

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Wednesday, January 22, 2025
6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order and roll call.
2. Approve meeting agenda.
3. Nominations for and election of chairperson (Following election the chairperson will conduct the remainder of the organization meeting)
4. Nominations for and election of vice chairperson
5. Nominations for and election of clerk/treasurer
6. Set day of week, and time of day for 2025 regular board meetings
7. Designate official newspaper to use for publication of legal notices and school board minutes (currently Nobles County Review) Action Item
8. Designate official bank to be used for depository of school district funds, checking and savings account, and investments (currently Security Savings Bank, Ellsworth Office) Action Item
9. Designate official legal counsel. (Currently Knutson, Flynn & Deans). Action Item.
10. Appoint standing committees. Action Item
 - a. Negotiations
 - b. Buildings & Grounds
 - c. Buses
 - d. Sports/Sharing Committee
 - e. Education/Meet & Confer
 - f. Policy Committee
 - g. Sharing Committee
 - h. MSHSL representative
 - i. MSBA legislative liaison
 - j. Safety Committee representative
 - k. Integration Collaborative representative
 - l. Staff Development representative

11. Set per diem allowances (currently \$45 for Chairman, \$40 for Directors per meeting, and \$25 per Director for each negotiations session) Action Item
12. Student Council
13. EPTO
14. Consent Agenda Consider/Approve
 - 14.1 Minutes of regular board meeting on December 17, 2024.
 - 14.2 Student Activity Fund
 - 14.3 Treasurer's Report
 - 14.4 Donations:
15. Administrative Reports
 - 15.1 Principal
 - a. Student Count
 - b. Tentative 24-25 Calendar: Last Day of School (Students & Teachers)
 - c.
 - d.
 - 15.2 Superintendent
 - a. School Board News
 - b. Offices for summer months - letter of request to Zion Church
 - c.
 - d.
16. Action Items:
 - 16.1 Consider/approve monthly bills
 - 16.2 Action to approve the use of LTFM funds for qualifying building projects
 - 16.3
 - 16.4
 - 16.5
 - 16.6 Personnel
 - a.
 - b.
17. Buildings & Grounds:
 - a.
 - b.
18. Adjournment

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Tuesday, December 17, 2024**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ryan Heikes at 6:00 p.m. A roll call revealed all members present. The Board of Education opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff present: Bill Strom (via Zoom), Amy Labat, Darcey Groen, Craig Gaul, Rachel Kramer & Aiyana Warwick.

Visitors: Andrea Honken & Michael Hart with PMA (via Zoom)

A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Buntjer to approve the meeting agenda with one addition. Motion carried.

Andrea Honken presented these items for Student Council: Purchased a cotton candy machine for the carnival, working on planning the carnival, and snow week.

Lisa Lynn presented these items for EPTO: Christmas Movie was a good turnout & are planning the father-daughter dance. The next meeting will be March 11.

Michael Hart presented options for extra funding for the bond projects.

A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Harms to approve the Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on November 18, 2024
- Minutes of the special board meeting on November 26, 2024
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Donations: \$500 from Community Club for milk program, \$100 from Becca Dreesen for field trip, \$186 from Cliff's Auto Body for field trip, & \$150 from Legion Auxiliary for Veterans Breakfast. A roll call was taken. The following voted in favor: Jenniges, Harms, Buntjer, Lefdal & Heikes. The following voted against: None. Lisa Lynn abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat's report included: student count and information on the Stronger Connections grant.

Mr. Strom's report included: building project information, budget information, & MOU related to the Minnesota Read Act.

Darcey Groen presented the bills with one addition. A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Lefdal to approve the bills as presented with the one addition. Motion carried.

The following resolution was moved by Lindsay Jenniges.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COMBINED POLLING PLACES
FOR MULTIPLE PRECINCTS AND
DESIGNATING HOURS DURING WHICH THE POLLING
PLACES WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR VOTING
FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS NOT HELD
ON THE DAY OF A STATEWIDE ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Ellsworth School District No. 514, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for school district elections are those precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The board hereby confirms those precincts and polling places so established by those municipalities.

2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the board may establish a combined polling place for several precincts for school district elections not held on the day of a statewide election. **Each combined polling place must be a polling place that has been designated by a county or municipality.** The following combined polling places are established to serve the precincts specified for all school district special and general elections not held on the same day as a statewide election:

(Set forth each combined polling place explaining which precincts are being served, such as:)

Combined Polling Place: Ellsworth City Hall 322 South Broadway Street Ellsworth MN 56129 "This combined polling place serves all territory in Ellsworth School District No.514 located in Grand Prairie Township; West Side Township, Kanaranzi Township, Little Rock Township, Ransom Township, the City of Ellsworth, Nobles & Rock County, Minnesota."

Note: See Section 2.3.2 of the Election Manual regarding changing polling places in the case of an emergency or if the polling place is no longer available.

*3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.09, the polling places will remain open for voting for school district elections not held on the same day as a statewide election between the hours of 8:00 o'clock a.m. and 8:00 o'clock p.m.

Note: See Section 3.6 of the Election Manual regarding certain restrictions on voting hours.

4. The clerk is directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the county auditors of each of the counties in which the school district is located, in whole or in part, within thirty (30) days after its adoption.

5. As required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204B.16, Subdivision 1a, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to give written notice of new polling place locations to each affected household with at least one registered voter in the school district whose school district polling place location has been changed. The notice must be a non-forwardable notice mailed at least twenty-five (25) days before the date of the first election to which it will apply. A notice that is returned as undeliverable must be forwarded immediately to the appropriate county auditor, who shall change the registrant's status to "challenged" in the statewide registration system.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Lisa Lynn. Motion carried.

School Board Member Jen Harms introduced the following resolution for approval pending adoption by the Ellsworth Education Association:

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
Independent School District #514 (hereinafter referred to as "District")
AND
Ellsworth Education Association, (hereinafter referred to as "Union")
Revisions: 10.5.2024, 10.15.2024. 12.11.24**

WHEREAS: the District and Union are parties to a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) for the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025; and,

WHEREAS: the District and Union desire to address the time commitment, compensation, schedule, location of training, and deadlines for teachers required to complete the state of Minnesota mandated READ Act training; and,

WHEREAS: the District and Union have agreed that CARIEALL training is a curriculum resource approved by MDE for reimbursement, appropriate for age range Kg to 12th-grade staff implementing literacy interventions; <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/READ/dev/>; and,

WHEREAS: The District and Union agree that according to MDE, the CARIEALL asynchronous content totaling 45 to 50 hours (8 modules of approximately 45-50 hours, based on MDE estimated average training experiences) combined with an additional 17 hours of live content, bringing the CARIEALL training to approximately 62 to 67 hours (Source: <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/READ/dev/#:~:text=July%201%2C%202027-,Training%20Hours%3A,online%20modules%20and%20print%20reading>) and,

WHEREAS: the District and Union have agreed that teachers will use CARIEALL to complete the required READ Act training; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the District and Union agree to the following:

1. Eligibility. The Union and District will establish a list of eligible teachers, who must:
 - a. Hold a license issued by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board; and,
 - b. Be employed by the District between 7/01/2023 and 6/30/2025; and,
 - c. Be required by the District to complete approved training described under Minn. Stat. § 120B.123, subdivision 5.
2. Compensation. Teachers will earn compensation as follows:
 - a. Compensation will be \$20 per hour following the 23-25 EEA Master Contract, Article VIII. EXTRA COMPENSATION. Section 5. Curriculum Writing.
 - b. Qualifying Non-Duty Hours are estimated to be 45 hours per teacher.
 - c. Total Compensation will amount to \$900 per teacher (\$20 x 45 = \$900)
 - d. Teachers must submit proof of successful completion of CARIEALL training and an EPS claim form to receive payment.

- e. Teachers shall submit evidence of training completion to Principal Amy Labat.
3. **Credit Recognition.** Teachers may apply for college/university certified graduate credit(s) (for completion of the science of reading courses) toward a lane change following the EEA Master Contract. A college/university transcript is required evidencing the credits earned. Securing college/university credit(s) for a lane change from an institution (i.e. U of M) will be at the teacher's expense.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the parties agree to the following:

1. **Effective Date and Duration.** This MOU shall continue in effect until **June 30, 2025.**
2. **Impact on Precedent.** Nothing in this MOU may be deemed to establish a precedent or practice or to alter any established precedent or practice arising out of or relating to the CBA between the District and the Union. Neither the District nor the Union may refer to this MOU or submit it in any proceeding or case as evidence of a precedent or practice.
3. **Entire Agreement.** This MOU constitutes the entire agreement between the parties related to compensation for teachers for completing READ Act training. Neither party has relied on any statements, promises, or representations that are not stated in this MOU. The terms of this MOU constitute the entire agreement between the parties and supersede any prior written or oral, or other agreement, statement, or practice between the parties relating to the subject matter of this MOU. No changes to this MOU will be valid unless they are in writing and signed by both parties. A copy of this MOU will have the same legal effect as the original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have voluntarily entered into this MOU on the dates shown by their signatures. This MOU will not become effective unless and until it is approved by the District's School Board and is signed by both parties.

The motion to approve the resolution is seconded by School Board Member Randy Buntjer.
Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented information for the hiring of Amy Simpson, an Elementary Instructor for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Lynn to approve the contract with Amy Simpson. Motion carried.

There being no further business Chairperson Ryan Heikes called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Buntjer and seconded by Lefdal to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk