

MEETING MINUTES

Please contact Superintendent Dr. Scott Blum or Business Manager 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
Nancy Baker Curtis, Board Director
Nick Fiala, Board Director
Shaylee Vander Velden, Board Director
Meg Dickinson, Board Director
Julie Quandt, 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. No one requested to speak.

4. Approval of Agenda

Approve Agenda amended to remove policy 407.05 from the motion of first reading for policies.

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

5. Approved Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approve the minutes from the board workshop on December 17, 2025 and the regular board meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 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: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

7. Consent Agenda

Approve the consent agenda as presented.

Director Baker Curtis asked a question regarding School Links.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Julie Quandt

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

a. Contract Approvals, Resignations and Changes

b. Open Enrollment

c. Inter-Agency Agreements for Special Education

d. Accept Donation from Violet Young Charitable Trust

e. Heartland AEA BATC Service Agreement

f. SchoolLinks Contract

g. Arbiter Contract for 26-27 School Year

h. Classic Events Contract for 2026 DCG Graduation

i. University of Iowa Department of Athletics Rental Agreement

8. Public Hearing Regarding 2026-27 School Calendar

President Carpenter stated, "This is the time and place for the public hearing and for meeting on a days vs hours with a start date of August 25, 2026 for the school calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. Are there any questions, comments, or objections from those present?" No one responded. He then asked, "Michelle Wearmouth, Board Secretary, have you had any objections filed in the Secretary's office?" Mrs. Wearmouth indicated that no objections have been filed. President Carpenter declared the hearing on the matter on a days vs hours with a start date of August 25, 2025 for the school calendar for the 2026-27 school year to be closed.

9. Reports

a. Written Reports

b. Building Level Reports

Principal Jason Snow of DCG Middle School presented to the Board regarding the middle school's vital role in connecting students and build the skills to fulfill their secondary school vision.

c. Postsecondary Readiness and Career Connected Learning Update

Collin Lane, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Coordinator was unfortunately unable to join the meeting this evening. Thus Dr. Greg Carenza presented a brief overview of postsecondary Readiness efforts and Career Connected Learning efforts.

d. Associate Superintendent

i. 8th Grade Parent Night at DCG HS

Dr. Greg Carenza, Associate Superintendent of School Improvement, presented regarding eighth grade parent night at DCG high school.

ii. State Reporting Updates

Dr. Greg Carenza presented updates regarding state and federal reporting.

iii. Professional Development

Dr. Greg Carenza updated the board on professional development work completed in the

month of January 2026.

iv. District Goals Mid-Year Update and Review

Dr. Carenza provided a mid-year update on progress toward achievement of our district's short-term goals. The slides will illustrate specific accomplishments in relation to our district goals and, more importantly, how our work this school year aligns with both our long-range (5-year) and short-term (1-year) goals as well.

v. Math and Music Curriculum Materials Selection

Shana Olson, Director of Teaching and Learning, provided the board with updates regarding materials selection for K-5 math and K-12 music.

e. Superintendent

i. Building Permits within the District

Dr. Scott Blum reviewed the six building permits filed within the District for the month of January 2026.

ii. Enrollment

Dr. Scott Blum reviewed enrollment, which indicates a current decrease of students in the actual enrollment.

iii. Facilities

Dr. Scott Blum reviewed continuing plans for work performed under the general obligation bond approved on November 4, 2025. He discussed inclusive playground plans and safety and security work, and timeline that is forthcoming. He noted that North Ridge and Dallas Center Elementary will occur first.

iv. Transitional Kindergarten

Dr. Blum discussed that the transitional kindergarten will move from half day to a full day. Currently, this program has 20 students, and thus will not require additional staffing to make this change.

v. Boundary Information

Dr. Blum will share information with the board regarding questions regarding current DCG school boundaries. He noted in the past few months, he has received multiple inquiries from potential residents near the Oak View neighborhood questioning the requirement to attend Dallas Center Elementary based on current neighborhood school boundary lines.

The Board asked questions about the history of the neighborhood school configuration. President Carpenter asked Dr. Blum to request that our demographer review this issue and its implications.

vi. Legislative Updates

Dr. Blum gave updates from this legislative session. Dr. Blum discussed upcoming meetings with our legislators.

vii. Review Master Calendar 2026-27

Dr. Blum reviewed the proposed master calendar for the 2026-2027 school year.

f. Business Manager

i. Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth presented the revenue and expenditure comparison report for the month ending January 2026.

ii. Public Budget Comparison

Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth presented the public budget comparison report for January 20, 2026.

iii. Taxable Valuation January 1, 2026

Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth reviewed the taxable valuation information as reported by county auditors for the budget year 2026-2027.

iv. FY27 Certified Budget Proposed Timeline

Director of Business Services Michelle Wearmouth reviewed the proposed FY27 Certified budget timeline.

g. Board Members

10. Old Business

11. Second Reading of Board Policies

Approve the second reading of listed policies that have been updated by DCG to align with IASB or current law:

NEW Policies

Administrative Updates (policies with suggested changes)

507.08-R(1) Student Special Health Services

IASB Primer Updates

Annual/Mandatory Review (no changes recommended)

507.08 Student Special Health Services

705.01 Purchasing - Bidding - Procurement

705.01-R(1) Purchasing - Bidding - Procurement - Suspension and Department of Vendors and Contractors Procedure

705.01-R(2) Purchasing - Bidding - Procurement - Purchasing - Bidding - Using Federal Funds in Procurement Contracts

Rescind

801.08 Final Building Specifications

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Meg Dickinson

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

12. New Business

a. Memorandum of Understanding between Dallas Center - Grimes CSD and Law Enforcement Agencies

Approve the MOU between Dallas Center - Grimes CSD and Law Enforcement agencies.

Motion made by: Monica Malmberg

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

b. Deny Open Enrollment IN Application

Deny Open Enrollment In application for KN from Johnston due to lack of space in program.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Motion seconded by: Julie Quandt

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

c. Sale of Items on GovDeals

Approve the sale of a set of Mohawk Lifts from the bus garage on GovDeals.

Motion made by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Motion seconded by: Meg Dickinson

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

d. Students Graduating Early

Approve the following students working to graduate early, by term. These students are on track to complete DCG Graduation Requirements.

Jahred Gomez: 2nd Term

Hannah Meekma: 2nd Term

Skyler Swartz: 2nd Term

Joey Black: 2nd Term

Gavin Heathman: 2nd Term

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

e. 2026-2027 District Calendar

Approve 2026-2027 District Calendar as presented.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

f. First Reading of Policies

Approve the first reading of listed policies that were updated to align with current law and administrative changes removing 407.05 from this action.

New Policies

Administrative Updates (policies with suggested changes)

IASB Primer Updates

202.02 Oath of Office

407.05 Certified Employee Reduction in Force

409.06 Tax Sheltered Annuities

501.15 Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures as a Receiving District

802.02 Requests for Improvements

Annual/Mandatory Review (no changes recommended)

503.06 Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students

503.06-R(1) Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students - Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion with Students

503.06-E(1) Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students - Use of Physical Restraint and/or Seclusion Documentation Form

503.06-E(2) Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students

503.06-E(3) Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students - Debriefing Meeting Document

506.04 Student Library Circulation Records

Rescind

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Monica Malmberg

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

g. 3 Year Old Preschool Program Fee for 26-27 School Year

Approve the recommendation to increase the 26-27 school year 3 year old preschool per month fee from \$250 to \$325 per month.

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

h. Financial Statements

Approve the financial statements as presented for December 2025.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden

Motion seconded by: Julie Quandt

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

i. Retirement of Debra Cale

Approve the resignation and retirement of Debra Cale at the close of the 2025-2026 school year. We would like to express gratitude for Debra's 9 years of service to the school district, teachers and students of Dallas Center-Grimes Schools.

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson

Motion seconded by: Nick Fiala

Voting:
Unanimously Approved

j. Retirement of Diann Williamson

Approve the resignation and retirement of Diann Williamson at the close of the 2025-2026 school year. We would like to express gratitude for Diann's 13 years of service to the school district, teachers and students of Dallas Center-Grimes Schools.

Motion made by: Shaylee Vander Velden
Motion seconded by: Nancy Baker Curtis
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

k. Board Commendations

Approve Board Commendations.

Motion made by: Meg Dickinson
Motion seconded by: Julie Quandt
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

13. Written and Oral Communications

a. Next Board Meeting

Next regular board meeting, Monday, February 23, 2026.

14. Adjourn Regular Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m.

Motion made by: Nancy Baker Curtis
Motion seconded by: Meg Dickinson
Voting:
Unanimously Approved