

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, March 16, 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 February 23, 2026.
 - 5.2 Student Activity Fund
 - 5.3 Treasurer's Report
 - 5.4 Donations: \$500 from New Vision Coop for FFA donation, \$250 from Comm. Club for Art 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 (I might have additions)
 - 7.2 Open bids for school bus & school van
 - 7.3 Approve EEA Master Contract
 - 7.4 Preschool Tuition & Transportation for 26-27 school year
 - 7.5 2026-2027 School District Calendar for approval
 - 7.6 Call for bids for mowing of the Football field
 - 7.7 Permanent Residency Application MOU - Seth Afriyie
 - 7.8 Permanent Residency Application MOU - Bright Britwum
 - 7.9 Personnel
 - a. Resignation - Judy Peterson
 - b. Resignation - Judy Huisman
8. Buildings & Grounds:
9. Adjournment

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

Staff present: Amy Labat, Bill Strom, Darcey Groen, Lori Romans & Casey Klosterbuer.

Visitors: None

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

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

- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on January 21, 2026
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Donations: \$150 from Comm. Club for Valentine's party event, \$1,250 from Peter Marsh Foundation for Music grant, \$1,250 from Comm. Club for Science Conference, \$225 from Comm. Club for Ice Skating field trip.

Motion carried.

Ms. Labat's report included information on student count, elementary Read Across America week, ice skating trip, MTSS updates, new science curriculum, All School Fair to be held on May 26, read act training, counselor hired through Greater Minnesota Family Services and information on a Special Education meeting that Amy & Darcey attended.

Mr. Strom's report included information on an MOU for Visa/Green Card, negotiations, master contract, & ESST.

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

Dustin opened the bids for the 3D printer. A motion was made by Harms and seconded by Lenz to accept the bid of \$300 from Landon Leuthold. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the Pay Equity report. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Harms to approve the Pay Equity as presented. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented the Achievement & Integration Plan and Budget for 2026-2029. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lenz to approve the Achievement & Integration Plan and Budget as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the SWWC Service Cooperative Contracts for the 2026-2027 school year. Ms. Labat suggested that the school discontinue the contract for the Behavior Analyst. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lenz to approve the contracts with the exception of the Behavior Analyst for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried.

A discussion took place regarding the ability of staff to transfer sick days to other staff members. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Harms to table this until there is more information. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the EEA Master Contract for 2025-2027. A motion was made by Harms and seconded by Lenz to table the contract until it is completely finished. Motion carried.

Mr. Lefdal requested that the district call for bids on the 2004 school bus and 2004 van that are no longer needed. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Harms to call for bids on the 2004 school bus and the 2004 van. Bids will be opened at the regular school board meeting on March 16, 2026. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented a resignation letter submitted by Emma Jacobsma, Paraprofessional. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Jenniges to accept the resignation presented. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk