

Prairie du Chien Area School District

Innovation for Success™

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public notice is hereby given as required by law that a Meeting of the Prairie du Chien Board of Education will convene on **March 10, 2025** in the **Prairie du Chien High School, Little Theater**, 800 E. Crawford St., Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, **5:30 p.m.** Matters to be taken up, discussed and acted upon at this meeting are as follows:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Michael Higgins, Jr. at 5:30 p.m.

Present BOE Members:

Michael Higgins, Jr.

Nick Gilberts

Lonnie Achenbach

Dustin Brewer

Lacie Anthony

Noah White

Absent BOE Member:

Jim Hackett

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Anthony to accept the Agenda. Passed unanimously with all in favor.

IV. SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

V. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(The School Board may approve all items with one motion or any Board Member can simply request to remove certain items for later discussion)

A. Approval of Payment

(The Prairie du Chien Board of Education does hereby accept and agree to pay invoices for the last month as presented, included are dated bills to avoid late charges.)

B. Approval of Minutes

1. 02.04.2025 Strategic Planning Meeting
2. 02.10.2025 Regular Board Meeting
3. 02.17.2025 Strategic Planning Meeting

C. Personnel

1. Resignation

- a) Cory Koenig-Business Education Teacher
- b) Wendy Whitney-Scherer-Bluff View Teacher
- c) Abby White-Head Middle School Track Coach
- d) Leslie Yager-Middle School Track Coach
- e) Elbert Hale IV-Alternative Education Teacher's Aide
- f) Vickie Stevenson-Head Volleyball Coach
- g) Maddie LaRocque-Alternative Education Teacher's Aide

2. Approval

- a) Jennifer Wagner-Food Service Director
- b) Abby White-Assistant High School Track Coach

D. ECCP/Start College Now (if any)

1. Youth Apprenticeship-10
2. Start College Now-5

Motion by Achenbach and seconded by Gilberts to approve Consent Agenda Items. Passed 5-0, White Abstained.

VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Consistent with School Board Policy 1130 on Citizen Participation, comments will be limited to 5 minutes, and no action can be taken on non-agenda items. All individuals who comment during the public comment period are reminded that the information provided this evening is intended to provide information to the Board so that it can fulfill its role. In that vein, all parties are reminded that all information offered is truthful and honest. False statements or stigmatizing charges may subject the individual making such statements to legal repercussions, including, but not limited to, defamation claims. Comments identifying students shall be subject to the Wisconsin pupil records law and FERPA. As such, student information that is not directory data as designated by the board, for example, individual student behavioral or progress records, shall not be discussed in this forum. Comments identifying personnel are subject to the applicable personnel records statutes in section 19.36(10), Wis. Stats. The Board may inform the speaker that his/her comments are not permitted if, in the opinion of the Board, they are not subject to release under the above applicable standards. (Board Policy 1155 on Public Complaint)

VII. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

(These are listed for reference, but will not be read off at meeting to expedite the agenda)

A. Upcoming Meetings and Board Items

1. 03.11.2025 Strategic Planning Meeting 6:00 p.m. Prairie du Chien High School
2. 04.07.2025 Finance Meeting 5:30 p.m. Prairie du Chien High School
3. 04.14.2025 Regular Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. Prairie du Chien High School

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Gilberts to move 04/14/2025 Regular Board Meeting to the high school fieldhouse instead of in the little theater like previous meetings.

Passed unanimously with all in favor.

B. Information Items

C. Future PAAC Events

1. 03.18.2025 PDCHS Band & Choir Concert
2. 03.21.2025 Artrageous
3. 06.06.2025 Elvis Reflections of the King

VIII. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION (action if appropriate)

A. Superintendent/Building Administrator's Report/Presentation

1. John Hying-High School Student Presentation
2. B.A. Kennedy
 - a) End of Trimester
 - b) Tom Thibodeau will be presenting to staff on Friday.
 - c) Early Childhood started with three students this year, now there is 11. There is one more starting mid-March and 12 transitioning in by the end of the year along with two outside referrals.
3. Bluff View Elementary
 - a) United Way volunteers are reading to the 3rd grade. More welcome if interested in volunteering.
 - b) PTO winter dance was a success and lots of fun for the students.
 - c) Classes are preparing for Forward Exams coming up.
 - d) Read Across America week completed.
 - e) Students celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday and watched the middle school play.
4. Bluff View Middle School
 - a) Students participated in the staff vs students annual basketball game.
 - b) Robotics presentation is coming soon.
 - c) Wit Wisdom training and new curriculum training for staff.
 - d) 3/21 is mental health day for students with planned activities.
 - e) Math Counts had a competition. Sources of Strength had a retreat and did a snow flakes activity with students.
5. High School

- a) Wrestlers competed in the state tournament. A state champion and 2nd place wrestler was awarded. Gymnastics sent an athlete to the state competition also. Girls basketball had a very successful season also.
- b) ACT for Juniors is Tuesday. 9th and 10th grade are going to visit a couple colleges. Wednesday is Reality Check for seniors.
- c) Marching band will be in the St. Patrick's Day parade.
- d) High School Play is in April.
- e) 3/28 is Mental Health day for the students. Planned activities will happen that day.
- f) Congratulations to 2 freshmen who are attending a conference in New Orleans from scholarships awarded. One senior was awarded the Billy Michal Student Leadership Award and will attend the American Spirit Awards in New Orleans representing the state of Wisconsin. Thank you to Natalie White for her help with the students and their applications.

6. District

- a) Over 200 referendum surveys have been returned.
- b) Federal funding for Title 1-4 will be reducing.
- c) Food Service update on choices for lunch.

B. Community Connections and Celebrations

IX. OLD BUSINESS (action if appropriate)

A. Monthly Finance Update

B. Approval of Retirement Agreement and Waiver

- 1. Lisa Ashbacher-B.A. Kennedy Teacher
- 2. Janine Lucas-B.A. Kennedy Nurse's Aide
- 3. Kim Dickey-Bluff View Teacher's Aide

Motion by White and seconded by Anthony to approve the Retirement Agreement and Waivers for Lisa Ashbacher, Janine Lucas, and Kim Dickey. Passed unanimously with all in favor.

C. 02.12.2025 Snow Day-Discussion for 04.21.25 Make Up Day

Moved to Closed Session

D. 2025-2026 School Calendar

- 1. Amber Jerrett

Motion by Gilberts and seconded by Brewer to take 20 minutes off school days and add three built in snow days that are not made up for the 2025-2026 school calendar. Roll Call Vote: Achenbach-No, Gilberts-Yes, Brewer-Yes, Anthony-No, Higgins, Jr.-No. Motion failed 2-3, White Abstained.

Motion by Gilberts and seconded by Brewer to take 15 minutes off the school days and add three built in snow days that are not made up for the 2025-2026 school calendar. Roll Call Vote: Anthony-No, Brewer-Yes, Gilberts-Yes, Achenbach-No, Higgins, Jr.-No. Motion failed 2-3, White Abstained.

Motion by Gilberts and seconded by Brewer to table 2025-2026 school calendar to next month's regular meeting. Passed by Roll Call Vote: Achenbach-Yes, Gilberts-Yes, Brewer-Yes, Anthony-Yes, White-Yes, Higgins, Jr.-Yes.

E. Policy 2264-RESCIND- Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities

Motion by Gilberts and seconded by White to approve the Rescind of Policy 2264. Passed unanimously with all in favor.

F. Policy 2266-REVISED-Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities

Motion by Gilberts and seconded by White to approve the Revised Policy 2266. Passed unanimously with all in favor.

G. 6/7/8 Grade Move Update

Motion by Achenbach and seconded by Brewer to wait till after referendum vote on 04/01/2025 to decide to hire HSR for an assessment and actual cost of moving B.A. Kennedy students to Bluff View. Passed unanimously with all in favor.

X. NEW BUSINESS (action if appropriate)

A. Any items removed from Consent Agenda for further discussion

B. Grants & Donations read into record and approved (if any)

1. Thank you to Subway, Joe 2 Go, BK Photo Booth, Quam Quality Construction, and PTO for sponsoring B.A. Kennedy's Winter Wonderland festivities.
2. 3M donated money for the admission fee for 36 Bluff View Middle School girls to attend UW-Platteville's "Pioneering your Future in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)" workshop.
3. Thank you to Linda Hanson for baking and donating the labor for cookies, as part of B.A. Kennedy's Community Cookie and Valentine Making Event. Also to the PTO for sponsoring the cookie supplies cost and frosting.

4. Wisconsin Arts Board awarded the music department a \$2500 grant to support our Artrageous show coming up on Friday, March 21st in the PAAC.
5. Walmart donated enough food items to fill 43+ bags of food for our students. They have offered to fulfill our students' needs again in April and May. We look forward to establishing a long-term program with Walmart's support.
6. Huckleberry's is donating 250 hot dogs and buns for the Mental Health days at Bluff View and High School.
7. The Czjakowski Higgins Family donated money to the Girls Basketball Team.

C. Student Travel (if any)

D. Parking Lot (Items for future agenda)

XI. CLOSED SESSION

Be it resolved that the Prairie du Chien Board of Education moves to go into Closed Session in which may be convened pursuant to Statute 19.85 of Sub-Chapter of the Open Meetings Law exemptions: sub (1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; (e) Deliberating or conducting other specific public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Closed Session in which may be convened pursuant to Statute 19.85 of Sub-Chapter of the Open Meetings Law exemptions: sub (1) (a) and (1) (f) which allow a meeting to be closed to the public when a government body is going to deliberate concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body, or where the governmental body considers financial, medical, social, or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration or specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where Section 19.85 (b) applies, which, if discussed in public would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data or involved in such problems or investigations.

A. School Calendar Update

B. Employee Contract Request

C. Financing (Future)

Motion by Brewer and seconded by White to go into Closed Session at 7:09 p.m. to discuss School Calendar Update, Employee Contract Request, and Financing (Future). Passed unanimously with all in favor.

XII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

