

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2026

A Tax Abatement Hearing was held at the Worthington High School Band Room, 1211 Clary Street, Worthington, Minnesota on January 20, 2026, at 6:10 p.m. Hearing adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

A regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 518, Worthington, Minnesota, was held at the Worthington High School Band Room, 1211 Clary Street, Worthington, Minnesota on January 20, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.

The following were present: BOARD MEMBERS – Adam Blume, Erin Schutte, Matt Widboom, Darla Agard, Eric Parrish, Lori Dudley, Ann Mills

ADMINISTRATORS – Joel Heitkamp, Superintendent, Josh Noble, Assistant Superintendent, Carmen Johnson, Human Resources Director

Correspondence and Recognition:

Public Participation: Jeanette Aguilar and Krista Van Note talked about current events going on in the Community with ICE and illegal immigration.

The board recognized the following employees/students: Madison Sieve and Austin Kinser were named this year's Worthington's Triple A award winners. Treats for Teens students fundraising \$6,207.60 to support school and community organizations. The Trojettes Dance Team at the Big South Dance Championships and placing 2nd place in JV Jazz and Varsity Jazz and 3rd place in Varsity Kick. The Trojan Gymnastics team on an undefeated season and earning an invitation to the Minnesota Class A True Team Gymnastics Tournament. Snowcoming Week. 12 High School students being selected to participate in the Augustana High School Art show in Sioux Falls.

1. Motion by Member Ann Mills, seconded by Member Lori Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the Consent Agenda for the January 20, 2026, School Board meeting.
2. Motion by Member Ann Mills, seconded by Member Lori Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the Main Agenda for the January 20, 2026, School Board meeting.
3. Motion by Member Schutte, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to approve the December 16, 2025, Regular School Board meeting minutes and the January 5, 2026, School Board Reorganizational meeting minutes.

Motion by Member Schutte, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to accept the school board committee meeting minutes as received.

4. Motion by Member Dudley, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to approve the action of the items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

4.1 Financial Reports -

- A. Approved Investments Matured and Purchased
- B. Approved Wire Transfers

C. Approved Claims and Accounts for January 20, 2026, as per Board Check Register

	<u>January 20, 2026</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$2,787,233.08
FOOD SERVICE	\$100,393.70
TRANSPORTATION	\$25,286.85
COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$50,238.74
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$187,317.65
NCIC	\$146,399.87
STUDENT ACTIVITY	<u>\$9,540.79</u>
MONTH TOTAL	\$3,306,410.68

D. Approved the Community Education Imprest Cash Account in the amount of \$0 for December 2025.

- 4.2.1. Approved retirement of Melanie Loy as Orchestra Teacher at the High School effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.2. Approved resignation of Christian McCora as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 6, 2026.
- 4.2.3. Approved resignation of Cenaida Guzman as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 9, 2026.
- 4.2.4. Approved resignation of Erin Tucker as High School Assistant Girls Soccer Coach and Middle School Softball Coach effective January 2, 2026.
- 4.2.5. Approved resignation of Jennifer Doherty as Class II Paraprofessional at the Middle School effective December 1, 2025.
- 4.2.6. Approved resignation of Samantha Sampson as Class I Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 30, 2026.
- 4.2.7. Approved resignation of Jezanie Ibarra Alvarado as Class I Paraprofessional at Community Education effective January 30, 2026.

- 4.3.1. Approved employment of Yoselin Mejia as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 12, 2026.
- 4.3.2. Approved employment of Callie Rosenberg as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 8, 2026.
- 4.3.3. Approved employment of Sara Koepsell as Targeted Services Rover EDGE Teacher at the Intermediate School effective December 18, 2025.
- 4.3.4. Approved employment of Dawn Teerink as Targeted Services Rover EDGE Teacher at the Intermediate School effective December 18, 2025.
- 4.3.5. Approved employment of Alisa Russell as Targeted Services Rover EDGE Teacher at the Intermediate School effective December 18, 2025.
- 4.3.6. Approved employment of Xiomara Torres Nunez as Head Cook at the High School effective January 5, 2026.
- 4.3.7. Approved employment of Ashlyn Kunkel as Targeted Services EDGE Rover Teacher at the Intermediate School effective December 11, 2025.
- 4.3.8. Approved an overload of .057 FTE for Brett Schmidt as Agriculture Teacher at the Learning Center effective March 24, 2026.
- 4.3.9. Approved an overload of .083 FTE (term 3 and 4 skinny) for Melissa Schutz as Business Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.
- 4.3.10. Approved an overload of .083 FTE (term 3) for Penny Troe as Business Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.
- 4.3.11. Approved an overload of .083 (term 3) for Zach Brandt as ELA Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.

- 4.3.12. Approved an overload of .166 FTE (term 3 and 4) for Dominic Burns as ELA Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.
 - 4.3.13. Approved an overload of .166 FTE (term 3 and 4) for Emily Ruml as Special Education Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.
 - 4.3.14. Approved employment of Brianna Morales-James as Class II Food Service employee at the Middle School effective January 7, 2026.
 - 4.3.15. Approved employment of Ana Ordaz as Class II Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School effective January 7, 2026.
 - 4.3.16. Approved employment of Debra Feltman as SLD Paraprofessional at the Middle School effective January 5, 2026.
 - 4.3.17. Approved employment of Julianna Espinoza as Class II Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School effective January 21, 2026.
 - 4.3.18. Approved employment of Rhonda Bonnstetter as Math Teacher at the High School effective January 20, 2026.
- 4.4 The board approved the acceptance of the following donations for the month of December 2025: The Elks Lodge for the Boys Basketball Program and Noon Kiwanis and the Optimus Club for FFA.
- 4.5 Approved summer school dates as follows: Kindergarten Transition June 8-25, 2026, EDGE, 10th-12th Grade Credit Recovery, 9th Grade Transitions and ESY Summer School June 8-26, 2026.
5. Carol Potter presented the Special Education programming review findings.
 6. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the second/final reading of Policy 606 Textbooks and Instructional Materials, 306 Administrator Code of Ethics, 417 Chemical Use and Abuse and 712 Video Recording Other Than on Buses.
 7. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Schutte and unanimously passed to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Education Minnesota Worthington for the 2026-2027 School Year.
 8. Motion by Member Parrish, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar.
 9. Motion by Member Parrish, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve a student teaching agreement with Southwest Minnesota State University.
 10. Motion by Member Parrish, seconded by Member Mills to approve Resolution Approving Tax Abatement for Certain Property Pursuant to Minn.Stat.469.1813. Motion passed by roll call vote 7 to 0. Resolution is on file at the District Office.
 11. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve Minnesota Paid Leave Administrative Procedures with no top off.
 12. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Agard and unanimously passed to approve to declare 20 copies of Teach 4th edition text books, robotics kits and a CNC router as surplus property.
 13. Carmen Johson presented staffing progress information.
 14. Mr. Heitkamp presented information on the High School gym asbestos abatement and removal of lights with new lighting, repainting the gym and moving the basketball nets in the auxiliary gym.

Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to approve the High School Gymnasium improvements as presented.

The Board further discussed and reviewed the following matters: Investments and financial status; Superintendent's Report – Mr. Heitkamp reported the following: Comprehensive Needs Assessment process, Strategic planning and direction and a negotiations update. Instructional Committee Report – Ms. Mills reported the following: None. Operations Committee Report – Mr. Widboom reported the following: None. Other Reports – None. Other Business – Mr. Parrish reported the attendance at the Annual MSBA conference and March 8th day at the capitol. Mr. Blume, as a parent, thanked the Special Education staff for their great work. Future Business – Mr. Heitkamp proposed scheduling a worksession in March to talk about 2027 projects.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Matt Widboom, Clerk

Lisa Ahrenstorff, Deputy Clerk