MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DELAVAN-DARIEN
NOVEMBER 10, 2025

President Dave Henriott called the regular meeting of the Delavan-Darien School District Board of Education held at the School Administration Center to order at 6:00p.m.

Board Members Present: D. Henriott, D. Salas, D. Kirkpatrick, K. Hermann, K. Pohl, J. Johnson

Board Members Absent: T. Schutt

Administrators Present: Superintendent D. Halbesma; Business Administrator A. Klein; Director of Teaching & Learning J. Thompson; Director of Marketing & Communications A. Duchemin; Director of Buildings & Grounds J. McKinney; Principals: J. Karedes, J. Wehrenberg, S. Waller

The press was represented by Mike Hoey, *The Delavan Enterprise*.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by K. Hermann and seconded by K. Pohl to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

DDHS Student Council Report: Ty Hilson, High School Student Council President gave the DDHS Student Council Report. Ty informed the Board on Tuesday, DDHS would be having a Veterans Day Assembly. Currently the Hunt of Hunger food drive challenge is taking place until December 10th. New this year, community members can fill out a form to have food picked up from their home on December 13th. Student Council Members recently attended a leadership conference at Blackhawk. Student Council meetings will now be held twice a month, on Tuesdays.

2025 WIAA State Tennis Doubles Qualifier - Sophia Szczap and Megan Markley: Congratulations to four-year starters Sophia and Megan, who were recognized by the School Board and Head Coach Matt Nelson for qualifying for the WIAA State Tennis Tournament in October. This incredible feat is only the second time a tennis team from our school has reached the state level. They closed out their final season with an impressive record of just two losses and over 50 career wins. Congratulations on this historic accomplishment!

DDHS & Darien Elementary Staff Recognition: Jim Karedes, DDHS/DD Tech Principal recognized Hannah Becke for all the stuff she does that consistently goes above and beyond. She has taken over our Scholarship Advisor Position (posting all the time to get money into the hands of our students), as well as FBLA Advisor. She is looking to manage our school store, in addition to having taken a leadership position on our Guiding Coalition Team, too. Simply put, DDHS is better because we have her and her incredible organizational skills. She has her hand in so many things and always does what is best for kids. She is organized, efficient, and provides engaging activities for students. She is always willing to be a sounding board for new ideas and is great at giving feedback. We can't even list all of the things she does but to take the lead in the Guiding Coalition is amazing in itself. She assists in the Learning Lab, and willingly answers her colleagues' questions and makes each of her teammates feel good. She is extremely positive, happy and optimistic about everything! She puts her best in all she does! She has supported our community partnerships and organized our annual reality fair. She consistently has high expectations and helps students meet those expectations. We are so lucky to have her at DDHS. She is just a kick butt educator!

Each of them has gone above and beyond to support the students, families, and staff of Darien Elementary School. Lauren and Liz have been instrumental in meeting the diverse needs of our students and families. Every day, they come to work with positivity, dedication, and a clear sense of purpose—ensuring that every student feels supported and that school is a great experience for all. Their compassion and commitment make a lasting difference in our school community. Jess Grabowski is truly our "do-everything" team member. She takes on so many responsibilities that it's hard to list them all, but what's certain is that she helps keep our building running smoothly. Her absence is always felt because of how deeply she contributes to our daily success. I can't imagine where we'd be without these three incredible staff members. They have made my transition into the role of acting principal much easier and have greatly enhanced the educational experience for our students.

Community Staff Recognition: Ashley Duchemin, Director of Marketing & Communications, was recognized by the City of Delavan Police Department. Chief Hanson expressed his appreciation for all the work that Ashley does for the department and community.

Citizen Comments: None

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by D. Salas and seconded by K. Pohl to approve the Manifest of Bills dated November 10, 2025; approval of regular meeting minutes from October 13, 2025, two closed special meeting minutes from October 14, 2025, special and closed meeting minutes from October 27, 2025. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

YMCA Presentation: Mike Kramp and Jami Golz from the YMCA presented on a proposed YMCA Before and After School Enrichment program. A motion was made by D. Salas and seconded by D. Kirkpatrick to approve a partnership with the Geneva Lakes YMCA YBASE program beginning at the start of the 2026-2027 school year to provide before & after school care. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

Psychology Club Proposal & Job Description: DDHS students Tyler Meinen and Allison Ipema presented their proposal to start a Psychology Club at the High School. The club would provide students with opportunities to explore the field of psychology and engage in meaningful community service. A motion was made by D. Salas and seconded by D. Henriott to approve the establishment of the DDHS Psychology Club and advisor stipend of $300. The motion carried on a voice vote of 5-1 (K. Pohl - No).

Financial Statement for October 31, 2025: Business Administrator A. Klein reviewed the financial statement for the month ending October 31, 2025. Operating cash on hand $4,356,052.76, funds accessed on business line of credit $0, and net operating funds $4,356,052.76. The purchasing card usage for the month ending September 20, 2025 was $161,901.51. A motion was made by K. Hermann and seconded by J. Johnson to approve the financial statement. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

Reading Farm Land Rental Agreement: Business Administrator A. Klein presented the 18.4 tillable acres the District currently owns, and for the Board to set the per acre cost for a lease for the 2026 calendar year. A motion was made by K. Pohl and seconded by D. Kirkpatrick to set the per-tillable acre cash rental price of the former J. Reader Family Trust farm aka the Triangle Lot, to $225/acre and offer Del Prairie Stock Farm, Inc. an opportunity to lease the land for the 2026 calendar year. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6–0.

2025-2026 Returning Staff Raises: Tabled until after closed session.

Co-Curricular Handbook Update Proposal: The Board discussed the current code violations for student athletes with failing grades. Administration presented their proposal after the October regular meeting discussion. The proposal is that the student may regain eligibility at any point during the period of 15 academic days if they successfully raise all grades to a passing level. It will be the student's responsibility to provide proof of passing grades and notify the athletic director before eligibility is reinstated. And grades will then be re-evaluated during the next grade check to ensure all grades are passing to remain eligible. A motion was made by K. Pohl and seconded by D. Kirkpatrick to approve the updates to the co-curricular handbook as well as the same changes in the coaches/advisors handbook for the 2025-2026 school year.

Teaching & Learning Department: DDHS Guiding Coalition Update & New Course Approval: Five members of the DDHS Guiding Coalition gave a presentation on their purpose and progress on all Professional Learning Teams. They emphasized learning from each other as teachers, and using Common Formative Assessments to identify learning gaps and adjust instruction in real time. Lastly, they are embedding Durable Skills within instruction and assessment to connect directly to the student readiness for life beyond high school. **AG156 - Agriculture Sales and Consulting (TC):** J. Thompson presented a new business agriculture course for 10th-12th graders next school year to align with what other area districts offer. A motion was made by D. Kirkpatrick and seconded by J. Johnson to approve the creation of AG 1546 as presented for the 2025-26 school year. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6–0.

Second Reading NEOLA Board Policies: 0100, 0144.5, 0166.1, 1461, 2440.01, 3431, 4124, 4213, 4431, 5112, 5120, 5310.01, 5411, 5464, 5505, 5530, 7450, 7455, 7460, 7530.02, 8120, 8420, 8500, 8510, 8531, 8540, 8550, 9151: A motion was made by D. Salas and seconded by K. Pohl to approve the second reading of NEOLA Board Policies as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Halbesma reviewed the NEOLA technical corrections. He also reviewed future possible focus groups and a master schedule planning committee to look at DDHS' master schedule. They are exploring start and end times, along with the logistics. Options for the 2026-2027 calendar will be presented at the December school board meeting. Finally, he reviewed the State Cell Phone Ban that was recently signed into law by Governor Evers. The ban aligns with DDSD's current 5136 policy, which states no cell phones during instructional time. The High School will be implementing on December 1st, making sure staff, students and parents are well aware of the ban.

Future Agenda Items

Next Meeting Date: Work Session – December 1, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting – December 8, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting – January 12, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by K. Hermann and seconded by J. Johnson to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) to consider the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Specifically, to discuss and take action, if appropriate, regarding compensation of employees. The motion carried on a roll call vote of all ayes from D. Henriott, D. Salas, D. Kirkpatrick, K. Hermann, K. Pohl, J. Johnson.

The Board went into closed session at 7:32 p.m. and held closed session discussions.

A motion was made by K. Hermann and seconded by D. Kirkpatrick to reconvene into open session. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

A motion was made by D. Kirkpatrick and seconded by K. Hermann to approve a 2.95% CPI/Cost of Living base raise for all returning staff members. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote of 6-0.

A motion was made by D. Salas and seconded by K. Hermann to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

_____ _____

Jaclyn Powell, Secretary Dave Henriott, President