Monday January 19, 2026
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00PM @ Business Ed. Classroom (Kathy Self's Room)

I. CALL TO ORDER: Darrell Mackey, Board President, called the January 19, 2026 regular board meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

A. Members Present: Jennifer Esch, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper, Elle Sikes and Larkin Smith.

B. Members Absent: None

C. School Personnel Present: Kurt Baxter, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Tiffany Hume, Shealynn Robins, Pam Hartley, Jenetta Baxter, Jeff Mort, Brooke Hartley, and Deb Sharpe. D. Guests in Attendance: Quinten George and Class of 2027; Rylan Smith, Cheyenne Carson, Kaitlyn Cates, Ellie Cohoon and Dakota Reid.

III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: In recognition of Board Appreciation Month, Superintendent Baxter presented gifts to each board member as a token of appreciation for their volunteered time and support to the Springfield School District.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Larkin Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Regular Meeting 12-15-25 Minutes

Larkin Smith made a motion to approve the minutes for the 12-15-2025 regular meeting as presented. Elle Sikes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC FORUM: Quinten George spoke to the board about his concerns involving student behavior that is creating an unsafe environment for teachers and students and is negatively affecting classroom learning. He stated that something needs done now.

VII. BOARD POLICY MANUAL

A. 1st Reading not approved: ADE, ADE-R, ADE-E

Heath Piper made a motion to Table Policies ADE, ADE-R and ADE-E indefinitely to be revisited after completion of the current policy manual adoption process. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Wellness Policy - (before 2nd reading ADF & ADF-R)

C. 2nd Reading: ADF & ADF-R

Darrell Mackey made a motion to table adoption of Policies ADF & ADF-R pending the completion of the required triennial review of the Wellness Policy by the Accountability Committee and their recommendations to the board. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The board reviewed and discussed the financial reports provided in the BOE packet and asked question as needed.

IX. ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

A. January 12, 2026 AC Mtg Minutes

Elle Sikes, board committee liaison, reviewed the minutes for the January Accountability meeting that were provided in the BOE packets. She highlighted some of the goals and tasks the committee is working on and shared their request to receive copies of the new

board policies being considered for adoption. They would also like to receive student data in a form that protects confidentiality and is easy to understand.

X. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

A. Preschool Director: Deb Sharpe, Preschool Director was present to answer any questions the board had after reviewing her written report. Her report contained information on UPK updates, completed professional development opportunities, completed and upcoming program reviews and reports, attendance information and multiple staff shout-outs.

B. Athletic Director: Athletic Director, Brooke Hartley, reviewed her comprehensive Athletic Report provided to the board which included updates on the scoreboard issues, meals for officials, Hudl camera, scheduling cycles, online ticket sales and player registration, and current and future athletic needs and projects.

C. Maintenance/Transportation Director: Jeff Mort, Maintenance & Transportation Director provided the BOE a report listing the current staffing needs, upcoming scheduling problems, an updated Transportation Audit letter, equipment needs, facilities issues, and recent property damage. The board requested Mr. Mort to obtain pricing options on a Lift and installing a water softener system. Also, in order to assist with enforcement of keeping animals off of the outdoor activity fields, signs stating NO PETS ALLOWED need to be posted at all entrances to the areas.

1. Construction Problems Punch List: following the mailing of the last payment to GTC, there has been no communication. The school board wants another call made to NV5 to determine plans for completion of punch list & warranty items.
2. STAR 10 Fleet Thank You Letter

D. Principals: Mrs. Montoya and Mrs. Hume's BOE report contained attendance and enrollment updates, data on NWEA and DIEBELS growth, and a summary of several student and staff activities since the last board meeting.

E. Superintendent: Superintendent Baxter highlighted some areas on his BOE report: the new AristotleK12 and Learning Ally programs, possible construction needs at the superintendent house, on-going staff walk-throughs and debriefings, Prideside meetings and the good news that the Activity Bus is repaired and back in use. Mr. Baxter asked that the board review and discuss the district's policy for gym usage.

XI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Class of 2027 Senior Trip Presentation: Several members of the Class of 2027 were in attendance and shared a video presentation as part of their request for board approval for a school sponsored senior trip. The presentation included reasons and benefits, suggestions for a Code of Conduct, and a proposed itinerary with estimated costs. Board members stated that there are areas of the proposal that need to be better developed and updated. They requested that these changes continue to be presented to the board before final approval will be made. To allow for fundraising request to be approved the board agreed to approve a trip with conditions still to be met. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve a senior trip for the Class of 2027 pending satisfactory completion of final details. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Act on 12-15-25 Executive Session:
Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve a contract for the position of IT Administrator &

Grant Writer in the amount of $38,333.32 to be effective 01/01/2026 to 06/30/2026. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jenifer Esch made a motion to hire Jenetta Baxter as the IT Administrator & Grant Writer. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. BOCES House:

1. Lease Agreement: The lease agreement has not been sent to BOCES for approval. Mrs. Robins will email it to Mr. Logan Smith so BOCES can look over the updates approved by the board in December.

2. Plumbing: This project is still on hold as no plumber has shown interest in completing the needed repairs.

D. Vehicles: Activity Bus & Staff Car: Due to no immediate needs, the board will assess bus and small vehicle needs at the end-of-the school year to determine budgeting considerations at that time.

E. Lift needed: rent or purchase? Maintenance Director will determine size of lift needed and seek out prices to be considered.

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PERA Retirees Designation (D. Sharpe, K. Self, C. Grahn):
Heath Piper made a motion to approve 140-day teaching contracts for the 2026-2027 school year for PERA Retirees Mrs. Deb Sharpe, Mrs. Kathy Self and Mrs. Carol Grahn. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. FY25 Audit Review (Auditor will video call in at 6:45 PM): Mr. Dimitry Chernyak of DMC Auditing & Consulting joined the meeting via video call at 7:10 p.m. He explained their responsibilities as an independent auditor and reviewed information from the finalized 2024-2025 audit.
Larkin Smith made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Audit for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. FY25 Budget Modification (Building Fund):
Heath Piper made a motion to approve the Appropriation Resolution for the Proposed Budget for FY 2025-2026 for each fund as specified: General Fund $9,727.510, Preschool Fund $628,277, Food Service Fund $431,314, Activity Fund $228,077, Bond Redemption Fund $849,534, Capital Reserve Fund $174,419, and Building Fund $2,122,717, Total Appropriation $14,161,848. Elle Sikes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Heath Piper made a motion to approve a resolution to authorize the use of a portion of the General Fund Beginning Fund Balance in the amount of $302,415.00 and the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of $83,451.00 for the FY 2025/26. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Security Systems:

1. Home Ec Cottage, BOCES House, Bus Barn/Bldg. Trades, East Parking Lot:
The board discussed the areas needing security cameras. It was decided that the immediate need is at the Superintendent's house and directed Mr. Mort to proceed with installing security cameras at the residence.
They would like an estimate of the cost to install the cameras needed in the east

parking lot to provide adequate security coverage.

D. New Sports: JH Baseball, Girls Wrestling

JH BASEBALL: Elle Sikes made a motion to approve the addition of Junior High Baseball as a school sponsored sport. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

GIRLS WRESTLING: The board would like for the athletic department to conduct a survey to see if there is adequate interest to offer Girls' Wrestling before making a decision to add the sport.

E. PERSONNEL (Resignations, Retirements, & Appointments)

1. Superintendent Evaluation

Board Secretary, Jennifer Esch, will locate and distribute the Superintendent Evaluation form to the board members with instructions and timeline for completion.

XIII. BOARD FORUM:

Larkin Smith asked about the possibility of the school offering courses to obtain a CDL. Jennifer Esch mentioned introducing dance instruction into the physical education program.

XIV. ADJOURN: Larkin Smith made a motion to adjourn. Elle Sikes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday February 16, 2026

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Darrell Mackey, President Larkin Smith, Vice-President

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Jennifer Esch, Secretary Heath Piper, Treasurer

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Elle Sikes, Director