

**Eau Claire School Board Minutes**  
**Monday, September 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream**  
*Generated by Terri Grzyb*

**Members present**

Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

**CONVENE (GC-1)**

President Nordin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board Secretary Terri Grzyb confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. A roll call was conducted to verify quorum. Ava S. from Putnam Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance using sign language.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)**

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Jarrett Dement to adopt the Board agenda for September 16, 2024.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

**RECOGNITION (R-1)**

Superintendent Johnson recognized Deaf Awareness Month and Hispanic Heritage Month.

**PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)**

The following citizen addressed the School Board: Sara Meeks, Governance Board President of the Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School (CVMCS). The goal of the CVMCS Governance Board is to build a strong relationship with the School Board and have a school representative speak during the public forum once per month.

**REPORTS**

*Referendum Committee Report (GC-5)*

Commissioner Johnson said the referendum continues to be promoted through upcoming presentations.

*Legislative Liaison Report*

Commissioner Dement said there was no update since last week's update.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)**

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to approve the following Superintendent's Consent Agenda items:

- Human Resources - Employment Report
- 2023-24 Budget Adjustments
- Gifts in the amount of \$6,177.00 for the period of August 1, 2024, through August 31, 2024

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

**BOARD'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)**

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Board Meeting - September 9, 2024
- Board Summary Statement for OE-6 Personnel Administration

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

**MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

Mark Elworthy and Michelle Golden presented a brief overview of self-funded insurance. The transition to self-funded insurance is seen as a viable option based on the district's size, with the goal of providing quality healthcare for employees while managing costs effectively. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Tim Nordin, second by Joshua Clements to approve the ECASD move to self-funded insurance with Security Health as TPA (Third Party Administrator) effective January 1, 2025. *Discussion on motion.*

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin  
No: Marquell Johnson, Erica Zerr

**FOCUS ON RESULTS**

Mandy Van Vleet (Executive Director of Teaching and Learning), Heather Grant (Director of Early Learning and Elementary Programming), Angie Funk (Principal, Manz Elementary), Jennifer Peterson (Literacy/SEL Coach, Manz Elementary), and Emily Dahl-Willems (Grade 4 Teacher, Manz Elementary) presented a progress update of the Elementary Reading Program, which connects to the R-2 monitoring report on Academic Performance. The team discussed the implementation of a new foundational skills resource, Core Phonics, aimed at improving elementary reading outcomes. The program has shown promising results, with positive impacts in reading proficiency among students. Star Reading data for various demographics in grade 3 was shared, along with how the program is being utilized at Manz Elementary. Highlights included the use of literacy and SEL coaches, as well as reading interventionists. Students receive core instruction, along with layered Tier II/III support, which is part of the District's equitable multi-level system of support framework (EMLSS) that provides equitable resources, practices, and services to every student. Discussion and questions followed.

**MONITORING DISTRICT RESULTS**

Director Yang (Director of Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion), Dana McConnell (Director of Special Education), and Pam Hermodson (Principal, Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School) presented the monitoring report for OE-2 Equity Commitment. This included an annual report highlighting efforts and progress in equity, diversity, and inclusion within the District. The report covered various key performance indicators, including attendance rates, climate survey results, and disproportionality in special education. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar approve the monitoring report for OE-2 Equity Commitment as In Compliance with Exception.

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Joshua Clements to amend OE-2.1 to In Compliance with Exception.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Motion by Lori Bica, second by Stephanie Farrar to amend OE-2.6 and OE-2.6 Indicator 2 as In Compliance with Exception.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Motion by Tim Nordin, second by Jarrett Dement to amend the monitoring report for OE-2 Equity Commitment to add Board directive for OE-2.1 and OE-2.6.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to approve the monitoring report for OE-2 Equity Commitment as Incompliance with Exception, as amended.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr  
No: Marquell Johnson

**BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)**

President Nordin asked Board members to complete the survey before adjourning.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Joshua Clements to adjourn meeting.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.