SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

CARDINAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 2026



This month's cover model is a special dog named **Calamity**. She is quite possibly the most popular girl in school now. She's also a registered therapy dog. Calamity visited South Shore with her owner, Karen Mason, in early November. Together they spent time in several classrooms teaching students about the many ways therapy dogs can help people. Every single group asked when she can come back – and when we can get a school dog. We want to send a big **thank you** to Karen Mason for bringing Calamity. We can't wait to see her again!

02 School Funding in WI
04 Career Development
06 Fall Sports Recap
07 Cash 4 Kids
07 Cardinal Cafe Specials
07 1st Quarter Honor Roll
08 HS Band & Choir Events
08 Used Laptops For Sale
09 Announcements
10 South Shore Education Foundation Annual Gala
11 Notice of Spring Election
11 School Board Updates
13 Budget Hearing & Annual Meeting Minutes







What 1st Graders Don't Know About School Funding

Dani Mikula
Superintendent





Each morning I start my day in the cafeteria with my "Happy Radio" Pandora tunes cranked up, and eagerly wait for our kids to come running in for breakfast with their smiles on. This week, I was working on this newsletter article. Just for fun, I asked a first grader if she knew what a biennial budget was. She looked up at me with the quizzical sideways head tilt like you get sometimes from a curious puppy, then went on to tell me about the squishmallows in her backpack.

Our students have never heard of a revenue limit or equalized property value. They know they love their teachers, Stromboli Day, and starring in the school play. They have no idea that the people who make their school day possible — paraprofessionals, counselors, teachers, bus drivers — are funded two years at a time by lawmakers far away in Madison. Lucky for them, they live in a community where the adults have stepped forward every time there was a need to make sure our kids have the school experience they deserve. We all know that experience comes at a cost. If you've ever opened your property tax bill and felt that tightness in your chest, you're not alone. I feel it too. As your superintendent, I care deeply about the kids who walk through our doors — *and* about the neighbors, families, and elderly people on fixed incomes who make those doors possible. So let's talk openly and honestly about how school funding works in Wisconsin, and why it lands the way it does here on the South Shore.

How the Formula Works

Wisconsin schools have operated under strict budget limits set by the state. These "revenue limits" put a ceiling on the total amount that a district can raise from two sources combined: state general aid and local property taxes. **The formula is actually pretty simple:** revenue limit *minus* state general aid *equals*... the amount that appears on property tax bills.

The problem is these limits were set over thirty years ago and have not kept pace with inflation. **When adjusted for inflation, Wisconsin's state funding for public schools has declined by approximately $833 per student since 2002–03.** Although overall school spending has increased slightly, state support has not kept pace with inflation, leaving local school districts and property taxpayers to shoulder more of the financial burden. Imagine trying to run your household on a 1990's paycheck while paying 2026 prices. That's the math every public school district in Wisconsin is facing – and it doesn't work. This is why so many districts struggle, go to referendums, or in some cases, dissolve.

Imagine trying to run your household on a 1990's paycheck paying 2026 prices.

That's the math every public school district in our state is facing.

(continued from page 2)

Why It Hits South Shore and Rural Communities Harder

South Shore is different from most districts. We have relatively **high property values** — driven largely by lake and recreational properties — and a **very small number of students**, around 200. Over the last three years alone, property values in our district have increased a staggering **41.76%**. The state formula looks at our high values and low student numbers and labels us "property rich." I'm sure 99% of the people reading this would not describe yourselves as rich. However to the state on paper, it appears that we can fund ourselves with no extra help. As a result, **we receive virtually no equalization aid, which is the main form of state funding for school districts**.

To put these numbers into context, our general (or Fund 10) levy is just under $4.3M this year, and the state equalization aid we will receive is just $14,686. The formula doesn't see that many families raising children in this community are living paycheck to paycheck. That means almost every dollar of our operating budget falls on local taxpayers. Even when the state allows a small increase in the revenue limit, with no additional state aid, the full cost lands here — to you, me, and our neighbors.

Other Pressures on the Budget

Two other factors make the picture tighter. First, **the state only reimburses districts for about 35 percent of mandated special education costs**. Supporting our kids with disabilities is non-negotiable, so the remaining 65 percent comes out of the general classroom budget. That transfer this year is projected to be over $340K. Leaders across the political spectrum agree that raising the state's special education reimbursement is **one of the clearest ways to help all students, while also easing the burden on local property taxes.** This is something our Board members and I will continue to advocate for with our representatives.

Second, **rural districts face fixed costs that don't shrink with enrollment**. Heating the building costs the same whether a classroom has 12 students or 24. Our buses cover wide distances every day. And our kids deserve the same academic, athletic, and extracurricular opportunities as students in larger districts. These realities don't show up cleanly in a formula designed around property values and student counts. Lawmakers need to understand the challenges faced by rural communities, and recognize that the current school funding formula does not factor in the realities of rural life.

The Bottom Line

Our commitment is to be careful stewards of your tax dollars while delivering a strong, well-rounded education for our South Shore Cardinals. Know that we take this duty very seriously. Our financial position at South Shore is healthy, and we have continued to add to our district savings or *Fund Balance* over the last ten years. This is the result of careful stewardship of the school board and administration, present and past. Our fund balance allows us to earn modest interest and avoid short-term borrowing, which helps keep us in the black. We continue to be conservative in our budgeting process to ensure long-term financial health.

In 2038, that same first grader who told me about the squishmallows in her backpack will walk across the graduation stage. She won't remember the revenue limits or the property tax bills. What she'll remember is the people and moments that made school feel like home — her teachers, her friends, Stromboli Day, the school play. She will remember that the adults in this community kept showing up for her. **To all of you who keep showing up to support our Cardinals... thank you.**



November is National Career Development Month

Michelle Simpson
4k-12 Principal
Director of Curriculum & Instruction



Five years ago, South Shore developed its *Portrait of a Graduate*. This identifies the specific traits we want in every high school student so that, when they graduate, they are "prepared for life beyond the South Shore School District." Since developing that *Portrait of a Graduate*, the district has seen huge growth in its College & Career Readiness programs for all students in grades 4K–12. In honor of Career Development Month, here is a snapshot of a few of the College & Career Readiness (CCR) programs at South Shore.



Elementary Students

Thinking about future careers doesn't start in high school. Ask five- and six-year-olds what they want to be when they grow up and you will get a WIDE range of answers. In Guidance class with Mrs. Truchon, young Cardinals spend time identifying their strengths, interests, and talents. They also explore how future careers can connect with those strengths, interests, and talents using a special program called XELLO.

Middle School and High School

7th and 8th grade students begin rotating through different elective classes, where they continue to explore career possibilities and build career readiness skills. This includes Technical Education classes with Mr. Gustafson and Business Education classes with Mrs. Trautt. As students enter high school, the goal is for their daily schedule to support them in building and exploring skills aligned with both their short-term and long-term, post-secondary goals.

By the time South Shore students are juniors and seniors, their school day can look very different. While some students may have a more traditional day of classes at the school, others spend only part of the day at the school. During the remainder of their school day, they may be completing college classes online or on campus, doing a youth apprenticeship, or even earning credit for school-to-work.





When students are in elementary, middle, and high school, their college and career goals may change a *lot!* At South Shore, we don't just focus on students' *current* post-secondary goals; we support them in continuing to explore options and build skills applicable across multiple career pathways. This happens in so many different ways. For example, in just the first few months of school, juniors and seniors had the opportunity to take the ASVAB test, which gives students a detailed evaluation of their academic and vocational strengths. A guest speaker from Northwoods Technical College came to South Shore to speak to all high school students. Juniors and seniors attended a College Fair at UW-Superior with Mrs. Truchon. Mr. Gustafson's Welding and Cardinal Manufacturing classes attended a manufacturing field trip, and students in the Business Education program attended Mini-Business World at Northwestern. Our goal is that when they graduate, students are prepared for whatever life may hold for them!

College & Career Readiness Team

None of this work would be possible without our dedicated College & Career Readiness team. This team meets every other week before school to review progress toward our CCR Learning Targets, identify where the district still needs to grow, and plan next steps. I want to give a HUGE thank you to **Jodi Truchon, David Gustafson, Madison Trautt, Nicole Kavajecz,** and **Mikaela Franson** for all the work you have done for our students!











FALL SPORTS RECAP

HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

3 runners made 1st Team All-Conf. with one advancing to state. Shout out to the 3 foreign exchange students who ran with us this year!

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Congrats to seniors Brooklyn Lehto, Trinity Maki, and Addy Wehrman on their final season, and thank you Coach Darla for giving so much to the program!

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

13 girls strong, they had some exciting wins and nail-biting close games. 8th grader Sadie scored 98 total points – she'll be one to watch in high school next year!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

These boys and girls pushed each other at practice, finishing among the Top 10 at meets and making great strides during the season.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

SOPHIA TRUCHON

XC STATE QUALIFIER

Sophia had a personal record at sectionals where she placed 3rd and went on to represent South Shore at state.



CASH 4 KIDS

Help fund **South Shore** extra-curricular activities when you fill up at local Midland Cenex gas stations by using code:

888555

At the pump choose "Enter Loyalty Number" before fueling up, then enter 888555.

Inside the store, after your items are rung up, before you pay, enter 888555.

Using this code will donate your patronage funds from each purchase to South Shore School. It doesn't cost you anything extra at the pump or at checkout.

Every purchase can make a difference!

MIDLAND SERVICES, INC.

Cardinal Cafe

DECEMBER SPECIALS

DEC 3 | BURGERS & FRIES

DEC 14 | WALKING TACOS

DEC 21 | CARAMEL CORN

Enjoy these specials and more at the basketball double-headers in December!

SOUTH SHORE JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL 1ST QUARTER

HIGH HONOR ROLL

12th Grade
Paul Fontana
Brooklyn Lehto
Sophia Truchon

11th Grade
Rylee Dahlgren
Spencer Jensen
Brody Verne
Idella Wilcox

10th Grade
Elijah Ciembronowicz
Sophia Nollet
Avery Swanson
John Truchon
Owen Zakovec

9th Grade
Mason Lahti
Ferran Maki
Mya Peterson
Liam Zakovec

8th Grade
Vivienne Broderson
Elsie Swanson

7th Grade
Lily Bond
Aniela Ciembronowicz
Logan Hogfeldt
Neko Lied
Norah Martinez
Olivia Zakovec

HONOR ROLL

12th Grade
Ioane Abuladze
Dylan Johnson
Trinity Maki
Laura Roule
Nicolo Rusconi

11th Grade
Josephina Martinez
Summer Nicoletti

10th Grade
Molly Phillips
Aubrey Dunbar
Cullen Francisco
Rhyah Ray
Kara Kay Weisz
Xander Wilcox

9th Grade
Zoey Halma
Greyson Wilcox

8th Grade
Ryker Dahlgren
Anastasia Higgs
Mercedes Johnson
Ayden Lahti
Violet Rivera

7th Grade
Remington Jeffress
Kendra Johnson
Katherine Missinne
Madeline Missinne
Silas Naber
Isabelle Nollet
Elliot Serbousek





South Shore High School musicians had the opportunity to perform with area high schools in the **all-conference band** and **all-conference choir** programs. Students learn 3-4 pieces *in one day* and perform them in the evening. These events give students from our small school a rare opportunity to perform as part of a large band or choir, and to learn from several music instructors – all in one day!





Used Laptops For Sale

HP ProBook 450 G6
HP ProBook 450 G7

Laptops are sold AS-IS

Hard drives will be wiped to ensure data privacy

Local pickup only

Inventory will be assigned to the highest bids until all inventory is sold.

Turn in sealed and labeled envelope to district office, or email dmikula@sshore.k12.wi.us and dmcnamara@sshore.k12.wi.us with subject line:
"Sealed Laptop Bid"

Bids due December 2 by 12PM





The **South Shore Lions Club** visited South Shore elementary for vision screening. Thank you to Mary Anne Adank, Judie Moyer, Lori Melberg, and Carl Anderson for making sure no child struggles to see at South Shore.

DEC
15

Winter Concerts

4K-6th 2pm

7-12th 6pm

Winter Break

Dec 23 – Jan 1

No School

Everyone Welcome!

PTO MEETINGS

Get Involved!

Students
Families
Staff
Community

Second Tuesday of every month at 3:45 PM

South Shore High School Commons

Ideas ♥ Support ♥ Fun ♥ Friends ♥ Impact

Together We Make a Difference!

Schedule subject to change – watch for PTO updates!

DEC
8

Cardinal Choir

Caroling

in Port Wing

South Shore Education Foundation Annual Gala

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE SOUTH SHORE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HORS D'OEUVRES, CASH BAR WITH WINE & BEER, 50/50 DRAWING, RAFFLE PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION. MUSIC BROUGHT TO YOU BY SOUTH SHORE ALUMNI MARK AND PAUL EHLERS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026
6:00-9:00PM
TOWN OF BELL COMMUNITY CENTER
22615 COUNTY HWY C
CORNUCOPIA, WI 54827

TICKETS $30 AT DOOR
INCLUDES WINE TASTINGS +
1 GLASS OF WINE/BEER +
HORS D'OEUVRES.
OPTION TO ORDER BOTTLES OF WINE
21+ EVENT
NA WINE/BEER/MOCKTAIL AVAILABLE
SEMI-FORMAL
IF ABLE TO, PLEASE RSVP ON FACEBOOK EVENT OR KEVIN KAVAJECZ 715-774-3382

NOTICE OF ELECTION

SCHOOL BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election will be held in the South Shore School District on Tuesday, **April 6, 2027**.
The following offices are to be elected:

Office	Incumbent
At-Large	Clyde Clauson
Town of Tripp	Merlyn Coy

The term of office for a school board member is 3 years beginning on Monday, April 26, 2027.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a Campaign Finance Registration Statement (Form EB-I) and a Declaration of Candidacy (Form EB-162) must be filed no later than 5:00pm Tuesday, **January 5, 2027** in the South Shore School District office in the elementary building at 9135 School Road in Port Wing, Wisconsin (mailing: PO Box 40, Port Wing, WI 54865).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, if a primary is necessary, the primary shall be held Tuesday, **February 16, 2027**.

Incumbents shall file written notification with the district clerk no later than 5:00pm Friday, Dec. 28, 2026, if the incumbent is not a candidate for re-election to his or her office.

A description of the school district, township boundaries, and other information regarding the School Board election, may be obtained from Dani Mikula, Superintendent, at 715-774-3167.

Acceptable photo ID will be required to vote. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Given under my hand, this
10th day of November, 2026.

Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk
South Shore Board of Education

South Shore School District
Board of Education Meeting Agenda

In Compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law

Public Notice SS19.84(3)
SS19.85(1)(g)

Clyde Clausen, President
Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held at the Instructional Media Center at the South Shore Jr/Sr School, Port Wing, WI at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026.

Members of the public may attend in person or through Zoom. All public participants phones, microphones, and chat dialog boxes will be muted or disabled during the meeting. Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may email dmikula@sshore.k12.wi.us with Public Comment in the subject line. Any person wishing to attend who, because of a disability, requires special accommodations, should contact the office at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting time so appropriate arrangements can be made.

1. WELCOME
1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call
1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2. RECOGNITION/HIGHLIGHTS
2.01 We Are South Shore
2.02 Acknowledge and Accept Donations

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION
3.01 Audience Participation Guidelines

4. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS
4.01 Modifications to Agenda Items or Prior Minutes

5. CONSENT AGENDA
5.01 Approve Minutes of Oct 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
5.02 Approve Bills and Budget (ending Oct 2026)
5.03 Approve Personnel Report

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS
6.01 Finance & Operations

7. NEW BUSINESS
7.01 Building Project Updates
7.02 Flooring Updates and Options to Consider
7.03 District Report Card Presentation
7.04 Review and Approve District Library Plan

8. ADMINISTRATIVE & OTHER REPORTS
8.01 CESA 12 Delegate Report
8.02 Superintendent's Report

(continued on next page)

(November agenda, continued from previous page)

9. UPCOMING DATES
9.01 Upcoming Dates

10. CLOSED SESSION
10.01 The Board will convene in closed session pursuant to WI Stat. 19.85(1)(c) *Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility*.

Superintendent Evaluation: Goals and Mutual Expectations Quarterly Check-In

11. MEETING CLOSING
11.01 Adjournment

South Shore School Board
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Meeting held October 21, 2026, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

1. WELCOME

1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call
The meeting was called to order in the High School Library by President Clauson at 5:30 p.m.
Roll Call: Present: Justine Broderson, Clyde Clauson, Mark Hoefling, Rebecca Kavajecz, James Stemwedel, Rachelle Swanson. Virtual: None Absent: Merlyn Coy. Also present: Danielle Mikula, Superintendent.

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance
Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. RECOGNITION / HIGHLIGHT

2.01 We Are South Shore
- *The PTO has been very involved this year including preparing and serving the Harvest Dinner and other projects to support our school.*

2.02 Acknowledge and Accept Donations
- *None.*

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

3.01 Audience Participation Guidelines - Limit 5 minutes
- *None*

4. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

4.01 Modifications to Agenda Items or Prior Minutes
- *We will work around the online training at 6 pm.*

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.01 Approve Minutes of Sept 16, 2026 Regular Board Mtg

(continued on next column)

(Oct meeting minutes, continued from previous column)

5.02 Approval of Bills and Budget
- *Approval of Bills and Budget (ending Sept 2026) General fund 100232 through 100321 and 100325 through 100328, payroll/direct deposit 900016190 through 900016260, 4092 through 4100 for payment.*

5.03 Approve Personnel Report
- *Hire: Sara Helenius, Part-time Custodian effective 10/12/26*
- *Hire: Pam Serbousek, MS Assistant VB Coach*
- *Hire: Myla Lahti, MS VB Coach*

Motion by Hoefling, second by Stemwedel to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.01 Teaching & Learning
- *Committee met September 21, 2026*
- *District 100-Day Plan Update*
- *District Assessment Data Discussion*
- *Literacy Materials Renewal*

6.02 Finance & Operations
- *Committee met October 7, 2026*
- *Reviewed bills and budget balances*
- *Investment Update*
- *Discussed building project & facilities updates*
- *2026-27 Budget Review & Preparation for Annual Meeting*

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.01 Building Project Update
The Board toured the site before the meeting. Tim (HSR) and Ryan (Market & Johnson) provided updates on the project.
- *Addition is getting dried in, looking at end of next week to have the roof covered.*
- *Next up is pipe insulation, interior insulation and sheetrock by mid to late November.*
- *Temporary heat will be used to keep the space at temperature for taping and other work.*
- *Architecturally, the finished spaces continue to be inspected and small items noted or addressed as time allows when students are not present.*
- *Composite floor is showing wear already in a couple of areas; the manufacturer has been contacted; it has been looked at by all involved and investigation continues.*
- *Different flooring will be installed in one test classroom to see if that wears better.*

7.02 Board Learning: Legal Considerations for Closed Sessions
Lori Lubinsky, district legal counsel, joined the board virtually to review information regarding closed session legal requirements and meeting posting requirements.

7.03 Start College Now / Early College Credit
Motion by Broderson, second by Swanson to approve the applications for Early College Credit and Start College Now for 10 students who applied for Spring 2027 semester, and to authorize administration to approve/disapprove additional applications. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

(continued on next page)

(Oct board meeting minutes, continued from previous page)

7.04 Gifted & Talented Program Updates
Board received updates on what the District is currently doing to challenge students who give evidence of high performance and capability, next steps for the 2026-27 academic year, and considerations for the future.

7.05 Strategic Plan Progress Updates
An update was provided on the Strategic Roadmap 2026-27 pillars: Educational Excellence and Exceptional Staff and Leadership. The Strategic Plan is available at https://www.sshore.org/about under Strategy & Accountability.

7.06 2026-27 Budget Review & Prep for Annual Meeting
Preliminary levy and mill rate projections were presented.

8.0 POLICY
8.01 Policy Updates
Second Reading - NEOLA Policy Updates 35.2 and Nondiscrimination Special Update

Motion by Kavajecz, second by Hoefling to approve the NEOLA Policy Updates 35.2 and Nondiscrimination Special Update. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE & OTHER REPORTS
9.01 CESA 12 Delegate Report - Mark Hoefling
- *Meeting was held October 20, 2026*
- *CESA Administrator: School report cards release in Nov, CESA culture survey*
- *New budget processes*
- *Math and literacy initiatives from DPI*
- *Presentation on Gifted &Talented offerings through CESA*
- *Board approved forming a 501(c)(3)*
- *Hired new staff*
- *Exploring options for addition of meeting space*

9.02 Superintendent's Report - Dani Mikula
- *The Town of Port Wing will no longer plow snow. Cory Holsclaw will provide this service for this winter and we will reevaluate option for next year.*
- *Brewers World Series celebrations and activities this week*
- *Fall Festival coming up*
- *We are having the best school year!*

10. UPCOMING DATES
10.01 Upcoming Dates
- *October 26, 2026 - Budget Hearing at 6 pm*
- *October 26, 2026 - Annual Meeting*
- *October 26, 2026 - Special Board Meeting*
- *November 4, 2026 - Finance & Operations at 5:30 pm*
- *November 18, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 pm*

11. MEETING CLOSING
11.01 Adjournment
Motion by Clauson to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk
South Shore Board of Education



2026 BUDGET HEARING MINUTES

South Shore School District
2026 Annual Meeting Minutes
(minutes to be approved at the 2027 annual meeting)

Monday, October 26, 2026 -- 6:00pm - 6:13pm
South Shore Jr- Sr High School
9135 School Road, Port Wing, WI 54865

1. CALLED TO ORDER
School board president Clyde Clauson called the 2026 Budget Hearing to order on Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:00pm at the South Shore Jr-Sr High School.

2. PROOF OF PUBLICATION
The Budget Hearing was published in a district-wide mailing of the Cardinal Report on October 13th, 2026; published in the Ashland Daily Press on October 22, 2026; posted at the South Shore Elementary School, Security State Bank, The Store, on October 12, 2026; and forwarded to the Cornucopia and Herbster post offices.

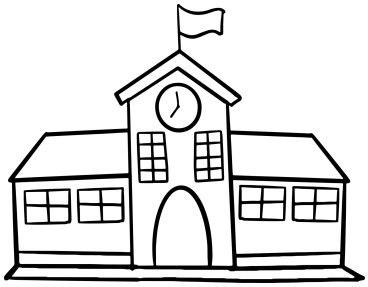
3. ELECTION OF A CHAIRPERSON
Motion by Hoefling, second by Coy to nominate Clyde Clauson as chairperson of the budget hearing. Motion by Kavajecz, second by Swanson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Clauson.
Show of hands: Yes 9; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried by show of hands. Clyde Clauson was elected chairman.

4. APPOINT ACTING CLERK
Clyde Clauson, Chair, appointed Rebecca Kavajecz as clerk of the budget hearing.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE 2026-27 BUDGET
Dani Mikula, Superintendent, presented an overview and explanation of the proposed budget and levy for the 2026-27 school year.

6. MOTION TO ADJOURN
Motion by Coy to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk
South Shore Board of Education



2026 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

South Shore School District
2026 Annual Meeting Minutes
(minutes to be approved at the 2027 annual meeting)

Monday, October 26, 2026 -- 6:13pm - 6:35pm
South Shore Jr- Sr High School
9135 School Road, Port Wing, WI 54865

1. CALL TO ORDER
Clyde Clauson, Board President, called the 2026 district annual meeting to order at 6:13pm on Oct. 26, 2026 at the South Shore Jr-Sr High School following adjournment of the budget hearing.

2. PROOF OF PUBLICATION
Publication was accomplished through a district-wide mailing of the Cardinal Report on Sept. 11th and Oct. 13th, 2026; published in the Ashland Daily Press on Oct. 22, 2026; posted at the South Shore Elementary School, Security State Bank, and The Store on Oct. 12, 2026; and forwarded to the Cornucopia and Herbster post offices.

3. ELECTION OF A CHAIRPERSON
Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Ed Burhans to nominate Clyde Clauson as chairman of the annual meeting. Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Merlyn Coy to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Clyde Clauson.
Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion carried by show of hands. Clyde Clauson elected as chairman.

4. APPOINT ACTING CLERK
Clyde Clauson, Chair appointed Rebecca Kavajecz as clerk.

5. TREASURER'S READING OF FINANCIAL REPORT
Mark Hoefling, Board Treasurer, read the financial report.

6. READING OF THE 2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Rebecca Kavajecz to suspend the reading of the October 25, 2025 annual meeting minutes as everyone in attendance had a copy.
Show of hands: Yes: 9 No: 0. Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

(continued on next column)

(2026 annual mtg minutes, continued from prev. column)

Motion by Ed Burhans, second by Terry Burhans to approve the October 25, 2025 annual meeting minutes as presented.
Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

7. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS
Dani Mikula, Superintendent, outlined District Highlights.

8. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS

8.01 Adoption of Tax Levy
Motion by Mark Hoefling, second by Ed Burhans to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore, Townships of Bell, Clover, Orienta, Oulu, Port Wing, and Tripp; assembled in Annual District Meeting on the 26 day of October, 2026, a tax levy in the amount of $4,297,059 and the School District Clerk is hereby directed to extend said levy to the several Townships of said District as affected in accordance with proportionate valuation of said municipality as provided by Wisconsin Law in relation to the total Equalized Valuation for all areas of the South Shore School District.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion carried by show of hands.

8.02 Disposal of Non-Real Estate Property
Motion by Merlyn Coy, second by Rachelle Swanson to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore shall not sell or dispose, except to a taxing body, or cause to be destroyed any School District property, real or personal, with a possible value of $2,000 or more, without first having the property appraised and after appraisal the offering of such property at a Public Competitive Sale. Also, a Class Two Notice published in the local newspaper(s) shall be deemed sufficient notice for the purpose of the Competitive Sale.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

8.03 Salaries of Board Members
Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Rebecca Kavajecz to set the 2026-27 board salaries as follows:

> *Regular Board Meeting:*
> *$150/meeting, paid quarterly*
>
> *Non-Regular Meeting (committee, special, other):*
> *$50/meeting, paid quarterly*
>
> *Mileage Reimbursement:*
> *IRS approved rate for travel outside the district*

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

(continued on next page)

(2026 annual mtg minutes, continued from previous page)

8.04 Reimbursement of Board Member's Expenses
Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Rachelle Swanson to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore to authorize payment of actual and necessary expenses of school board members when traveling outside of the School District in performance of duties.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

8.05 Authorizing Transportation of Students
Motion by Ed Burhans, second by Mark Hoefling to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore to provide transportation of all students residing in the District as required by said laws; to purchase, operate and maintain transportation vehicles; to purchase liability insurance for such vehicles; and to finance contracts for the use and services of such vehicles.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

8.06 Short-Term Borrowing
Motion by Mindy Mueller, second by Eddie Burhans to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the State Aids, as well as the taxes levied for the School District of South Shore will not be available until the latter part of the 2025-2026 school year, and WHEREAS it will be necessary for the School District to borrow funds as necessary for the expenses until such aids and taxes are received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Shore School Board et al, be authorized to borrow money up to its legal limit for the purpose of paying immediate and current expenses of operation of our schools during the 2025-2026 school year.

Show of hands: Yes: 15. No: 0. Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

8.07 Authorize Fund 80 Levy
Motion by Mark Hoefling, second by Justine Broderson to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore to authorize the District Board of Education to continue to levy $40,000 for the Fund 80 Community Service Fund.

Show of hands: Yes: 15. No: 0. Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

8.08 Authorize Legal Proceedings
Motion by Merlyn Coy, second by Terry Burhans to adopt the following resolution:

(continued on next column)

(2026 annual mtg minutes, continued from prev. column)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore that the School Board is directed to provide for the prosecution or defense of any action or proceeding in which the School District is interested.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

9. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING
Motion by Terry Burhans, second by Mark Hoefling to adopt the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the School District of South Shore to establish Monday, October 25, 2027, as the annual meeting date. The annual meeting shall be scheduled to start following the budget hearing, which will take place at 6:00pm on that date.

Show of hands: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0.
Motion carried by show of hands.

10. OTHER BUSINESS ALLOWED BY STATUTES
None.

11. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Merlyn Coy to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk
South Shore Board of Education

South Shore School District
Board of Education
Special Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held October 26, 2026, 6:36–6:37pm
(minutes to be approved at the Nov 18 meeting)

1. CALL TO ORDER
M*eeting called to order by President Clauson at 6:36pm.*
Roll Call: Present: Clyde Clauson, Merlyn Coy, Mark Hoefling, Rebecca Kavajecz, Rachelle Swanson.
Absent: Justine Broderson, James Stemwedel.
Also present: Danielle Mikula, Superintendent.

2. NEW BUSINESS
2.01 2026-27 Levy and Final Adoption
Motion by Hoefling, second by Coy to adopt the tax levy of $4,297,059 plus $40,000 for Fund 80 Community Fund, and adopt the 2026-2027 final budget as presented.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. MEETING CLOSING
3.01 Adjournment
Motion by Clauson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk
South Shore Board of Education

December 2026 Activity Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 MSBBB vs Ashland @ Home GBB & BBB @ Frederic	**2** Finance & Operations Comm.	**3** GBB & BBB vs Siren @ Home	**4** GBB vs Mercer @ Home	**5**
6	**7** MSBBB vs Mellen @ Home BBB @ Solon	**8** MSBBB vs LCO @ Home GBB @ Solon	**9**	**10** BBB @ Bayfield	**11** GBB @ Bayfield	**12**
13	**14** GBB & BBB vs Washburn @ Home	**15** Winter Concerts Elem 2PM Jr/Sr 6PM	**16** Regular Board Meeting	**17** MSBBB @ Solon	**18** GBB & BBB @ Butternut	**19**
20	**21** GBB & BBB vs Bruce @ Home	**22**	**23** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**24** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**25** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**26**
27	**28** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**29** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**30** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**31** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	**1** **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break	

South Shore School District
PO Box 40
Port Wing, WI 54865

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Port Wing, WI 54865
Permit No. 1
CAR-RT-SORT

November Newsletter

Postal Customer
South Shore School District

DISTRICT MISSION: Connect. Empower. Soar.