

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK HAWK

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 2025



The meeting was called to order by President Dee Paulson at 6:00 pm in the upper commons. The following members were present Dee Paulson, Clayton Ruesessegger, Jim Baumgartner, Cali Schliem, Mindy Stauffacher, Val Dunlavey and Jason Figi. Also present was administration of Chambers, Erickson and 5 guests.

Motion by Schliem seconded by Stauffacher to consent to agenda which includes financial report, posting of the agenda, journal entries minutes from September 10, 2025. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Administration report: Chambers: It is Board Appreciation Week: Thank you for the work you do. We appreciate you making difficult decisions and supporting the staff and students of the district.

Please see the attached email about a HOME Scholarship Project awarded to UW-Platteville. Many other district leaders in the area, and I were part of this process.

Open Enrollment numbers are not getting better. 59 students are coming in, and 94 are going out. The cost to the district of this difference is \$337,903. Alternative open-enrollment accounts for 16 out and 12 in. Of those 16 out, 7 claimed to have just moved into the district and chose to stay in the district. The seven move-ins bring in an additional \$81,942, depending on the three-year rolling average. The alternative numbers were counted in the totals. The lists of students are attached but hidden from the public as they are confidential.

I have attached a preliminary revenue limit worksheet (it will change). I used an estimated property valuation provided by Baird. The mill rate shown on it will be 5.85. We will know a lot more in a week. This year, our total allowed revenue is \$4,296,218; last year, we were allowed \$4,245,037, which included \$90,600 declining enrollment exemption. The difference from last year to this year is \$51,181; if that declining enrollment exemption was not a factor, we would have a difference of \$141,781.

Please remember to email Tammy if you intend to attend the State Education Conference in January. She needs to know by October 31 to be able to secure rooms.

As you know, there is an issue with the newest bus. The wiring harness and other items were presumably chewed through, so the bus doesn't run. The wiring harness is predicted to take 66 days to arrive at Wisconsin Bus, where the bus now sits. They are going to request that Bluebird pull one from the assembly line, but there are no guarantees that they will do that for us.

I have attached an email from SWTC that was sent to Ms. Crotty about financial aid night. It states they will no longer provide information in person but will provide a recording. We are looking for some insight into how to proceed. I can place this on next month's agenda. We do not feel the school district staff is able to provide financial advice, do we reach out to a bank, an investment person, or a lawyer?

Milz:-• Thank you to Parent's Club, B.H. Booster Club, B.H. H.S. Student Council and Mrs. Wolff for making Homecoming 2025 a fun event. Thanks to Jason Herbst and Jerry Scott for a wonderful fireworks show. Thank you to the community members who purchased raffle tickets and donated money towards the cost of the fireworks show.

- Thank you to Gratiot, South Wayne, Cadiz, and Woodford fire departments for hosting our elementary students this week during Fire Safety Week. Instructed 4K-5th graders.
- October 2nd - Custodian Appreciation Day. Thank you to RJ, Jack, Helen and Scott for the work they do for our district.
- Congratulations to Chelsea Stauffacher and Angel Bennett, who were both selected as the September Employees of the Month.
- Want to thank Mr. Tim Wolf and The Vault for assisting with our Employee of The Month Recognitions. We give a \$50 gift certificate this year with half of the amount coming from my principal's budget and Tim donated the entire amount this year.

- 4K classes will be going on their annual field trip to attend the Vesperman Pumpkin Patch on October 14.
- Ms. Nehs and FFA students attended State Soils competition on October 8. National convention is coming up the week of October 27.
- Teachers are preparing for fall parent-teacher conferences on the evening of November 6 and morning of November 7. Elementary conferences will be scheduled, m.s. and h.s. conferences will be on a cafeteria style time.
- Middle school students will be holding a Fall Dance on Thursday, October 30 at 1 p.m. Thank you to Parent's Club for helping support the dance for our middle school students. Additionally, elementary classes will be holding Parent's Club Halloween parties on October 30.
- Professional collaboration early release time on Friday, October 8 focused on the following collaborative efforts by staff: Elementary - working with students with A.S.D., presenter Mr. Brooks-Duff Bowers. MS and HS staff met to collaborate on ensuring grade level instruction and assessments. Used AI tools to analyze and provide non-biased feedback on current practices. Elementary teachers looked at diagnostic data from early IReady math diagnostics, AIMSweb and FAST literacy diagnostics.
- Friday, October 24, Black Hawk High School will be hosting 18 guests representing a variety of occupations at our Career Awareness Day. The program will last from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with presenters' breakout sessions following a headline speaker. Huge thank you to Colony Brands, Inc. for donating gift baskets to our presenters.

Erickson: Fall seasons are finalizing or winding down.

- MS Volleyball has concluded with Sheila B and June B having a pizza party for the girls. It was a good season for growth and development, and our participation numbers were generally sustainable.
- MS football will conclude tomorrow with a home (at BH) vs. Galena. Scott Cernek has been a great leader and asset for the boys.
- In both of the above-mentioned teams, the coaches have been providing transportation as school bus drivers to practice and away games. That has been a huge help for figuring out transportation.
- High School VB has two weeks of regular season action left with the seeding meeting next Sunday in Argyle.
- High School Football: Varsity season made it through all the scheduling craziness (4-day games in a row) and has two weeks left in the regular season. The playoff seeding system is more visible this year, and provided we win one of the two remaining games, we should get at least a L1 playoff home game. The analytics would have us traveling to Hilbert for L2. It will all change in the next two weeks, though. I have a couple of concerns with our games hosted at Warren with the biggest being the ability to live stream. I am talking through those with Shawn Teske.
- JV - It's been a challenge, and I've spent a lot of time trying to get our JV kids games. We have another cancellation already scheduled for next Monday, so I've worked to get a game scheduled. Several scenarios were explored but nothing is solidified yet. There are many plates that need to be set in order for it to happen. The team has had some growth and success recently.
- MS basketball is starting. The girls started on Monday. We have 15 6-8 girls. They will only have 4 games because of co-ops within our conference. MS boys will start next week. Because of our coaching situation, boys will practice late here at BH until football has finished.
- Winter sports will start soon, and I've continued to work on a wrestling schedule and communicated with other schools and coaches.
- I met with a prospective athlete who has transferred back into the district and faces the prospect of only competing JV because of grade status. I reached out to the WIAA for clarification, and we're still working to see if she can be given complete change of residence status.
- Facilities matters - We need to ensure our signage is appropriate for spectators. I'll work to get those matters accomplished. Our indoor scoreboards are receiving a needed update with hardware and software thanks to the generosity of Pat Baumgartner. I/we are tremendously grateful for her faithful support and willingness to provide

for this update. We were in a “hanging on by a thread” mode and the most logical “fix” was updating the boards which would communicate with a new console.

- Met with Arbiter to start the process of switching over to that platform. Specifically, as recently as today, I talked to them about Arbiter Pay, which is a means to pay officials directly to their accounts from ours.
- Scheduling for future seasons and officials is ongoing.
- Have met with coaches to encourage their adherence to taking the rules tests, associations, and media reporting.
- I have met with Tammy several times to arrange official changes and payments. She has been really good at accommodating last-minute changes.

Board of Education Report: Question about fixing the van at Alphorn Ford as we had a bill that was approved but Mr. Chambers stated that it still is not fixed and will have to find someone else to fix it. Concession stand about possibility selling the old one and building a new one in place of it the Booster Club is looking at spending \$5000 to upgrade it but a new one would cost about \$13000. By selling the old one we could use that one to build a new one. Buses not being parked off school property Chambers will check with insurance to make sure that we have coverage. Question about Warren having Homecoming on the same day as Pumpkin Fest MR. Erickson stated that it was Warrens request to do that and the reason, we had to do some shifting to the Football Schedule.

Public comment: Melissa Pickett talked about thanks to Board for looking at options for raises as she knows it was a tough decision but appreciates the option.

Tonya Milz: Milz spoke about "game workers" as listed to be discussed in closed session. She expressed concerns about the professionalism, and proper practice of the school board in reference to this and concern about couple members' treatment of an individual who has provided years of service in this regard. She's hoping that the school board acts as a unit and takes this opportunity to learn and address these concerns."

Health Education Certification Licensure: Information was given about cost sharing consideration for a teacher getting a health certification with cost share by the District. Question about classes going to gym together verse having only 1 section going to one class. Could you get one teacher to teach one class part of the time? Talk to person about looking at seeing if he is going to teach one semester every other year. Check with numbers about cost sharing or cost to have someone come and teach one class per

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Dunlavey to hire Brandon Bhelke as Middle School Boys Basketball Coach. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Paulson and seconded by Dunlavey to hire Mitchell Wand for Warrior Care helper. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Paulson and seconded by Figi to table to the Special Meeting in 2 weeks for Paraprofessional. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Dunlavey to approve volunteer wrestling coaches of Kyle Stauffacher and Brian McCauley. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Ruegsegger to approve Dani Curran as Volunteer Cheerleading Coach. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Figi to approve upping the cost of recognizing staff for memorials up to \$100 for each event. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to approve student attendance waiver as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Paulson and seconded by Figi to approve the ACH payment to Everbrite/All American Scoreboard for the score board controllers. Thanks to Pat Baumgartner for the donation. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner seconded by Dunlavey to approve support staff who are not paraprofessionals to be allowed one additional vacation day or one additional personal day if they do not have vacation days. Comment was made that

paraprofessionals and all support staff wrapping it all together verses having things separate. Working on ideas that don't add cost. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to approve providing one additional personal day for the paraprofessionals: that the Board approves paying paraprofessionals for any virtual instructional days when they are expected to be logged in; and that the Board approves paying paraprofessionals for full days when there is a delayed start or early release due to weather or other uncontrollable circumstances. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Baumgartner decrease Inservice days by 1 for teachers and covering hours moving from \$15 to \$25 moving forward. Tammy will reach out to Bob Butler about contracts. The motion carried on a voice vote. some opposition due to the fact that giving people these small things could hurt us in the long run. Roll call vote was called and YES- Stauffacher, Dunlavey, Paulson, Figi, Stauffacher, Schliem, NO- Ruegsegger

Will address this in the November meeting: There are 4 teachers who have taken credits to move on the teacher salary scale. 2 of them have inquired about their ability to receive the additional salary for this contracted year. Please let me know if those 4 staff who have taken credits be allowed to receive their increased salary. Also, the Board will act on what the numbers of days through individual contracts.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to approve the District Bookkeeper be allowed to work remotely when school is not session. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Baumgartner to approve adding 2 more days of vacation the principal's contract. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Dunlavey to approve Administration contract with no changes. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Dunlavey to approve Annual meeting agenda as posted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Figi and seconded by Dunlavey to approve policies as reviewed by the policy committee Policies: 144.5, 166.1, 1461, 2440.01, 2522, 4124, 4213, 5112, 5310.01, 5411, 5464, 5505, 5530, 7440.03, 7450, 7455, 7460, 8120, 8420, 8500, 8510, 8531, 8540, 8550, and 9151. It was noted that consent to agenda can include more items and if a board member has a question or wants to act on it separately it could be done that way. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Figi and seconded Baumgartner to approve sale of school property parcel# 131.0143.1000 to Michael Bartels selling price of \$14,200. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Paulson to approve School Improvement Division Membership with CESA #3. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Dunlavey and seconded by Stauffacher to approve ACH payment to pay off the short-term loan of \$300,000 to the Woodford State Bank on October 10. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Baumgartner seconded by Figi to go into executive session at 7:45 pm the President announced the purpose of executive session 19.85(1) items B, C, and F Wisconsin State Statues personnel.

The Board returned to open session at 8:40 pm- No matters to act on.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Dunlavey to adjourn at 8:40 pm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Next Special Meeting October 22, 2025, following Annual Meeting

Next Regular Meeting November 12, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Submitted by,

Jason Figi