

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, May 18, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 18, 2026 at the Waterville Building. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair June Rezac at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members June Rezac, Gary Michael, Jon Bakken, Jeff Stangler, Brenda Heuss, Troy Tolzman, Jay Schneider, Grace Bartz, and Jocelyn Brown, attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent Mark Winter, Principal Brandon Tagg, and Business Manager Margaret Jewison.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bakken to approve the agenda. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Rezac to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 27. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approve the April 18 through May 8 Financial Report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$531,394.170, deposits were \$842,813.47, and transfers of \$450,000. Specific item discussed was a payment of \$6,400 to USI Consulting group, Inc. for actuarial services.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

#### RECOGNITION

There were several monetary donations to the WEM Public School District. They included:

- Nu Chek Prep donated \$2,000 to Nu Check prep Scholarship.
- American Legion Post 149 donated \$1,000 to WEM High School Choir Festival.
- Rice County Deputies Association donated \$500 to WEM Junior High PBIS (student activity).

Motion by Tolzman and seconded by Heuss to approve the donations. Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

#### PRESENTATION

WEM School Board Member Jocelyn Brown was presented a \$3,000 scholarship from the Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA). There were 50 applicants from throughout the state who applied and only three received this award. Presenting the award from the MSBA were Executive Director Kirk Schneidawind and MSBA Board of Director Mike Pfeil of Truman and MSBA President Kristi Peterson of Shakopee.

#### VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Michael to approve the consent agenda which included the following items:

Approve Continuing Contract Teachers (Tenure)

- Cameron Jensen, MS20/Step D - \$57,747
- Jennifer Bowen, MS20/Step I - \$66,706
- Connor Scharf, BS/Step D - \$47,566
- Kelly Stanton-Nutt, MS30/Step N - \$79,280
- Sean Benz, BS/Step k - \$58,151

Approve Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts

- Allysa Bruns, BS10/Step D - \$48,889
- Adelia Atherton, BS50/MS, Step B - \$51, 586
- Courtney Konakowitz, BS50.Step F - \$57,868

Approve the following retirement

- Tujwana “Teri” Byers, Food Service, effective May 27, 2026.

Approve the following 2026-2027 coaches

Volleyball

- Crystal Lamont, Head Coach - \$6,189
- Kelci Halvorson, 1st Assistant - \$4,411
- Ashley Bauer, Junior High - \$2,652
- Ken Trnka, Volunteer

Football

- Sam Stier, Head Coach - \$6,189
- Cory Immerman, 1st Assistant - \$4,411
- Chad Atherton, 1st Assistant - \$4,411
- Connor Scharf, 2nd Assistant - \$3,523
- Jon Bakken, Volunteer
- Cameron Jensen, Volunteer
- Mark Thompson, Volunteer
- Bill John, Volunteer
- Mark Stier, Volunteer
- Hayden Hartman, Volunteer
- David Schuster, Junior High - \$2,652

Cross Country

- Skyler Petry, Head Coach - \$6,189

Motion by Stangler and second by Michael to amend the motion by taking out Crystal Lamont as the volleyball head coach. Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Heuss to approved Crystal Lamont as head volleyball coach. Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

The original motion and second on the consent agenda was approved by a 7-0 vote.

## REPORTS

WEM Junior High/Elementary Principal Myles Knutson submitted the following report:

Greetings School Board Members,

Here are a few updates from the Middle School:

- End of Year Celebrations: We are looking forward to celebrating all the hard work of teachers and staff and their commitment to Positive Behavior this year with a fun day of events on the last day of school. In the morning our PBIS team has put together a long list of activities for students to participate in. In the afternoon we will do our PIE Fundraiser Buccaneer Blitz Color Run. We are so excited to end the year on a positive note with a lot of laughter, celebration, and fun events! We are also preparing to host our Farewell to Morristown event on Tuesday, May 19th from 5:00 - 7:00pm. It will be an open house style event that we hope to see plenty of community members at.

- Band and Choir Performances: This month the band and choir members put on two stellar performances for families and community members. I was impressed with their singing and playing skills and as always the WEM community really turned out to support our musicians and singers! Thank you Mr. Larson for all your dedication and hard work getting the students prepared for a wonderful night of performances.

- Packing and Moving: Teachers are doing a wonderful job of balancing their daily instruction with thinking about moving this Spring and over the Summer. I applaud their dedication to sticking to focus on instruction and their day to day responsibilities in the midst of the move on their minds. They are putting in extra work and hours getting their rooms ready so we have successful moving days at the end of the year. Everyone has a bittersweet feeling about moving to one site as a lot of memories and connections have been made in Morristown over the years. However, we are all excited to be consolidating to one building as we know this will be best for kids!

Thank you,

Myles Knutson

WEM Senior High Principal Brandon Tagg gave an in person presentation:

WEM Activities Director Jeff Boran submitted the following reports:

### ACTIVITIES

WEM Night of Excellence is Wednesday May 20. All are invited! 22nd Year of this format! Big thanks to Bridgette Reuvers and Brandon Tagg!

Baseball, Softball & Track post seasons get started this week. Good Luck Bucs & Bulldogs! Girls HS Flag Football have wrapped up the regular season and will be participating in and hosting the first round of playoffs May 31.

The Clay target team continues to work their way thru their season.

Baseball Sections (WEM is now in Section 1A) begin Wednesday May 20. Potential other dates are: May 23, 25, 30 June 2. First round is single elimination. Double elimination the rest of the way.

Softball Sections (WEM is back in Section 1A) begin tonight, May 18. Potential additional games will be May 19, 21, 25, 27. First round is single elimination. Double elimination the rest of the way.

Track – Congratulations to the Girls Track team for qualifying for the 2026 True Team meet

held this past Saturday (May 16) at Eden Prairie HS. The Bulldogs finished in 2nd place at the Section True Team (May 5 at JWP) but received the “wildcard” bid to participate in the State True Team meet! The B & G Subsection meet is at St. James High School this Thursday May 21. The Section meet is Saturday May 30 th at JWP High School. The Gopher Conference meet was held in JWP HS in Janesville (Saturday May 19). Both the Boys and Girls Teams were Gopher Conference Champions!

JWP/WEM Boys (Team placed 1st - 171 points )

JWP/WEM Girls (Team Placed 1st - 188.5 points)

#### COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Summer School Age Care program will begin Monday June 8 – August 28, 6:30 am – 5:30 pm and currently we have 54 registered to attend.

Driver Education update:

The Summer classroom session will begin Monday June 1, with 22 currently enrolled.

Behind the Wheel - 23 student drivers are currently scheduled for June, July & August.

Currently the schedule has 31 spots open through August! 4 Students have completed BTW so far in 2026.

Summer Activities are currently taking registrations and shape.

2026-2027 Preschool

3-Day Session (3 Year old class) 10 currently enrolled.

4-Day 1/2 day class (4 yr. olds) 6 currently enrolled.

4-Day full day class (4 Yr. olds) 20 currently enrolled.

#### WEM Board Committee Reports

There were no Board Committee reports.

#### WEM Board Member Reports

There were no Board Member reports. Board member Tolzman had some concerns about prom being on the same night as JWP High School since the schools are doing more co-ops in events.

WEM Superintendent Mark Winter presented the following:

- Superintendent Winter spoke about the following items: Legislative session ended Monday night. The next 10 will be crazy, busy at the school. Tuesday, May 7 will be the Morristown Building farewell. Wednesday night is the annual Night of Excellence. Friday is Graduation. Last Monday of the year is today. Thursday, May 28 staff will be moving from the Morristown building to Waterville. Concerts and FFA banquet will be held during May. Construction on the Waterville building has begun.

#### INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

The board had the first readings of the following policies (See attachments):

418 Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School

419 Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction.

420 Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions.

515 Protection and privacy of Pupil Records

## ACTION

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to approve the following policies - see attachments:

413 Harassment and Violence.

416 Drug, Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing

513 Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design

523 Policies Incorporated by Reference.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Heuss to approve the Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places - see attachment

Seven members voted in favor my roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Michael to approve the following contracts - See attachments:

- Approve July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027 Contract with School Age Care Coordinator.
- Approve the 2025-2027 Laundry Worker Contract.
- Approve July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027 Nurse Contract.
- Approve the 2025-2027 Food Service Contract.
- 2026-2027 School Psychologist Contract for Shawna Petersen-Brown.
- 2026-2027 School Psychologist Intern Contract for Lizzie Schwenn.
- Approve July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027 Case Facilitator Contract.
- Approve July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027 Clerical Contract.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to approve the 2026-2027 Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) - see attachment.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. p.m.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

June Rezac, Attest

Jay Schneider, Attest