

**Eau Claire School Board Minutes**  
**Monday, February 19, 2024, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Blended Model - ECAS Administration Building and Livestream**  
*Generated by Terri Grzyb and Marisa Pomplun*

**Members present**

Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement (left meeting at 8:00 p.m.), Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

**CONVENE (GC-1)**

President Nordin called the meeting to order at 5:01 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.

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT**

Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, provided a brief update on Self-Funded Health Insurance. When the Board made the decision to separate the active benefits from the retiree benefits, this created an opportunity to consider moving to self-funded insurance which has been a goal in a long-term strategy for the District. Eric Twerberg and Tanya Lewison, insurance consultants from USI Insurance Services, presented information on our current state of health insurance (fully insured) vs. what self-funding would look like. Topics included components of a self-funded plan, probability and risk, pros and cons, and renewal timeline. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Jarrett Dement to move to Closed Session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

**Motion carried**

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

**RECONVENE (GC-1)**

President Nordin reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced no action was taken by the School Board during closed session. Nayda A. and Lily K. from South Middle School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Erica Zerr to adopt the Board agenda for February 19, 2024.

**Motion carried**

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

**RECOGNITION (R-1)**

Superintendent Johnson recognized February as being Black History Month, We Love Our Public Schools Week, Adult Crossing Guard Recognition Week, National School Counseling Week, Pride in Foodservice Week, Wisconsin School Bus Driver Appreciation Week, National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day, South Middle School and their Food and Clothing Drive, as well as President Nordin for the WASB Member Recognition Program.

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

Chris Hambuch-Boyle addressed the School Board regarding the We Love Our Public School Group.

## **REPORTS**

### **Referendum Committee Report (GC-5)**

Commissioner Johnson shared that the Referendum Committee has not met since the last School Board meeting but will meet tomorrow February 20, 2024.

### **Legislative Liaison**

Commissioner Farrar provided a Legislative update, which included the following: a community approach to 4-year-old Kindergarten, a bill that would allow the DOJ and OSS to use revenue from CC permits to fund the Office of School Safety, and shared that education focused proposals will take up a large portion of the legislation on truancy, childhood obesity, and human trafficking. She also shared that Governor Evers signed the legislative maps into law today.

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

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Joshua Clements to approve the following Superintendent's Consent Agenda Items:

- Human Resources - Employment Report
- Cash balances by financial institution as of December 31, 2023
- Financial Report - December 2023
- Payment of all bills in the amount of \$11,625,292.56 and net payroll in the amount of \$5,113,937.02 for the period of December 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023
- 5-Year Capital Project Bids
- Referendum Project Bids

### **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 Erica Zerr, second by Joshua Clements to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of Closed Session - January 22, 2024
- Minutes of Board Meeting - January 22, 2024
- Minutes of Closed Session - February 9, 2024
- Minutes of Board Meeting - February 9, 2024
- Resolution in Support of We Love Our Public Schools Week

### **Motion carried**

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

### **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Jarrett Dement to temporarily suspend regular rules to allow petitioners to speak and present during a public hearing.

### **Motion carried**

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

The School Board discussed petitioner Brianna Nichols Request to Alter School District Boundaries.

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Lori Bica to deny Petitioner Nichols request to alter school district boundaries for the address to detach property from the Eau Claire Area School District and attach to the Fall Creek School District.

### **Motion carried**

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

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Jarrett Dement to adopt a resolution authorizing issuance of an order of denial.

**Motion carried**

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

The School Board discussed petitioners Margo and Bryce Purgett Request to Alter School District Boundaries

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Joshua Clements to approve Petitioner Purgett's request to alter school district boundaries for the address to detach property from the Durand-Arkansaw School District and attach to the Eau Claire Area School District.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Erica Zerr

No: Lori Bica, Tim Nordin

Abstain: Marquell Johnson

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Erica Zerr to adopt a resolution authorizing issuance of an order of reorganization.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

No: Lori Bica

Abstain: Marquell Johnson

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to adjourn public hearing.

**Motion carried**

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

The School Board listened to the 2022-23 Annual Audit Review given by April Anderson from CliftonLarsonAllen. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Joshua Clements, second by Erica Zerr to approve the presented 2022-23 financial audit.

**Motion carried**

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

**FOCUS ON RESULTS**

Dr. Kaying Xiong, Executive Director of Student Services and Special Education, and her team presented on Tier II and Tier III Supports and Services. The group discussed School Based Mental Health, as well as the ATOD Supports that the District has put into place for the ECASD students. Discussion and questions followed.

**MONITORING DISTRICT RESULTS**

Superintendent Johnson presented the monitoring report for OE-7 Community Engagement. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to accept the monitoring report for OE-7 Community Engagement.

**Motion carried**

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

No: Marquell Johnson

Not Present at Vote: Jarrett Dement

**BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)**

Commissioner Bica shared with the Full Board what the Debrief will look like moving forward.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to adjourn meeting.

**Motion carried**

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

Not Present at Vote: Jarrett Dement

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.