

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK HAWK

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 12, 2025



The meeting of the school District of Black Hawk was called to order at 6:00 pm in the upper commons. The following were present Val Dunlavey, Clayton Ruegsegger, Mindy Stauffacher, Jim Baumgartner, Cali Schliem, Dee Paulson and Jason Figi. Also present was Administration of Willy Chambers, Cory Milz, Tammy Zimmerman and 10 guests.

Motion by Figi and seconded by Dunlavey to approve consent to agenda with acting on Financial Report separate which included minutes from October 8, 2025, and October 22, 2025, meetings and agenda as posted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to approve financial report as presented which includes checks written, ACH payments, journal entries, cash receipts and the cash reconciliation for the month. And to approve short term loan payments on as needed basis that payment can be made prior to board meeting which will reduce interest that will be paid. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Administration Report; Chambers: Attached is a School Safety Assessment Report provided by Lieutenant Burgess of the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department. I withheld the report from the public in case it would provide knowledge to a person who may wish to harm staff or students in the district.

Thank you to Ms. Wolff for leading the volleyball program for another year. Thank you to Ms. Mahoney for her support role in the program. Ms. Wolff provides young ladies with a lot of great knowledge and leadership experience. Congratulations to the volleyball players for their fine efforts throughout the season.

Thank you to Mr. Breadon and the rest of the coaching staff for their great work with our football athletes. Another great season. I want to make the Board and community aware of the comments made by officials. I happened to be in the office after the game against Cashton, and one of the officials made a point to get my attention and commend the Black Hawk/Warren players and coaches on the sportsmanship they exhibited. I know that in other games, similar comments were shared with the coaches.

Our access points were having issues and needed to have updates installed. To do so, we needed to secure a subscription for the service provided by Extreme. The cost was to be just over \$679/month. Jason Tyson was able to convince Extreme to provide us with three-month free service. The hope is that we will be able to get to July 1 when our new E-Rate cycle kicks in to assist in covering the cost for the subscription going forward. Thank you to Jason and the TC Networks team for their efforts to assist the district.

Our intent to repurpose many of the staff laptops has been sidelined by security issues. Microsoft has decided to stop supporting Windows 10. The old laptops cannot be upgraded to Windows 11. Since Windows 10 is no longer supported, the TC Networks staff has warned me that continued use of the devices will create security issues for our network.

Jordan Scott from TC Networks removed the devices provided to the Board from the school network. Board members will be able to use them via the internet for the agenda manager and Google applications. They will not be able to interface with many of our internal systems, such as Skyward (parent access should be good). They will try to use some of the others using a different driver to run some single-use applications, such as recording meal purchases as students eat breakfast and lunch.

TC - Networks will try to place a different driver on the old laptops and see if they can be usable for a single use, like the breakfast and lunch line.

As noted at the annual meeting, I can share last year's report cards at this time.

Report Cards: Elementary: 83.5 Expectations up by 8.2 points from last year.

Middle School: 64.0 Meets Expectations by 9.2 points from last year.

High School: 58.8 Meets Few Expectations, up by 3 points from last year.

District: 67.7 Meets Expectations up by 6.9 points from last year

Results show growth; we still have work to do.

MILZ: Thank You's

a. Cory and Kerrie Bidlingmaier donated \$1817.98 to select choices of sports teams.

b. Jeff Ditzenberger and his TUGS organization donated food items/snacks to the school to be used for students. Items were divided amongst Warrior Backpack program, Warrior Care, and the special education department.

* Career Awareness Day was held on October 24. Thanks to all of the business leaders and representatives who volunteered to speak to our students. Special thanks to Logan Stietz, Class of 2013, veterinarian for being our headline speaker.

* Parent teacher conferences were held on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 6 and Nov. 7. Excellent parent attendance at the elementary level, below average at the middle school level, and poor at the high school level.

* Quarter grade reports were completed Friday, Oct. 31. 3 high school students failed a course 1st qtr.

* Nov. 3 - Seals On Wheels dental service was in the district providing services for families that signed up.

* Nov. 4 - Lafayette County Memorial Hospital was down given flu shots to students who

* Our middle school choir participated in the Six Rivers Honors Choir on Monday, Nov. 10. We have 16 students in our middle school choir.

* Nov. 11 was our Veteran's Day Program. Thank you to Jeff Ditzenberger, veteran of the U.S. Navy for being our guest speaker. Shout out to Eric Amweg and Dan Sniff for their preparations of our elementary students, choir, and band for fine performances. Thank you to all the veterans who attended. Thank you to our students who volunteered to read selections for the program: Josslyn Lewis, Makena McCauley, Jakobi Lewis, Jaelie Scott, Rubi Ramirez-Lopez, and Keira Brunner.

* Nov. 12 FFA/Ag students sponsored Food for America activities for elementary students. Elementary students rotated to stations to learn where their food comes from and seeing some of the livestock animals that our FFA students work with for some of their SAE projects.

? Our junior class is going to the Lafayette County Courthouse on Thurs. Nov. 13 for Government Day.

? FBLA students will be competing in an investment challenge on Thurs., Nov. 13. on UW Madison campus.

? Nov. 14 - Qualifying 7th/8th grade students will be competing in the CESA 3 gifted and talented, Quiz Bowl competition with Mr. Duff-Bowers, who serves as the school's gifted and talented coordinator.

* Mr. Duff-Bowers and Mr. Sniff will begin holding auditions for the spring musical, Little Women, on Nov. 20 and Nov. 21. March 27-29 will be the dates of the musical in 2026.

* Maker Space room is open to the public on Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

* Mr. Amweg will be taking members of the 8th grade band to the Six Rivers Conference band performance on November 20.

* As noted by the district, Friday, November 21 is Substitute Teacher Appreciation Day.

* November 21 - Black Hawk FFA hosting agricultural career education sessions for middle school students.

* We still don't have Bus 71. Waiting on parts to fix the electrical harness. Brad is driving 66, with 64 and 62 as the sub buses.

* State report card data was officially released this week for public viewing. Overall the district is meeting expectations, the elementary school is exceeding expectations with very good achievement and growth scores, middle school meeting expectations with solid growth and good math performances well above state average, high school is not meeting expectations with slight improvement in ELA scores but decent math scores close to the state average up 9 pts. In achievement.

ERICKSON: Fall seasons are completed. Football started with 42 and ended with 42 (14 from Warren and 28 from Black Hawk).

. HS Volleyball started with 18 and finished with 18.

Post season awards for VB players were Mya Milz on the SR 2nd Team, Keira Brunner and Maddy Place on the honorable mention team.

The football team is well represented as well (not to be released until this coming Sunday)

We hosted two playoff games and had a very nice crowd for the conference championship game vs Potosi/Cassville. We had close to 800 at the game that included the recognizing of Mr. Milz's induction into the coaches HOF as well as raising some money to assist the Heller and Romero families, both of which are involved with our football program. The generosity of our community and specifically of Alyssa Hagen donating back over \$400 from the 50/50 and the football team's addition raised over \$4000. Sadly, Coach Romero passed away at the age of 30 on November 5.

MS basketball is finishing up. The MS girls team finished last week, and the boys will finish tomorrow.

Winter seasons are getting under way. Girls basketball started on Monday with 10 girls. Coach K. Flanagan is committed to getting our younger kids' opportunities to play at that JV level. I consulted with several veteran coaches and AD's for solutions that provide for that to happen. I have also contacted all the officials and AD's of opponents to let them know what we will probably do. At this point, the plan is to play a 10-minute JV game followed by a varsity contest. We may change our start time to 6:30 to accommodate that.

Our boy's program will probably have 14 total boys, and they start on Monday, 11/17.

Wrestling will start on 11/17 as well and will probably have 6-8 boys and 3-4 girls.

Our scheduling software company has changed and that has put a temporary stop to all future scheduling. It has made things a bit more time-consuming to maintain the information for future years.

With consideration of the numbers I've mentioned, I have opened communication with bordering schools to discuss a cooperative program in girls' basketball. We are getting close to having that same conversation around boys' basketball.

After meeting with Tammy and Arbiter, we decided not to pursue Arbiter Pay. The cost didn't make sense to the number of checks we write.

Board of Education Report: Recommend each Board member reach out to at least one community member to try and be a part of the referendum committee meeting. Referendum Committee is recommending that a referendum amount to go to electors be set by next month at latest. Thanks to all that donated to the school: the following have donated goods, monetary and or services in in the last couple months Community Bank, Melissa and Joe Pickett, Football Program, Michael and Janel Marty, Monica and Marty Olsen, Willy Chambers, Cory and Kerri Bidlingmaier, Huschitt Show Cattle, Youth Wrestling Club, Pat Baumgartner, Booster Club, Shelia Breadson, Val Dunlavey, Jeff

Ditzenburger Tugs Group, Jason Figi, Jim Baumgartner, Jon Curran, Casey Berget, RJ Paulson, Jim Seffrood. The School Board will not be taking any compensation for the 2025-26 school year.

Public comment was called for: None.

Future learning shaped by AI: Investigate moving forward since it will help students to stay ahead of the curve with AI. Question is how we are using it verse Elementary verse Junior and High students. Also look at having a day that is all technology free day.

Budget cuts that happened for 2024-25 school year reduce .5 position of PHY ED \$47,376, eliminated a shuttle run by incorporating it into a route \$9,000, bid out liability insurance coverage which could potentially save \$38,858, Reduced band from a .75 to a .50 position \$23,000, Warrior Care brought in \$11,707, VLN Education brought in about \$47,736. Proposed Budget Cuts going forward: Reduce Administration, Share Administrator, have a teacher that retired mentor new hires, online Spanish, Art add to schedule or reduce position, combo classes to increase class size and reduce teacher, teacher acting as an assist to Principal to help, guidance counselor reduce or make year round to help with Administration, this year we are projected at a \$500,000 deficit shortfall. Serious talks about if referendum does not pass.

Discussion about Friday Afternoon football games: Due to the fact that this happened this year and Warren dismissed early and Black Hawk had school all day this could happen more in future due to the Referee shortage having to do 1 game early and then having to do a game later. All staff that are here should not have to find own subs if they are a part of the football program. Staff also have students that they want to watch but are forced to stay at school since school is in session. Suggestion is that we have early releases and have the same time that we do now with our scheduled early releases.

Potential Operational Referendum Question for April 7, 2026. Set a special meeting to decide cuts, term non-reoccurring or reoccurring and length of time. It was suggested that we send postcards with the meeting date to Black Hawk School District residents to try and get them to meeting. Set December 1, 2025, at 6:00 pm to have a Special Meeting to discuss cuts and referendum amount. At the December regular meeting the Board will vote on a resolution for the amount to go for.

Concession stand repair Motion Figi and seconded by Baumgartner allow the Booster Club to do the necessary repair to the concession stand. Which includes remodel and/or reconstruction and adding a concrete floor. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner seconded by Stauffacher to approve getting the Paxton 10 lockdown button at a cost of \$756.68 which would lock all exterior doors and not allow key fobs to work in the event of an emergency. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Schliem to approve hiring Kyle Stauffacher as Middle School Wrestling Coach. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to hire Shelia Bredeson as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach providing there are enough girls to play 2 levels of play. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded Figi to approve prom venue to be held at Koning Maple Leaf Event Center in Monroe on April 18, 2026, from 7:00 pm -10:00 pm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Baumgartner to approve amendment to Policy 0151 Annual School District Meeting as approved at the Annual Meeting October 22, 2025. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Figi to table 4 teachers that have lane movement until December 10, 2025, meeting. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Figi and seconded by Baumgartner to approve easement for Alliant Energy the request includes 16.5" by 67" easement on the southwest corner of the property as attached. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Dunlavey I move that the district requires one less in-person in-service day, specifically May 29, 2026, in place of a self-directed preparation day. The district provides the district administrator with the authority to change one of the current 1/2 workday/1/2 in-service days to a full workday and to accommodate staff who still need to meet the Floating in-service requirement to do so in-house on May 29th, 2026. The 190 days of work of which 185 days are assigned days of work, and 5 days will be floating days off in exchange for professional hours worked by the staff above and beyond the regular teacher workday. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Schliem and seconded by Stauffacher to approve FFA going to the National Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells on November 13, 2025, which all travel expenses being paid by FFA and/or FFA Alumni including sub pay. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Stauffacher to go into executive session at 7:52pm, YES- Dunlavey, Ruegsegger, Schliem, Stauffacher, Baumgartner, Paulson, Figi NO-NONE, ABSENT-NONE Presidents announcement of executive session under 19.85(1) item c, Wisconsin State Statutes personnel employment.

The Board returned to Open session at 9:20 pm

Motion by Ruegsegger seconded by Figi to approve exploring options of shared Administrator with another District. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Stauffacher to issue a notice of non-renewal to Mr. Chambers his contract will end on June 30, 2027. Motion carried on a Roll call vote, YES-Baumgartner, Ruegsegger, Stauffacher, Dunlavey, Paulson, Figi NO-Schliem

No Action on part-time Administrator at this time.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Stauffacher the adjourn at 9:23pm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Special meeting date to go over referendum information will be December 1, 2025 @ 6:00 pm in the upper commons.

Next Regular meeting will be December 10, 2025, Referendum meeting will take place prior to the meeting at 5:00 pm

Submitted by,

Jason Figi, Clerk