ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, February 23, 2026
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to order and roll call

2. Approve meeting agenda

3. Student Council

4. EPTO

5. Consent Agenda Consider/Approve
   - 5.1 Minutes of regular board meeting on January 21, 2026.
   - 5.2 Student Activity Fund
   - 5.3 Treasurer's Report
   - 5.4 Donations: $150 from Comm. Club for Valentine's party, $1,250 from Peter Marsh Foundation - music grant, $1,250 from Comm. Club for Science Conf., $225 from Comm. Club for Field Trip,

6. Administrative Reports
   - 6.1 Principal
     - a.
     - b.
   - 6.2 Superintendent
     - a. School Board News

7. Action Items:
   - 7.1 Consider/approve monthly bills
   - 7.2 Open bids for 3D Printer
   - 7.3 Approve Pay Equity report
   - 7.4 Achievement & Integration Plan & Budget 2026-2029
   - 7.5 SWWC Service Cooperative Contracts for FY27 totalling $182,240.05
   - 7.6 Consider/approve allowing staff to transfer sick days to other staff
   - 7.7 Approve EEA Master Contract
   - 7.8 Personnel
     - a. Resignation - Emma Jacobsma
     - b.

8. Buildings & Grounds:

9. Adjournment

ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

The organizational 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: Amy Labat, Bill Strom, Darcey Groen, Craig Gaul, Casey Klosterbuer, Amy Simpson, & Jenni Gaul.

Visitors: None

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

Nominations were called for the position of Chairperson to serve a one-year term.

Lisa Lynn nominated Ryan Heikes to serve as Chairperson. A motion was made by Lynn but due to not having a second, the motion failed.
Janelle Lenz nominated Dustin Lefdal. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Lynn to close nominations and direct the acting clerk to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Dustin Lefdal as Chairperson. Motion carried.

Nominations were called for the position of Vice-Chairperson to serve a one-year term.

Lisa Lynn nominated Ryan Heikes to serve as Vice-Chairperson. A motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Lenz to close nominations and direct the acting clerk to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Ryan Heikes as Vice-Chairperson. Motion carried.

Nominations were called for the position of Clerk/Treasurer to serve a one-year term.

Ryan Heikes nominated Lisa Lynn to serve as Clerk/Treasurer. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to close nominations and direct the acting clerk to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Lisa Lynn as Clerk/Treasurer. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to hold the 2026 Regular Board Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm with the exception of January and February as they fall on legal holidays. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Heikes to designate The Daily Globe as the official newspaper. Motion carried. Jen Harms abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lenz to designate Security Savings Bank, Ellsworth branch, as the official bank. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Jenniges to designate Knutson, Flynn & Deans as the legal counsel. Motion carried.

The School Board reviewed the current committees. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Harms to leave the committees the same as last year. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Harms and seconded by Lynn to set board per diem at $45 for Chairman, $40 for other officers and directors, and $25 for negotiations. Motion carried.

Lisa Lynn reported for EPTO on the following items: Dance Camp will perform on February 12 & 13 at the home basketball games, there will be a mother-son event and a father-daughter dance. The next meeting will be in March.

A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lynn to approve the Consent Agenda items:
- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on December 17, 2025
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report

Motion carried.

Ms. Labat's report included information on student count, 2nd semester began, & we used our first E-Learning day.

Mr. Strom's report included information on policies, contract, negotiations and MSBA Conference.

Darcey Groen presented the bills. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the school building rental agreement. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lenz to make the following changes to the school building rental agreement:

Remove the FACS room from the options

Adjust the fee schedule to $200. $100 rental and $100 deposit. The deposit will be returned upon inspection of the building.

Motion carried.

The Board discussed the weight room agreement. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Heikes to approve the weight room agreement with a few changes. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented some information on an MOU for Visas/Green Cards. No action is needed at this time and more information will be presented at the February meeting.

Ryan Heikes presented information on the school's 3D Printer for Robotics. The printer has not been functioning properly, so a new printer was purchased. It was recommended that the old printer be sold as surplus property. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Harms to sell the 3D printer through sealed bids. Bids will be opened at the regular board meeting on February 23, 2026. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented a contract for Diane Lutmer as Paraprofessional and a contract for Melanie Harson as a Teacher. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to approve the contracts presented. Motion carried.

The following items were discussed for buildings & grounds: bus repair, tractor repair, HVAC system control and driver's ed van.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk