

MEETING MINUTES

Please contact Superintendent Dr. Scott Blum or Board Secretary Michelle Wearmouth if you would like to speak about items appearing on the agenda at scott.blum@dcgschools.com or michelle.wearmouth@dcgschools.com

Link to meeting details: <https://tinyurl.com/DCGSimbli>

Attendance

Voting Members

Ryan Carpenter, President
Monica Malmberg, Vice-President
Brandon McNace, Board Director
Nancy Baker Curtis, Board Director
Nick Fiala, Board Director
Shaylee Vander Velden, Board Director
Meg Dickinson, Board Director

Non-Voting Members

Scott Blum, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Carenza, Associate Superintendent
Michelle Wearmouth, Board Secretary

1. Members Present/Acknowledge Quorum

Board President Ryan Carpenter called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A roll call was taken by the secretary and a quorum was acknowledged.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Ryan Carpenter led the Pledge of Allegiance for those present.

3. Receive Visitors and Read Miscellaneous Communications

President Carpenter welcomed visitors and asked if there were any visitors who wished to speak to an item on the agenda. The Board Secretary read a written statement from Will Rubel regarding the facilities user agreement proposed in New Business tonight. Denise Perez spoke regarding the same topic.

4. Approval of Agenda

Approve Agenda as published.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Brandon McNace

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

5. Approved Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 and the special board meeting minutes on June 10, 2025.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

6. Presentation of Bills for Approval

Approve the bills as presented.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

7. Consent Agenda

Approve the consent agreement as presented.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Brandon McNace

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

a. Open Enrollment

b. Contract Approvals, Resignations and Changes

c. Agent of Record Agreement: GIT Insurance

d. Unity Point At Home Employee Services Agreement 25-26

e. Athletico Training Services Agreement

f. Piper Sandler & Co. Financial Advisor Renewal Agreement

g. Designate Hot Lunch Representative, Hearing Officers

Recommend approval of the 2025-26 application for the Child Nutrition Program, and appoint Paige Elsbernd as hot lunch authorized representative, Julie Stebbins as confirming official and Michelle Wearmouth as hearing official.

8. Reports

a. Written Reports

b. Building Level Reports

c. Piper Sandler & Co Presentation

Tim Oswald from Piper Sandler & Co to present regarding available bonding capacity and outstanding debt service levy information.

d. Proposal for Equipment Breakdown Insurance including HVAC

Director of Maintenance and Grounds Sean Shatava and Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth will present information regarding the proposed Equipment Breakdown Insurance program.

e. Associate Superintendent

i. State and Federal Reporting Updates

ii. School Improvement Process Update

iii. District Career and Academic Plan (DCAP) Scoring Update

f. Superintendent

i. Building Permits within the District

Dr. Scott Blum reviewed building permits filed within the District including six single family building permits in Grimes for the District in May 2025.

ii. Enrollment

Dr. Blum reported that since the October 1, 2024 certified enrollment count, there is an estimated decrease of 73 students but an increase of 22.80 non-resident students attending our district.

iii. Staff Update

Dr. Blum gave an update on district staffing.

g. Business Manager

i. Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth reviewed the revenue and expenditure summary report for the period ending June 15, 2025.

ii. Public Budget Comparison

Business Manager Michelle Wearmouth presented the Public Budget Comparison report for June 18, 2025.

h. Board Members

9. Old Business

a. Second Reading of Listed Board Policies

Recommend to approve the 2nd reading of the listed policies:

NEW Policies

Administrative Updates (policies with suggested changes)

702.02 Student School Transportation Eligibility

804.02 Warning System and Emergency Plans

Rescind

508.02 Family Night and Sunday

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

10. New Business

a. 1st Reading of Listed Policies

Recommend to approve the first reading of the listed policies:

NEW Policies

Administrative Updates (policies with suggested changes)

104-R(1) Anti-Bullying/Harassment - Bully/Harassment Incident Report

IASB Primer Updates

104 Anti-Bullying/Harassment

104-E(1) Anti-Bullying/Harassment - Bully/Harassment Incident Report

211 Open Meetings

402.02 Child Abuse Reporting

402.03 Abuse of Students by School District Employees

405.02 Recruitment, Qualifications and Selection

411.02 Recruitment, Qualifications and Selection

501.03 Compulsory Attendance

501.09 Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy

501.09-R(1) Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy
505.05 Graduation Requirements
507.01 Student Health and Immunization Certificates
603.01 Basic Instruction Program
603.05 Health Education

Annual/Mandatory Review (no changes recommended)

703.03 Classification of Accounts
704.03 Sales of Bonds
704.03-R(1) Sale of Bonds Regulation
704.04 Investments
704.06 Student Fee Waiver
704.06-R(1) Student Fee Waiver - Student Fee Waiver and Reduction Procedures
704.07 Material Fees-Students
704.08 Solicitation Projects By Groups or Individual

Rescind

501.03-R(1) Compulsory Attendance - Administrative Regs

Director Vandervelden asked questions about policy number 505.5 language and discussion was held. She also asked about language in 402.2. and answers were provided by Dr. Carenza.

Motion made by: Brandon McNace

Motion seconded by: Monica Malmberg

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

b. Set Substitute Teacher Pay for the 2025-26 School Year and Substitute Incentive

Maintain the substitute teacher pay at \$160 /full day, \$80/half day for the 2025-2026 school year, and to continue to substitute incentive plan for the 2025-26 school year.

Motion made by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Motion seconded by: Meg Dickinson

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

c. Substitute Classified Staff and Non-Teacher Rates for 2025-26

Approve classified substitute rates for 2025-26 as presented.

Motion made by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

d. School Fees and Nutrition Prices for 25-26 school year

Approve school fees and nutrition prices for the 2025-26 school year as presented.

Motion made by: Brandon McNace
Motion seconded by: Monica Malmberg
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

e. 2025-26 Phone and Data Stipends

Approve 2025-26 phone / data stipends for cabinet administrators and on-call individuals.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden
Motion seconded by: Brandon McNace
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

f. Facilities Use Agreement

Director Vander Velden questioned the price set for the agreement based on the area utilized, and it does not line up with our current costing in policy and regulations. She feels it may not look good to provide a discount to this entity. In response, Dr. Blum explained how the calculation of the \$60,000 figure in the agreement was reached, and explained that he could return to the proposed renter, Zach, and discuss the very specific hours in very specific areas. Director Dickinson feels it is prudent to itemize. Director Malmberg asked what our legal counsel advised with regard to this contract, and Dr. Blum noted that they did review this contract and edited the language. Director Vander Velden asked about building and door access for the church, and Dr. Blum discussed key card access for the building and room key access for specific days. Dr. Blum discussed specific weekends that are not available for rental and that school events take precedent. Dr. Blum reviewed that the District has the option to end the agreement at any time that it does not serve the District's best interest. Director Fiala reviewed the statement in board policy regarding the Board's ability to set fees and schedules at their discretion. Director Baker Curtis stated that she had the same questions, and felt like she did not have the information. Director Dickinson would like a listing of dates the rental is not available to the church and Director Fiala pointed out that section four covers this area. Director Carpenter states that item B allows the district to restrict use as they see fit. Dr. Blum will return to Zach and discuss items as discussed tonight.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg
Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala
Voting:
Ryan Carpenter - Yes
Monica Malmberg - Yes
Brandon McNace - Abstain
Nancy Baker Curtis - No
Nick Fiala - Yes
Shaylee Vander Velden - Yes
Meg Dickinson - No

g. Equipment Breakdown Insurance

Approve the three-year proposal from The Remi Group LLC for an equipment breakdown insurance program including wall to wall coverage with HVAC option as presented.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Brandon McNace

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

h. 2025-2026 School Year District and Building Goals

It is recommended that the board approve the annual and long-term school improvement goals as presented for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Motion seconded by: Brandon McNace

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

i. Financial Statements

Approve the financial statements as presented for May 2025.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

j. Board Commendations

Approve Board Commendations.

Motion made by: Nick Fiala

Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

11. Closed Session as Requested by Administrator Regarding Superintendent Evaluation

Director Malmberg moved, seconded by Director Fiala to move to enter into closed session under Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i) of the open meetings law to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation. Time 7:21 p.m.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Ryan Carpenter - Yes

Monica Malmberg - Yes

Brandon McNace - Yes

Nancy Baker Curtis - Yes

Nick Fiala - Yes
Shaylee Vander Velden - Yes
Meg Dickinson - Yes

12. Written and Oral Communications

a. Next Regular Board Meeting,

13. Adjourn Regular Meeting

Adjourn. Time: 7:59 p.m.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved