schaffner, Ben Burns, Sonya Ganther, Kelly McMahon, Abby Davis, Jana Yashinsky, and Kristen Fay.
Others Present - Cailie Kowal, Keli Shapiro, Cacey Ostrander, and Scott Levensgood.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag:** Aaron McDonald led the group in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Reading of the Mission Statement:** Ann Garrity read the School Board Mission Statement.
5. **Public Notice:** Public notice was given to the requesting news media. The agenda was posted at the district office and on the district website.
6. **Agenda Revisions:** No changes.
7. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion by T. Marshik, second by M. Cassellius, to approve the agenda as published. Motion carried.*
8. **Public Input:** There was no public comment.

Recognition Items:

9. **Staff Recognition:** The following staff members were recognized for recently receiving a Master's Degree:
 - Cailie Kowal, Eagle Bluff Elementary 4th grade teacher
 - Scott Levensgood, Onalaska Middle School math teacher
 - Cacey Ostrander, Northern Hills Elementary cross categorical teacher
 - Suzie Pence, Northern Hills Elementary 4th grade teacher
 - Keli Shapiro, Onalaska High School library media specialist

- Tom Yashinsky, Onalaska High School health teacher

10. **Donations:**

- School supplies from Eagle Crest North, Bronston Chiropractic, Wisco Wise Logistics, Onalaska United Methodist Church, and Pizza Ranch
- \$860 from Altra Federal Credit Union for Onalaska High School
- \$1,000 from Robert George for Irving Pertzsch Elementary 4th Grade

Informational/Discussion Items:

11. **Administrator Reports:** Administrators gave an update on staff and student activities related to academics and co-curricular activities.
12. **Board Report:** The Board Finance Committee chair reported on their recent meeting.
13. **Summer CAPS & Technology Updates:** Tyler Hougom gave an update on summer CAPS projects and technology updates.
14. **Annual District Goals:** Administration presented the 2026-27 annual building goals aligned to the district strategic plan.

Action Items:

15. **School Start Date Resolution:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by T. Laufenberg to approve Resolution 2026-006, Modification of School Start Date for 2027-28. Motion carried.*
16. **Field Trip Request:** *Motion by A. Garrity, second by B. Haefs, to approve an overnight field trip for sixth grade students to the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center. Roll call vote: A. Garrity - yes; M. Cassellius - yes; B. Thomas - no; B. Haefs - yes; T. Lauenberg - no; T. Marshik - yes; A. McDonald - yes. Motion carried.*
17. **Co-Curricular Co-op:** *Motion by M. Cassellius, second by B. Thomas, to approve a co-curricular co-op for girls swimming with Holmen, Aquinas, and GET (Holmen is host) for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 school years. Motion carried.*
18. **Consent Agenda:** *Motion by B. Haefs, second by T. Marshik, to approve the following under the consent agenda:*
 - A. *Budgetary disbursements and payroll in accordance with enclosure.*
 - B. *Personnel Report -*
 1. *New Employee - Certified Staff - **Victoria Allen**, 1.0 FTE limited term 4K preschool teacher at Northern Hills Elementary, effective September 15, 2026 at BA 0 credits, prorated at \$46,631.90 for 170 days, through the end of the 2026-27 school year only. This is a newly created position.*
 2. *New Employees - Hourly Staff -*

- A. **Abbrey Gerleman**, .60 FTE 4K preschool paraprofessional at Eagle Bluff Elementary, effective September 8, 2026 at \$20.79 per hour. This is a newly created position.
- B. **Miranda Spitzer**, 1.0 FTE special education paraprofessional at Onalaska High School, effective September 8, 2026 at \$22.02 per hour and contingent on certification from the WI DPI. This position was vacated by Pamela Maatta.
- C. **Samuel Hagen**, 1.0 FTE limited term 4K preschool paraprofessional at Northern Hills Elementary, effective September 10, 2026 at \$20.79 per hour, through the end of the 2026-27 school year only. This is a newly created position.
- D. **Daniel Muth**, .50 FTE driver/custodian at the central kitchen, effective September 14, 2026 at \$23.21 per hour. This position was vacated by Mark Boldt.
- 3. Position Deletion - 1.0 FTE special education paraprofessional at Eagle Bluff Elementary, effective September 14, 2026.
- 4. Co-Curricular Resignation - **Jodi Mayne**, OMS student leadership club advisor, effective September 2, 2026.
- 5. Reassignment Notification - Hourly Staff - **Kayla Finco**, from the 1.0 FTE special education paraprofessional position at Eagle Bluff Elementary, to the 1.0 FTE special education paraprofessional position at Irving Pertzsch Elementary, effective September 14, 2026. This is a newly created position.
- 6. Resignation Notification - Hourly Staff - **Mark Boldt**, .50 FTE driver/custodian at the central kitchen, effective September 11, 2026.
- C. Minutes - August 24, 2026 regular meeting minutes.
- D. Field Trip Request - 4K-5th Grade Northern Hills Students and K-5th Grade Eagle Bluff Students to the Homecoming Parade on September 18, 2026 (Only 4th and 5th grade was previously approved).

Motion carried.

- 19. **Adjourn:** Motion by B. Haefs, second by T. Laufenberg, to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Fay

Aaron McDonald, Board President

Brian Haefs, Board Clerk