DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 28, 2026 – 6:00 pm

1. Announcement

A. In accordance with Board Procedure, BP-5, this meeting will be live streamed and recorded, and can be viewed on the District YouTube channel.

2. Convene

A. President Gail Lovick called the September 28th, 2026 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m in the Boardroom of the District Office, 500 S. Cleveland Avenue, DeForest, WI 53532.

Superintendent, Dr. Rebecca Toetz verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

Board members present: Jan Berg, Brian Coker, Sue Esser, Jeff Hahn, Linda Leonhart, Gussie Lewis, Gail Lovick, Stephanie Sarr, and Megan Taylor. Also present were administrators Dr. Rebecca Toetz, Kathleen Davis-Phillips, Dyanna Kadrich, Kate Dabetic, Chris Smith, Nate Jaeger, Roz Craney, Russ Tronson, and Kathy Williams.

B. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. Brian Coker recited the DeForest Area School District's Mission, Vision, and Equity Statements.

3. Approval of the Agenda

A. Approve Agenda

On a motion by Hahn, seconded by Berg, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.

4. Board Education

A. Presentation of DeForest Area School District's Continuous Improvement Plan, the three foundational pillars: Learning Excellence, Exceptional Staff, and Supportive Facilities & Operations and how they relate to student results

Discussion:
District administrators presented the 2026–2027 Continuous Improvement Plan Overview, highlighting strategic priorities across the district. Superintendent, Dr. Rebecca Toetz, introduced the plan's primary focus areas, while Directors Kate Dabetic (K–6 Instruction), Chris Smith (7–12 Instruction), and Dyanna Kadrich (Student Services) detailed academic goals for literacy and numeracy, student connectedness, behavior initiatives, and Professional Learning Communities. Director of Human Resource Services, Nate Jaeger, outlined strategic staff actions, emphasizing engagement opportunities, structured feedback processes, and ongoing professional development. Concluding the presentation, Directors Roz Craney (Safety & Operations), Kathleen Davis-Phillips (Business & Auxiliary Services), and Russ Tronsen (Learning & Information Systems) addressed supportive facilities and operations, covering fiscal soundness, safety, food service, technology, and infrastructure.

7. Board Business & possible Board action

A. Presentation and possible approval of OE-2 Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report

Discussion:
Superintendent, Dr. Rebecca Toetz, presented the monitoring report for OE-2, Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report, including the succession plan for 2026-2027.

On a motion by Coker, seconded by Sarr, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to accept OE-2 Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

On a motion by Hahn, seconded by Berg, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve OE-2 Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report in compliance as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

B. Gather input for summary statement for Board Policy OE-2 Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report

Discussion:
The Governance Officers will create a summary statement for the OE-2, Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report. The summary statement will be approved at a future Board meeting

8. Public Input

A. None.

9. Board Consent Agenda

A. Accept Minutes - August 24, 2026 & September 14, 2026

B. Approval of indicator revisions for R-2 Numeracy, OE-3 Treatment of Community Stakeholders, OE-4 Personnel Administration, OE-10 Learning Environment , and OE-11 Instructional Program

Taylor made a motion, Leonhart seconded to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

10. Superintendent Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Recommendations:
Certified Staff Recommendations for Board Approval
Appointments: School Nurse, Harvest

B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report
Paid: 212550-212704, 262700309-262700597, 202600012-202600091

Berg made a motion, Coker seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

11. Press Verification

A. No member of the press was present at this time.

12. Board Debrief

17. Adjourn

The Board of Education adjourned at 6:29 pm on a motion by Hahn, seconded by Berg, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

DASD BOE President Signature: _____ Date: _____