

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK HAWK

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### MARCH 12, 2025



The school board meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Dee Paulson in the upper commons. It was originally scheduled in the conference room but due to the fact that we had a large audience it was moved to the Upper Commons. The following members were present Jim Baumgartner, Dee Paulson, Val Dunlavey, Cali Schliem, Clayton Ruegsegger, Mindy Stauffacher and Jason Figi. Also present was administration of Chambers, Milz, Erickson, Tammy Zimmerman and 20 guests.

Motion by Schliem and seconded by Baumgartner to consent to agenda which includes minutes from February 18, 205, financial report, and adoption of the agenda. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Administration Reports: **Chambers:** We have been notified that City Electric Supply Company, which contracted with JP Electric, is seeking payment of \$185,035.15, which is owed them. This affects Sjostrom and Sons. I am making you aware of this so if you catch wind of it, you are not caught off guard. Please see the attached document.

We are working with Zac Hess to potentially secure a grant for the area to: *Help prevent and reduce the initiation and progression of substance use and its related problems by supporting the development and delivery of community-based substance use prevention services that strengthen protective factors, reduce risk factors, build resilience, and promote well-being (all the good stuff).* The grant currently includes Black Hawk, Albany, Juda, and Pecatonica. We are hoping to bring on a couple more schools. Please see the attached document.

I have communicated with different entities to gain access to sites to present information about the referendum. If any Board members can attend these meetings when they occur, I believe it will add some credence to the information.

- I talked to Steve Monson about the VI's back room some evening, of this meeting, it should be open for use except any Wednesday is not good, but other evenings will work.
- I talked to Chris McGlynn about the Gratiot Village building and have received permission to use the facilities.
- I talked to Phil Carrol about the SW Fire Department, he arranged a time for me on March 18 at 6 PM.
- I left a message for Steve Tuescher and then talked to Adam Foster about the Wiota Fire Department space. Steve Tuescher reached out today and I will be presenting at the Wiota Fire Department at 6 PM on March 19.
- I talked to Jason Figi about the Cadiz Town Hall and have received permission to use the site.
- I have talked to Lauren Meinert about the Jordan Town Hall and have received permission to use the site.

I have received two bids for air conditioning in the Speech space. In this case Monroe Heat and Sheet Metal provided a significantly better bid. This is part of the construction project. Meyers had given me a rough verbal of about \$6,000. See attached bids.

In the next couple of months, I will likely bring a savings idea to you from a company called the DataWrangler. It is not cheap to engage in, but has typically allowed companies/districts to recover the investment in 3 to 6 months.

Homeland Heating and AC decided they are not ready to provide service contacts. They may be interested in the future.

The replacement of the flooring in Rachel's room will start on the 21st.

**Milz:**

1. Tara Kammes, M.S. student council advisor, completed running a cookie dough fundraising effort to continue to raise funds for middle school related activities, such as the annual ski trip and incentive activities for 4th and 5th grades. We want to thank her for continuing the work that needs to be done to continue what has become a tradition here at Black Hawk Middle School. Ms. Kammes rewarded the top sellers by taking them to Sherrel Jean's diner for malts and sundaes.
2. Thanks to the FFA officer team, their parents, and others for organizing and hosting the annual FFA Pancake Breakfast on Feb. 16. Our officer team did an outstanding job organizing activities and events for FFA week.
3. Elementary staff hosted for students during the week of March 4 – 8, Read Across America Week, a spring fling for the elementary students. Each day was a different dress up day and reading challenge for our students. High school students were paired up with elementary students for some collaborative reading.
4. Congrats to the following forensics students for advancing to the State Festival on Friday, April 11 at UW-Madison: Mason Schultz in Impromptu, Maddy Place in Public Address, and Jaci Kammes and Molly Edler in Moments in History. There are a few more that will compete at a later date for the same opportunity.
5. Juniors completed the ACT test on Tues., March 11. Thank you to the village and SW fire dept. for letting us use the fire station as a testing center. Freshmen and sophomores will be taking the Pre-ACT beginning April 1, middle school and 3rd-4th with the Forward Exam beginning March 31. 4K-3rd grade, also will do a another quarterly AIMSWeb testing to look at growth in accordance with ACT 20 legislation.
- A. Intervention groups
- B. Reading Corps
- C. MS teachers have been using IXL to address the middle school students' gaps in WI standards during Flex.
- D. HS teachers have been working with 9th/10th graders on remedial grammar/writing conventions skill building during Flex.
- E. HS teachers are comparing feedback / assessment data on student writing using common rubrics.
- F. Looked at gaps in WI state standards in our yearly scope and sequences and have begun addressing some content gaps that are now being implemented in the high school English courses.
6. March 12, today, Mr. Erickson took his biology students to BioPharmaceutical Technical Institute in Fitchburg. They participated in lab activities led by current researchers in biotechnology, and gained experience working in a modern laboratory environment.
7. Ms. Wolff and I have been organizing the Six Rivers Math competition that Black Hawk H.S. will host on Wed. March 19. 220 students from all the conference schools will be here from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. p.m. competing in solving varying math problems. We are holding classes for all of our students, but we had to get a little creative for space to accommodate the overflow. Thank Haley Larse for helping Ms. Wolff organizes some volunteers to assist in proctoring the math contests.
8. Musical, Freak Friday, will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 4; Saturday, April 5 @ 2 pm and 7 pm; and Sunday matinee performance at 2 p.m. on April 6. I believe they are planning a pre-performance dinner at 5:00 p.m. on the 4th. Would like to thank Mr. Duff-Bowers, Mr. Amweg for their work in preparing our students for this performance. Students are working very hard right now, putting in some long days, we are proud of their efforts. Also, would like to thank Ms. Tara Kammes and Mr. Gary Cooley for assisting with set design.
9. Freshmen – juniors have registered for 2024-2025 classes. I am currently working on the schedule for next school year, and planning on current levels of staffing.
10. FFA Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for this Saturday, April 5, 2025. They will use ½ of the gym and hope for good weather.
11. Thank you and welcome to Chris Ruegsegger, who will be working as a long term substitute teacher in 5K. I feel the district is very lucky to have someone of her qualifications filling this position.

12. Melissa Pickett was chosen by her peers as the Feb. Employee of the Month. Melissa does an outstanding job in her regularly scheduled position but also is not hesitant to jump in and lend a hand where needed with a positive, friendly attitude. She is a big part of continuing the Warrior Backpack program along with Tiffany/Travis Signer and many volunteers from the Parent's Club.

13. We have 13 students signed up to dual credit courses in 2025-2026. Because Y.A./Work Release guidelines for periods out of school are changing, students who wish to be out of school 4 periods would need to take complementary courses within their occupational cluster. There will probably be more students in the spring semester looking for classes that fit that designation.

14. Mr. Behlke took a team to the JA Titan business simulation competition in Madison on Wed. 3/12. The Entrepreneurship II class team consisted of Shane Wand, Jackson Berget, Owen Seffrood, Javin Stietz, Brody Argall, and David Eckerman.

15. March 17 - Ms. Crotty is taking most of the seniors to the Colony Brands Career Expo, held in Monroe.

16. Second grade classes will be attending a play at the Dubuque Theatre on March 28.

**Erickson:** The Winter Season has concluded Girls Basketball started with 9 and finished with 9. Maddy Lange passed the career point achieving 1000 points becoming only the 8<sup>th</sup> Girl to achieve that. Lange was also selected on first team all-conference. Maddie Place was picked for the second team. The Boys' Basketball started with 17 and ended the season with 16. The season highlight was the last game they led most of it and played very well.

The wrestling season finished well and Owen Seffrood won his second undefeated state championship. A pep Rally was held before heading to state and a reception was held on Monday following his state championship.

Schedules for the 2025-26 had to make some adjustments for a few reasons such as moving a game to a Saturday and moving the start time up for a Friday game due to mainly lack of football officials. Also looking at the Wrestling schedule for 2025-26 season as we will likely not have and conference affiliation.

Baseball and Softball Coop meetings were held and community input was gathered there has been a very good turnout for these meetings that were held. As a result of the meetings the School Boards will be voting on moving forward with renewing the Coops as recommended by Administration.

Spring sports track has started and the first meet is less than a week away.

As always I appreciate the volunteer workers at games and contest. I want to mention Cindy Bechtolt, Lucy Roper, Don Hawkinson, and Tom Wellnitz who all worked a vast majority of the basketball games.

Board of Education Report: March 21, 2025 employee appreciation will have morning snacks for all staff and Taco Bar at the Village Inn starting at 11:30am for all staff.

Public comment was called for 8 Citizens talked about the Baseball/Softball Coop with Argyle most were in favor of it happening. Some voiced concern about taking away from South Wayne Businesses and the Park District if no Baseball/Softball games were held in South Wayne. One thing is the summer league is not combining with Argyle and that will stay in South Wayne.

Cynde Larsen, Chief Academic Officer from Southwest Technical College gave a presentation about the programs and working to offer dual credits to students.

Motion by Figi and seconded by Baumgartner to approve the Black Hawk Schools Academic and Career Planning Program. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Figi and seconded by Baumgartner to approve having a Board Employee Dinner. The motion carried on a voice vote. Stauffacher will be checking on availability at the Village Inn

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Stauffacher to raise milk price to \$.40 effective April 1, 2025. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Dunlavey to approve Jenny Schiferl as summer school office manager from 8:00am to 12:00pm for the 15 days of summer school. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Paulson to approve Argyle/Black Hawk Softball Coop contingent upon the school board of Argyle approving a prorated amount of not less than 25%. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Ruegsegger and seconded by Paulson to approve Argyle/Black Hawk Baseball Coop contingent upon school board of Argyle approving a prorated amount of not less than 25%. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Paulson and seconded by Figi to approve using a Financial Monitoring Tool that was presented last month. The tool has timelines that Administration will be using moving forward. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Time clock parameters was discussed and Tammy Zimmerman will come up with outlines for Board Approval at next month's regular meeting so we can look them over and approve them. No action was taken on this item.

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Figi to convey to executive session at 9:05pm. President announcement of executive session under 19.85(1) items b, c and Wisconsin State Statutes, Family Medical Leave Act staff member. YES- Baumgartner, Paulson, Schliem, Dunlavey, Stauffacher, Ruegsegger, Figi, NO-None.

The board returned to open session at 10:05pm. The Board did approve a FMLA leave for a staff member in executive session.

Act on matters deliberated in closed session: None

Motion by Baumgartner and seconded by Dunlavey to adjourn at 10:05pm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Next Regular meeting is April 9, 2025

Submitted by,

Jason Figi, Clerk