

Minutes of Board Meeting

Kind of Meeting

Regular

Place

HS Cafeteria

Date

September 16, 2026

Time

6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Glenn Foote, President	
	David Sendt - Vice President
Stephen McDermott	
Esta Poulton - Secretary	
Christina Schauer	
Angie Ryan	
Dan Dalberg	
Others Present:	Absent:
TJ Potts, Superintendent	
Wes Heiar - Elementary Principal	
Grover Priebe, Building & Grounds	

1. Call to Order

The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, September 16, 2026. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call with six members present.

2. Consent Agenda

Schauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Ryan. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence

Charissa McAuliff reviewed her case load of 17 ELL students and how it has been working as she is online. The breakdown of students is as follows: 3 - Kindergarten, 3-1st graders, 1 2nd grader, 2- 3rd graders, 1-6th grader; 3- Junior High, 2- Sophomores, 1- Junior and 1 - Senior. She has had 3 students exit the program this year after completing the WEDA testing.

Gerladine Hilby has been helpful getting the kids online and supporting the students. The schedule is still a work in progress but things are going well.

4. Staff Reports**4.1 Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal:**

On Wednesday, August 12th we once again held our Open House night to kick off the 2026-2027 school year. We had a terrific turnout and it was a great night for students to find their classrooms, meet their teachers, and for parents to connect with staff. That same week, our PreK teachers were able to host both an informational night for parents and Open House for PreK families. It was, as expected, well attended

and a great way to begin the school year. Again this year, we donated school supplies to over 30 families who received these free of charge.

On Tuesday, September 1st, we had our first official PTO meeting of the year. I want to thank Mrs. Schonhoff and the PTO board for all the behind the scenes efforts taking place. This dedicated group consistently supports staff initiatives to get kids the best materials and programs possible for success. As you know, consistently finding individuals willing to volunteer is difficult in recent years and this group has consistently shown up and passionately supports student success all throughout the year.

On Friday, August 28th, the Elementary School celebrated our Kick Off to Reading initiative and Summer Reading students (we partnered with the public library to help get books in student's hands and kids reading this summer) with a building-wide assembly at the football field. It was a terrific event with the music pumping, a blow up character race, and 20 staff members getting a pie in the face. A huge thanks to Suzanne Ward (our Elementary Librarian) for coordinating this terrific beginning of the year assembly.

4.2 Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal:

Activities: Fall Sports are all in full swing. Cross country has had a great start to the season, winning their first 2 invitationals and taking 2nd in another. Volleyball started off slow, but has been on a good run lately. Golf is off to a good start, going 3-1 so far this year. Football lost a close game to Benton/Scales Mound/Shullsburg and are looking for their first Victory. JH Football and Volleyball have all had a couple of games now and JH Cross Country has their first meet on the 15th.

Homecoming: The week of September 8-12th was Homecoming Week. All kinds of activities were organized by the HS Student Council, culminating with the Dance on Saturday night.

Student Coalition: Mrs. Oney and I met with High School and Junior High students to begin organizing the Student Coalition. After Homecoming week, we will have our next meetings and start to put things in a little more specific direction, as determined by the Students.

4.3 Mr. Potts, Superintendent:

District (Mr. Potts)

Great Start: It is hard to believe that we are a month in, but it just goes to show what a fantastic start it has been to the school year so far! It will be the Holidays before we know it. I know I bragged about the staff earlier, but I just have to say it again. We have the best people that work in East Dubuque! I am happy and proud to work with such dedicated people. I want to thank them in front of you, the board.

Strategic Plan: Financial Decisions Coming for Elementary Move- What I mean by this is that our end goal is to get our district onto one campus. How we do that depends on a couple of things. Our Finance Committee met today to continue that discussion. The first domino to fall will be the FEMA Grant. Securing that money will be the first step in moving to a middle school concept and getting 5th and 6th grade moved to this building. If we do not receive that grant, we will have to go another route. At the end of the day, we will need to go back to the community for a referendum. My hope is that with all we have done in the district the past 8 years to prepare this building, utilize the facilities for the community, and create the best programs we can, we will be able to show that education is the number one reason that East Dubuque is what it is, and will remain what it is! There are other routes to go to secure funding, but they do not feel as transparent. We hope to share in this venture with our community!

Corridor Training with Staff and First Responders: Today we did some training with staff on the Corridor program. We are pleased with where we are as the first school to really utilize this technology. On October 7th, we will have full district drills and involve the police and fire departments as well. This will be our first chance to really see how this technology works with and for our students and staff in a

real simulation. I invite the board to come and be a part of these drills. We will have one in the morning at the elementary school, and one in the afternoon at the HS.

Maintenance (Mr. Priebe)

The ROE and Fire Marshal HLS walkthrough was September 3rd. There are a few new rules or additions to the HLS manual. Which are classrooms that have computer or laptop storage, that needs to be noted in the Safety Reference Plan. One cannot have painted ceiling tiles unless it is proved that it has not affected the fire rating. Cannot have any decorative lighting up for more than 90 days. The inspection went fairly well. The teachers and administration have some housekeeping issues and some other minor infractions. We will be working with teachers and staff on the list to make the appropriate corrections.

Football season has us busy painting the practice field and main field. Crazy week with the homecoming game and all the festivities that go along with that. Also, we have been busy working on softball and baseball fields. Batting cages are coming down this week. Home JH volleyball has started and V/JV/Frosh home games will soon start.

We had a small roof leak over the cafeteria and had it repaired. We are looking at replacing that roof along with the East side of the building and locker rooms next summer. Working with Mr. Potts and Ms. Barklow on budgets and projects that need to be completed this year and for the next fiscal year.

Transportation (Mr. Weydert)

The recent hot spell took its toll on the fleet. We had a few buses that needed repairs that our mechanic has done a great job keeping them up and running. Hopefully the heat will subside soon.

The new Activity Bus (#43) should arrive on September 14th, it was the last one turned in from its previous school for maintenance and lettering, thus the delay on delivery.

Routes are settling in and trips are going well. We had illness hit some of the drivers, but we were able to cover the routes until they were feeling better. It's good to have them all back! We still have some prospects working their way through the process of becoming school bus drivers. We now have three potential people working through the layers of training and testing.

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 The Finance Committee Report discussed the FEMA grant and different funding options to move to one campus. Anne Noble explained funding sources. Notification of the FEMA grant will be late winter or early spring.

6. New Business

6.1 Mr. Heiar reviewed the MTSS Flowchart. MTSS is a multi-tiered support foundation that wraps around a school's entire student body. The data is utilized to address academic and non-academic needs, such as attendance, social-emotional concerns ensuring a holistic approach to support. 80% of elementary students are in Tier I, 10-15% of students fall in Tier II who get additional small group instruction, and 5-10% of students fall in Tier III who get Tier I and II instruction and intensive intervention.

Mr. Heiar also reviewed the IAR proficiencies.

6.2 A motion was made by Ryan to adopt the policies as presented. On a second by Schauer the motion carried on a vote of 6-0.

6.3 A motion was made by Ryan to adopt the 2026-27 Budget. On a second by McDermott the motion carried on a vote of 6-0.

6.4 Student Disciplinary Matter was tabled until after the Executive Session.

6.5 The Board acknowledged the FOIA from CT Mills Public Info LLC.

6.6 The Board acknowledged the FOIA from SmartProcure

Dalberg reminded members of the upcoming Northwest Division Meeting on December 8th. This meeting has an online option and will discuss legal issues during open meetings.

7. Personnel

7.1 A motion was made by Dalberg to accept all Personnel Items with a second by Schauer. All voted aye and motion passed 6-0.

8. Executive Session

Dalberg made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss employee compensation and student disciplinary matters with a second by Poulton. The motion carried 6-0. The Board entered Executive Session at 6:46 pm.

A motion was made at 7:46 pm to return to Open Session by Dalberg with a second by McDermott. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Dalberg to move forward with the plan as presented with a second by McDermott. All voted aye and the motion passed 6-0.

9. President's Prerogative

President Foote spoke about the bus accident in Stockton and wanted to thank the bus drivers for the important job they do when transporting our students. He also was thankful there were no serious injuries.

10. Adjourn

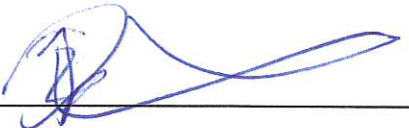
Ryan made a motion to adjourn with a second from Schauer. Motion carried 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Signed:



Glen Foote, President

Attest:



Esta Poulton, Secretary