

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 17, 2026

A Tax Abatement Hearing was held at the Worthington High School Band Room, 1211 Clary Street, Worthington, Minnesota on February 17, 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 Media Center, 1211 Clary Street, Worthington, Minnesota on February 17, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.

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

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

Correspondence and Recognition: The board recognized the following employees/students: District 518 promotional video and a special education senior act of inclusiveness at one of our basketball games.

1. Motion by Member Schutte, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the Consent Agenda for the February 17, 2026, School Board meeting with moving item 4.5 Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative Contracts to the main agenda.
2. Motion by Member Schutte, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the Main Agenda for the February 17, 2026, School Board meeting.
3. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the January 20, 2026, Regular School Board meeting minutes.

Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Dudley 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 February 17, 2026, as per Board Check Register

	<u>February 17, 2026</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$2,605,701.30
FOOD SERVICE	\$100,612.59
TRANSPORTATION	\$181,040.74
COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$57,381.81
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$82,099.37
NCIC	\$28,165.97
STUDENT ACTIVITY	<u>\$14,986.80</u>
MONTH TOTAL	\$3,069,988.58

D. Approved the Community Education Imprest Cash Account in the amount of \$0 for January 2026.

- 4.2.1. Approved resignation of Ruth Brown as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective January 28, 2026.
- 4.2.2. Approved retirement of Sue Hagen as Multilingual Learner Coordinator at the District Office effective June 30, 2026.
- 4.2.3. Approved resignation of Macy Sazama as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective February 11, 2026.

- 4.3.1. Approved an overload of .057 FTE (third quarter) for Kenneth Greenbush as Math Teacher at the Learning Center effective January 20, 2026.
- 4.3.2. Approved employment of Victoria Saenz Ramos as Class II ABE Secretary at Community Education effective January 21, 2026.
- 4.3.3. Approved employment of Teresa Bravo as Class II Paraprofessional at the Middle School effective January 21, 2026.
- 4.3.4. Approved employment of Lesly Felix Lopez as Class I Paraprofessional at the High School effective February 4, 2026.
- 4.3.5. Approved employment of Judy Heitkamp as .13 FTE ABE Teacher at Community Education effective January 26, 2026.
- 4.3.6. Approved employment of Caitria Bjorkman as Special Education Teacher at Prairie Elementary effective February 2, 2026.
- 4.3.7. Approved employment of Sandra Medrano as Class II Paraprofessional at the Middle School effective February 4, 2026.
- 4.3.8. Approved employment of Matt Gaudian as Night School Rover Teacher at the Learning Center effective February 9, 2026.
- 4.3.9. Approved employment of Maricela Gonzalez Panjoj as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective February 18, 2026.
- 4.3.10. Approved employment of Jem Hamilton as Class I Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective February 18, 2026.
- 4.3.11. Approved employment of Janai Dominguez Cervera as Class II Paraprofessional at the High School effective February 18, 2026.

4.4 The board approved the acceptance of the following donations for the month of January 2026: Wambo to the Worthington High School band; Johnson Builders to Girls Basketball; Claudia Martens to the Worthington Marching band, Corn & Soybean Growers and the Early Risers Club to FFA.

4.5 Approved Capital Outlay requests.

5. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Schutte to approve Resolution Approving Tax Abatement for Certain Property Pursuant to Minn.Stat.469.1813. Motion passed by roll call vote 6 to 0. Resolution is on file at the District Office.
6. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve two new concurrent courses at the High School, MN West Algebra and Meat Science.
7. Motion by Member Dudley, seconded by Member Schutte and unanimously passed to approve first reading of Policy 209 Code of Ethics.

8. Motion by Member Dudley, seconded by Member Mills to approve the negotiated Master Agreement between Independent School District 518 and Education Minnesota Worthington for the 2025-2027 contract term, including total salary, benefits and compensation increases of 8.25% over the two-year period. Motion passed 5 to 0 with Member Parrish abstaining.
9. Motion by Member Schutte, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to approve the 2026-2027 NCIC budget.
10. Motion by Member Parrish, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the AIPAC (American Indian Parent Advisory Committee) Compliance report.
11. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Mills and unanimously passed to approve an out of state travel request for Heather Knigge, Christy Menke and Lay Yu Paw to attend the National Art Education Association National Convention in Chicago, IL, from March 4-6, 2026.
12. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Parrish and unanimously passed to approve the revised 2026-2027 School Calendar.
13. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve the Pay Equity Implementation Compliance Report.
14. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Schutte and unanimously passed to approve the annual Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative Contracts for 2026-2027 as revised.

The Board further discussed and reviewed the following matters: Investments and financial status; Superintendent's Report – Mr. Heitkamp reported the following: High School dance team and gymnastics team in the state competition and Joni Reitmeier and Junior Nguyen being named section coach of the year and Taylor Hastings being named section 3A coach of the year. Instructional Committee Report – Ms. Dudley reported the following: None. Operations Committee Report – Mr. Widboom reported the following: None. Other Reports – Mr. Heitkamp mentioned a Board Work Session is scheduled for February 24th with SitelogiQ and a Geronimo Power presentation. He would like to schedule another Work Session the end of March. Other Business – None. Future Business – None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Matt Widboom, Clerk

Lisa Ahrenstorff, Deputy Clerk