

**ELLSWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Library
Ellsworth, Minnesota
Monday, April 20, 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 March 16, 2026.
 - 5.2 Student Activity Fund
 - 5.3 Treasurer's Report
 - 5.4 Donations: \$277 from Comm. Club for Barnes & Noble 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 mowing of football field
 - 7.3 Approval of summer volunteers
 - 7.4 Surplus items
 - 7.5 Contract with Schomaker's cleaning for 26-27
 - 7.6 School Building rental
 - 7.7 Approval of non-certified & administrative salaries
 - 7.8 Safety Rail Quote
 - 7.9 Personnel
 - a. Resignation - Larry Lewis
8. Buildings & Grounds:
9. Adjournment

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Monday, March 16, 2026**

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

Staff present: Amy Labat, Bill Strom (via phone), Darcey Groen, Craig Gaul, Lori Romans & Casey Klosterbuer.

Visitors: Aurora Lewis & Maggie Lenz

A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Maggie Lenz presented the following items for Student Council: snow week dress up days and dance, raffle basket fundraiser, & Easter week plans.

Aurora Lewis & Maggie Lenz presented information and an itinerary for the senior trip for May 1-2. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lynn to approve the trip with administration approving the teacher chaperones. Motion carried.

Lisa Lynn reported for EPTO on the following items: father-daughter dance April 12 & mother-son event will start next year as there were no dates available for this year.

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

- Minutes of the regular school board meeting on February 23, 2026
- Student Activity Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Donations: \$500 from New Vision Coop for FFA & \$250 from Ellsworth Community Club for Art field trip.

Motion carried.

Ms. Labat's report included information on student count, school has used a second E-Learning day, mental health counselor through Greater Minnesota has resigned, stronger connections grant field trips on May 8 & 27, play performance, parent-teacher conferences, & music contests.

Mr. Strom's report included information on the master contract, ESST, employee health insurance, fuel tank removal, & MASA conference.

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

Dustin opened the bids for the 2004 School Bus. There were 2 bids submitted. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lenz to accept the higher bid in the amount of \$1,015 submitted by Tyler Faragher. Motion carried.

Mr. Lefdal opened the bids for the 2004 School Van. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Lynn to accept the high bid submitted by Jeff & Vanessa McNuss in the amount of \$605. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the EEA Master Contract for approval. A motion was made by Jenniges and seconded by Lynn to approve the EEA Master Contract. A roll call vote was taken. The following voted in favor: Lenz, Lynn, Jenniges, Heikes, & Lefdal. The following voted against: None. Jennifer Harms was absent. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented information on Preschool Tuition & transportation. The board reviewed other schools' tuition fees for preschool. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lenz to set the preschool tuition for the 2026-2027 school year at the following rates: \$260 for the Monday/Wednesday/Friday class and \$180 for the Tuesday/Thursday class. The motion also included the following rates for preschool transportation: \$15/week for the Monday/Wednesday/Friday class and \$10/week for the Tuesday/Thursday class. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented 2 options for the 2026-2027 school district calendar. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Lynn to approve the Option #2 calendar with graduation being held on May 21, 2027. Motion carried.

Mr. Lefdal requested approval for the call for bids for mowing of the football field. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to approve the call for bids for mowing of the football field. Bids will be opened at the regular school board meeting on April 20. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the Permanent Residency Application MOU for Seth Afriyie. A motion was made by school board member Ryan Heikes to approve the individual Memorandum of Understanding for Seth Afriyie pending review and signature by the Ellsworth Education Association representative with the seconded by school board member Lisa Lynn. A roll call vote was taken. The following voted in favor: Lynn, Jenniges, Heikes, Lenz & Lefdal. The following voted against: None. Jennifer Harms was absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Strom presented the Permanent Residency Application MOU for Bright Britwum. A motion was made by school board member Janelle Lenz to approve the individual Memorandum of Understanding for Bright Britwum pending review and signature by the Ellsworth Education Association representative with the seconded by school board member Lisa Lynn. A roll call vote was taken. The following voted in favor: Lenz, Jenniges, Lynn, Heikes & Lefdal. The following voted against: None. Jennifer Harms was absent. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented a resignation letter submitted by Judy Peterson, Paraprofessional. A motion was made by Heikes and seconded by Jenniges to accept the resignation submitted by Judy

Peterson. The board expressed their appreciation for her service to the Ellsworth School District. Motion carried.

Ms. Labat presented a resignation letter submitted by Judy Huisman, Title I Teacher. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Heikes to accept the resignation submitted by Judy Huisman. The board expressed their appreciation for her many years of service with the Ellsworth School District. Motion carried.

The following item was discussed for buildings & grounds: the kitchen garbage disposal has been repaired.

There being no further business Chairperson Dustin Lefdal called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Lenz and seconded by Lynn to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth District 514 School Board Clerk