

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2025

The Monday, December 15, 2025 Regular Board meeting of Independent School Dist. #2687 (Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted) was called to order at 6:31 pm. by Chairperson B Borrell. After the pledge of allegiance, roll was taken with the following members present: B Borrell, Koch, Bauman, Marketon, Mulvihill, Puncochar and J Borrell, student representatives: Dier, Grosshuesch and Peterson. Also present were Superintendent Dan Edwards, Principals Stephanie Kuehn, and Jennifer Olson, and Board Secretary Marilyn Greeley.

(Item IV) Puncochar recommended approval of the agenda; Koch seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item V) There were no questions or comments from visitors.

(Item VI) Puncochar recommended approval of the consent agenda; Bauman seconded; passed unanimously.

The consent agenda included the November 10, 2025 regular meeting minutes, November 17, 2025 work session meeting minutes, bills, treasurer report, November enrollment, the resignation of **Jessica Larson**, School Social Worker at Winsted Elementary, effective November 30, 2025, additional winter coaching staff and the Elementary Laker Newsletter.

(Item VII, Subd. A) Megan Tormanen, Business Manager, reviewed information regarding the final levy certification of 2025 payable 2026 and indicated we are asking to certify the amount of \$6,076,899.40.

Puncochar recommended approval of the final 2025 payable 2026 levy certification of \$6,076,899.40; Koch seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. B) Superintendent Edwards and the Buildings and Grounds Committee reviewed the facility audit information and contract for inBylt, and recommended its approval.

Puncochar recommended approval of the facility agreement with inBYLT; Marketon seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. C) Superintendent Edwards reviewed information about the dissolution of the boys and girls track coop with Holy Trinity. The board members and student representatives shared a variety of perspectives about the dissolution of the coop. Edwards indicated that due to the reclassification process both Holy Trinity and HLWW are in agreement of the dissolution.

Marketon recommended approval of the dissolution of the boys and girls track coop with Holy Trinity; Bauman seconded; those in favor: Marketon, Bauman, Koch, Puncochar, Mulvihill; opposed: J Borrell, B Borrell; passed by majority.

(Item VII, Subd. D) Superintendent Edwards reviewed the 2026-27 and 2027-28 proposed school calendars and indicated graduation dates will be determined at a later date to allow for discussion with staff and students.

Puncochar recommended approval of the 2026-27 school calendar and the 2027-28 school calendar; Marketon seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. E) J Borrell recommended approving the resolution designating the Howard Lake City Hall, Waverly City Hall and Winsted City Hall as the school districts combined polling place; Koch seconded; those in favor: Mulvihill, Puncochar, J Borrell, Koch, Bauman, Marketon and B Borrell; opposed: none; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. F) Koch recommended approval of the overnight student trip for 6th Graders going to Deep Portage January 14-16, 2026; Bauman seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. G) B Borrell read the donations.

J Borrell recommended approval of the resolution accepting donations; Puncochar seconded; those in favor: Marketon, Bauman, Koch, Mulvihill, Puncochar, J Borrell and B Borrell; those opposed: none; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. H) The Policy Committee recommends the first reading of the following policies: **417**-Chemical Use & Abuse, **505**-Distribution of Non-school-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees, **519**-Interviews of Students By Outside Agencies, **520**-Student Surveys, **606.5**-Library Materials, **613**-Graduation Requirements

(Item VII, Subd. I) Mulvihill reviewed the website information and recommendation from the Community Relations Committee. The board reviewed and discussed the information.

Puncochar recommended moving with FINALSITE as our new website platform; Mulvihill seconded; passed unanimously.

(Item VII, Subd. J) Superintendent Edwards reviewed a draft of a District score card. Edwards indicated we will have this as a follow up item at our February work session.

(Item VII, Subd. K) Marketon presented information about an idea for a Laker Family Reunion in the summer of 2026, in recognition of the 30 years that Winsted has been a part of the district and engaging community connections of past, present and future. Marketon indicated that August 1st may be a good time to hold such an event because it is in between sport seasons and already established community celebrations. The board members were supportive of the idea and will look into how this can be implemented.

(Item VII, Subd. L) Board members verbally recognize positive things in the district. Peterson recognized MHS for collecting for the winter carnival, and the drama and speech groups donated trees and decorations.

Bauman recognized Ms. Baxter-8th grade Science teacher, on opening up a different world for students.

J Borrell recognized Mr. Riemenschneider, 8th grade teacher and Knowledge Bowl Coach, on getting students to perform at a higher level, and mentoring students on how to improve.

Puncochar recognized the Laker community and the willingness to come together when needed, as we experienced when we needed move, some wrestlers and the McKee family helped us move.

Koch recognized Jeff Goudy, Middle School Girls Basketball coach, for emphasizing team work and willing to hold students to high standards.

Mulvihill recognized and thanked HLWW Football Coach Birkholtz for the work he does with the athletes no matter if they play or not.

Marketon recognized the students and parents who participated in this years FFA fruit sales.

Diers recognized all the clubs we have.

Grosshuesch recognized the FFA program and students who recently competed.

B Borrell recognized the custodial staff who do many things behind the scenes for tournaments, and congratulations to Mr. Neuman on his first choir concert.

(Item VIII, Subd. A) Superintendent Edwards reported:

- We continue to review the progress being made and finding new resources to improve students literacy.
- We will be starting our budget process and planning for the 2026-27 school year.
- We are looking for a few willing partners to attend the MSBA Leadership Conference January 15-16, please review the information and let us know by January 5th if you are interested.

(Item VIII, Subd. B) Principal Olson reported:

- Winsted Elementary's 3rd and 4th grade musical, Snowtastic, was great and well attended.
- The transition team met on December 11 to discuss staffing and moving items.
- Title programs were submitted today, and we have an upcoming advisory meeting scheduled for January 13.
- We served 900 students and families at our VIP breakfasts in November.
- The curriculum review team for ELA met on December 2nd and we are ready for vendor presentation in January.

Principal Kuehn reported:

- Therapy dogs are visiting the high school Wednesday mornings.
- The senior class attended the Phantom of the Opera at the Orpheum.
- The FFA Advisory Committee met to discuss historical and current course requests and staffing.
- Jeff Granrud was honored at the MREA Conference as a National Rural Educator of the Year.

(Item VIII, Subd. C) Diers reported:

- The students would like to create a tutor program.

Diers indicated maybe MHS members could participate and have it count toward their hours they need. Diers also reported we could match students with tutors and they could meet during advisory time.

Grosshuesch reported:

- The students would like to ask the Buildings and Grounds Committee to see what can be done about the snowy areas in the parking lot.

Peterson reported:

- Students have asked about the school website, the bell schedule is not an active link, they were not able to find information about the late start, and they also had concerns about the school parking lot.

Superintendent Edwards indicated we do not currently send late start information to students, only to parents/guardians. Peterson asked if it could be put on an Instagram account.

(Item VIII, Subd. D) B Borrell indicated there are written school board committee reports.

(Item VIII, Subd. E) Upcoming Board Member Event Appearances:
Calendar Link

HLWW Holiday Gathering-December 19 3:30-6:30pm HL Legion
Students of Excellence April 22-Resource Training @ 4:30pm

(Item IX) Next Meeting Dates:

Organizational/Regular Board Meeting- January 12, 2026 6:30 pm HLWW HS Media Center

Work Session Meeting-January 26, 2026 6:30 pm HLWW HS Media Center

(Item X) Items for next meeting

Regular Meeting:

- Organizational Meeting
- Bill Reader for January-Koch
- Approve Resolution for Reduction in Curriculum, Programs, and Staff
- Leave/Resignations/Retirements
- Employment Recommendations
- Approve Second Reading of Policies
- Approve First Reading of Policies
- Approve Treasurer Report-January, April, July, October
- Monthly Budget Report

B Borrell adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Koch, Clerk