

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, March 17, 2025
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 19, 2025.
 - 5.2 Student Activity Fund
 - 5.3 Treasurer's Report
 - 5.4 Donations: \$500 from Comm. Club for Science & Nature Conference (5th grade)
6. Administrative Reports
 - 6.1 Principal
 - a. Student Count
 - b.
 - c.
 - 6.2 Superintendent
 - a. School Board News
 - b.
7. Action Items:
 - 7.1 Consider/approve monthly bills
 - 7.2 Consider/approve FY25 Revised Budget
 - 7.3 FY26 Achievement & Integration Budget
 - 7.4 Lunch Program Committee
 - 7.5 Personnel
 - a. Resignations - Nate Warwick & Aiyana Warwick
 - b.
8. Buildings & Grounds:
 - a.
9. Adjournment

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

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: Amy Labat, Bill Strom, Darcey Groen, Craig Gaul, Becca Dreesen & Leah Deutsch.

Visitors: None

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

Darcey Groen reported on these items for student council: money made from the carnival & basket raffle. This money will go towards updating the sound system.

Lisa Lynn reported on these items for EPTO: dance camp went well, had 31 girls participate, April 26 will be the father-daughter dance, and the next meeting will be March 4.

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

- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on January 22, 2025
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Donations

Motion carried.

Ms. Labat's report included information on student count, bake for good project, school calendar for the remainder of the school year, school will end on May 16.

Mr. Strom's report included information on the budget, an update on the project & negotiations. The budget report included the following:

	FY25 Expenses Original	FY25 Revenue Original	Difference
<u>Budget 6-17-24</u>			
General Fund	2,260,342	2,270,588	+ 10,246
Lunch Fund	133,796	92,825	- 40,971
Community Service Fund	82,500	69,136	- 13,364

Budget 2-19-25	FY25 Expenses Estimate	FY25 Revenue Estimate	Difference
General Fund	2,502,419	2,392,257	- 110,162
Lunch Fund	144,876	105,828	- 39,048
Community Service Fund	95,528	67,404	- 28,124

Important Notes:

1. The 2-19-25 General Fund Budget included a 70K expense to cover the combined estimated deficits for Fund 02 and Fund 04.
2. It is unlikely that the 6-17-24 General Fund Budget included an expense to cover the estimated 55K expense to cover the combined deficits for Fund 02 and Fund 04

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

Ms. Labat presented a request to hold both music concerts on Wednesday, May 7. Upon checking with local churches, she found no conflicts on this date. A motion was made by Harms and seconded by Lefdal to hold both music concerts on Wednesday, May 7. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the SW/WC Service Cooperative Contracts for the 2025-2026 school year. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lefdal to approve the contracts for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried.

**Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Recommendations for
Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Thereof**

The district's financial condition is a cause for concern for the Fiscal Year 2025 and beyond.

The general fund deficit for FY25 is projected to be: (\$110,162.00)

The lunch fund deficit for FY25 is projected to be: (\$39,048.00)

The community services fund for FY25 is projected to be: (\$28,124.00)

Note: The general fund deficit of (\$110,162.00) absorbs the projected deficits for the lunch fund (\$39,048.00) and the community services fund (\$28,124.00).

As a result, the district's current and projected financial condition makes it necessary for the School Board to direct that administration to make recommendations for reductions in programs and positions.

Member Lindsay Jenniges introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution Directing the Administration to make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and the Reasons for Those Reductions.

WHEREAS, the financial condition of the school district dictates that the school board must reduce expenditures immediately, and

WHEREAS, this financial condition must include discontinuance of positions and discontinuance or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 514, as follows: That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions to effectuate economies in the school district and reduce expenditures.

In consultation with school administration, the Superintendent is directed to make recommendations to the school board for the discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Dustin Lefdal and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Jenniges, Lefdal, Lynn, Lenz, Harms & Heikes and the following voted against the same: None, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Craig Gaul reported on these items for buildings & grounds: tractor repairs & gutters for the bus garage.

There being no further business Chairperson Ryan Heikes called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Lefdal and seconded by Lynn to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk