

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

April 21, 2026

A Tax Abatement Hearing was held at the Worthington High School Media Center, 1211 Clary Street, Worthington, Minnesota on April 21, 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 April 21, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.

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

ADMINISTRATORS – Joel Heitkamp, Superintendent, Josh Noble, Assistant Superintendent, Carmen Johnson, Human Resources Director, Ryan Swanson, District Accountant

Correspondence and Recognition: The board recognized the following employees/students: Teacher of the Year Heather Knigge; WMS Dollars fundraising campaign for Nobles County Sheriff Deputy Logan Waldner; Middle School History Bee winners Donovan Hubbard first place, Brennan Nelson 2nd place and Tyler Bents 3rd place; Doug Brands as being named Southwest Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals Assistant Principal of the Year; Alexander Pucket for earning 8th place overall at the Math Masters competition; Four High School FCCLA students competing at the state convention and qualifying for the National FCCLA Convention in Washington DC; Caleb Meyer for being named to the Big South Conference All-Conference basketball team; the National Honor Society induction ceremony; Worthington High School mural project; the Seven students to sign their intent to join the Minnesota National Guard; the Band Bash concert and the Worthington High School FFA members participating in the Minnesota State Convention.

- 1. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the Consent Agenda for the April 21, 2026, School Board meeting.
- 2. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the Main Agenda for the April 21, 2026, School Board meeting.
- 3. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Parrish and unanimously passed to approve the March 17, 2026, Regular School Board meeting minutes.

Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Parrish 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 April 21, 2026, as per Board Check Register

	<u>April 21, 2026</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$3,112,774.38
FOOD SERVICE	\$117,741.97
TRANSPORTATION	\$194,646.22

COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$67,829.21
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$9,556.03
NCIC	\$2,661.61
STUDENT ACTIVITY	<u>\$16,600.45</u>
MONTH TOTAL	\$3,521,809.87

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

- 4.2.1. Approved resignation of Sandy Lagos as ABE Childcare Paraprofessional at Community Education effective March 31, 2026.
- 4.2.2. Approved resignation of Ben DeVries as High School Assistant Football Coach effective March 17, 2026.
- 4.2.3. Approved resignation of Elizabeth Johnson as High School Play Director and Head Musical Director effective March 17, 2026.
- 4.2.4. Approved resignation of Stephanie Busman as Kindergarten Teacher at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.5. Approved retirement of Daniel Harrington as Computer Science Teacher at the Middle School effective June 30, 2026.
- 4.2.6. Approved resignation of Alea Al-Juhari as School Psychologist at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.7. Approved retirement of Lynnea Faragher as Kitchen Assistant at Prairie Elementary effective May 29, 2026.
- 4.2.8. Approved termination of Laura Chacon as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective March 31, 2026.
- 4.2.9. Approved termination of Holly Kleve as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective March 31, 2026.
- 4.2.10. Approved resignation of Kyra Peil as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective March 31, 2026.
- 4.2.11. Approved resignation of Whitney Rogers as First Grade Teacher at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.12. Approved resignation of Jenna Henning as Kindergarten Teacher at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.13. Approved resignation of Ashley Ahlers as First Grade Teacher at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.14. Approved resignation of Sherri Burke as Speech/Language Pathologist at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.15. Approved resignation of Kim Anderson as Speech/Language Pathologist at Prairie Elementary effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.16. Approved resignation of Pam Deuel as Early Childhood Teacher at Community Education effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.17. Approved resignation of Tessa Dierks as Assistant Principal at the Middle School effective June 30, 2026.
- 4.2.18. Approved retirement of Linda Neugebauer as English Teacher at the High School effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.19. Approved resignation of Jana Willers as Third Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School effective June 1, 2026.
- 4.2.20. Approved resignation of Amarilis Ramos de Lopez as Paraprofessional at the Middle School effective March 10, 2026.
- 4.2.21. Approved retirement of Gina Moore as Class I Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective May 29, 2026.
- 4.2.22. Approved retirement of Shelley Stofferan as Class I Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective May 29, 2026.

4.2.23. Approved retirement of Lisa Strand as Class I Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective May 29, 2026.

4.3.1. Approved an .057 FTE fourth quarter one block overload for Kenneth Greenbush as Math Teacher at the Learning Center effective March 24, 2026.

4.3.2. Approved employment of Gladys Aldana as ABE Teacher at Community Education effective April 1, 2026.

4.3.3. Approved employment of Grace Lagos as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective April 8, 2026.

4.3.4. Approved employment of Sara Jauregui as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective April 8, 2026.

4.3.5. Approved employment of Lizbeth Comparan as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective April 8, 2026.

4.3.6. Approved employment of Valeria Rosas as Class II Paraprofessional at Prairie Elementary effective April 8, 2026.

4.3.7. Approved employment of Kody Honius as Learning Center Night School Teacher effective March 27, 2026.

4.4 The board approved the acceptance of the following donations for the month of March 2026: Southwest Minnesota Art Council and Rays Midbell Music to the High School band; the student council student activity account to the Wellness room; Medtronic's match to Rick Brandl's scholarship; Schwarts Farms, New Vision Coop and Crystal Valley to FFA; John Kelli Borrero to the Suenos Student Activity account and the Eagles Club to the Learning Center student activity account.

4.5 Approved Summer School Staff and Summer Tech Help.

5. Nathan Schuck, Watershed District and Tom Kresko, DNR presented the proposed Watershed phosphorus removal project.

6. Mr. Heitkamp presented information regarding the budget forecast and planning for 2026-2027.

7. Motion by Member Dudley, seconded by Member Parrish and unanimously passed to approve first reading of Policy 7.21 Procurement Policy.

8. Mr. Noble gave an update on the new transportation company 4.0.

9. Motion by Member Parrish, seconded by Member Mills to approve a Resolution Approving Tax Abatement for Certain Property to Minn.Stat.469.1813. Resolution passed by roll call vote 6 to 0. Resolution is on file at the District Office.

10. Motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Dudley and unanimously passed to approve to declare 40 Generation 7 iPads and 397 Generation 8 iPads as surplus property.

11. Mr. Noble gave an update on the online auction that will be held in early summer.

12. Motion by Member Widboom, seconded by Member Mills to approve student expulsion. Motion passed by roll call vote 6 to 0. Resolution is on file at the District Office.

The Board further discussed and reviewed the following matters: Investments and financial status; Superintendent's Report – Mr. Heitkamp reported the following: The I Love U Guys training in Illinois. Instructional Committee Report – Ms. Dudley reported the following: New website preview. Operations Committee Report – Mr. Widboom reported the following: None. Other Reports – None. Other Business –

The board went into closed session at 7:11 p.m. as permitted by section 13D.05, subdivision 3 (a) for the Superintendent's performance evaluation.

The board adjourned closed session at 7:45 p.m.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

Chairman Blume recapped the closed session. The board discussed Superintendent performance evaluation.

Future Business – None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Matt Widboom, Clerk

Lisa Ahrenstorff, Deputy Clerk