



Regular Meeting of the  
Welch Board of Education  
Monday, September 8, 2025  
5:30 PM Central

Delbert Lovelace High School  
Multipurpose/Board Room  
707 South Curtis  
Welch, Oklahoma 74369

The Welch Board of Education of Independent School District I017 of Craig County, State of Oklahoma, met in regular session on Monday, September 8, 2025, in the Multipurpose/Board Room in the Delbert Lovelace High School, 707 South Curtis Street, Welch, Oklahoma.

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Board of Education of Welch Public Schools, District I017 of Craig County, Oklahoma, do hereby certify that at least 24 hours prior to the meeting excluding Saturday, Sunday, and holidays, notices of date, time, place, and agenda of the meeting were posted in prominent public view at the location of the meeting.

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Shannon Walker, Clerk of the Board of Education

#### 1. Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

President Jesse Highsmith called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.

Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance Taken at 5:31 PM.

Jesse Highsmith: Present

Rowdy Layton: Present

Shelby Miller: Present

Brian Mooney: Present

Shannon Walker: Absent

President Jesse HighSmith led us in the flag salute.

#### 3. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

#### 4. Principals' Reports

Mrs. Ezell reported that the new No Phone Bell to Bell policy is working great. We have only had a few minor offenders and the students are really interacting well with each other. Mrs. Ezell also went over the numbers for the Dropout Report and how there were several errors in it, so hopefully after the state corrects their side our side will look better.

Mrs. Hall reported the elementary staff had completed Benchmark testing and were ready to start a group meeting with teachers to start targeting students with low numbers. Mrs. Hall also reported that Pre-k was the smallest class this year with 16. Usually there were 24 students. Overall, she reported the Elementary was down about 8 students for enrollment right now.

Both Principals reported that Mrs. April Miller is doing a really great job as the new counselor. Mrs. Miller has a lot of new ideas, is creating a LEAD team at each building site.

#### 5. Presentation on the Annual Dropout and College Remediation Report

Mrs. Ezell gave the Annual Dropout and College Remediation Report

The current dropout rate for WPS is 93%, there are a couple of errors that will be corrected when the state opens it up. Mrs. Ezell also stated that this year a rule was changed on how the state calculates the dropout rate. From now on the state does not recognize any student on the core graduation plan will now count as a drop out of the dropout report. This is going to cause our percentage to go down. We have several students who attend Career Tech and are involved in Ag and athletics that if switched to the college plan would cause stress to them by having to take extra classes so the administration decided that we would take the drop in our rate instead of cause stress to kids and asking them to change their graduation plan at this late date.

#### 6. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Ramsey reported that the school had received the School Security Resource Officer money, a little over \$94,000.00. Mr. Ramsey reported he has been getting camera quotes for all sites and show barn. The keycard program is getting old and outdated; we need to upgrade to new system. All three secretaries and Mrs. Hall for new monitors are in the quote. The old cameras in the classroom are going to be reused and combined to make a better program. Window ballistic film was part of the quote and is top tier and high, so Mr. Ramsey is going to look for other quotes. Would like to get AED's for all the buses and school vehicles.

The RAO will be on site October 1st for the fall visit. There are 17 pages of items that we will be preparing of the checklist.

Schools are caught in the middle between the federal government and state government regarding benchmark testing vs state testing. Federal government says Ryan Walters can't say no testing.

Mr. Ramsey applied for \$10,000.00 Oklahoma Food for Schools Grant. We received the grant

and are waiting for the contract. The grant is good for fresh beef, poultry and fresh vegetables.

The school has received our allocations were \$4,600.00 short, and the school received notification that we have been approved for Small Rural Schools grant.

The new auditors were on site on August 27th. They did not find any issues.

7. Consent Agenda Items recommended for approval by a single vote. Items may be voted on separately at the request of any board member.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.A. Minutes of the August 11, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, 7.B. Treasurer's Report, Activity Fund Report, and status of all funds and investments, 7.C. FY26 Purchase Orders & Payment Registers FY26 Purchase Orders General Fund: # 163-180, Building Fund: # 38-39, FY26 Payment Registers, General Fund: # 52- 135, Building Fund: # 9-15, Insurance Loss Fund: # 3-4. 7.D. School Rental Requests as listed, any others at hand 7.E. Fundraising Activities Requests as listed, any others at hand, 7.F. Out of State Trips: 1. Ms. Miller, BPA, Joplin, MO 2. Ms. Mills, FFA, National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana, 7.G. Surplus Inventory Form to declare items junk - Gleaves. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.

Mr Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8. Action Agenda - Individual items for discussion and action. The Board may choose to take action on any item listed including motion to approve, motion to not approve, make a specific motion, take no action, table an item, or concur no action required. Members may second a motion, cast a vote, or abstain.

Discussion and action regarding the FY26 Estimate of Needs and appropriations as prepared by Jenkins & Kemper, CPA's, P.C. Mr. Ramsey explained the EON and appropriations, and where we stand for the year. This motion, made by Rowdy Layton and seconded by Brian Mooney, passed. Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the Child Nutrition prices for student, adult breakfast and lunch. Adult prices will be \$2.85 for breakfast and \$5.20 for lunch. This motion, made by Rowdy Layton and seconded by Brian Mooney, passed. Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the activity account transfer, Library #823 \$45.00 to Yearbook #816. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed. Jesse Highsmith:

Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the FY26 Qtr 2 Student Transfer Capacities, Mr. Ramsey explained where the school enrollment was and where capacity was available for transfer for the second quarter. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the agreement with Career Tech and Welch Public Schools to teach Intro to Agricultural Communications for Speech credit (8022). This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve to Adjunct Certified Teacher Ashley Goodwin to teach (1) class of OK History (5615) and (2) classes of US History (5410). This motion, made by Rowdy Layton and seconded by Brian Mooney, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the SY25-26 Certified Teacher's Contracts. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the SY25-26 Support Contracts. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed. Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve SY25-26 Certified Extra-Duty Contracts. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed. Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea,

Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the contract addendum to NEO Orthopedics and Rehab LLC. This motion, made by Rowdy Layton and seconded by Brian Mooney, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to convene in Executive Session pursuant to OKLA. STAT. Title 25 § 307 (B)(1), (Supp.2002), to discuss the following items, so that the board can return to Open Session and possible board action to approve. Convened to executive session at 6:11 p.m. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to Return to Open Session at 6:11 p.m., President's Acknowledgment, Executive Session Minutes Compliance Announcement, Mrs. Hall was in executive session to explain the service Agreement with Paths to Independence for a Special Needs Student. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Make a motion to authorize the Superintendent on behalf of Welch Public Schools to enter into a Service Agreement with Paths to Independence for the remainder of the school year for a special needs student, contingent on whether logistics and staff resources are available. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed. Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Make a motion to employ Rebecca Barnard, Shelia Yother, Robyn Diaz, Chelsea Crites and Nicole Thomas as teacher and kitchen substitutes contingent on employment background checks. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve the TeleComp FortNOC Renewal proposal and the Parent contract to transportation for the special needs student to Paths to Independence the remainder of the year.

This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:12 p.m. This motion, made by Brian Mooney and seconded by Rowdy Layton, passed.  
Jesse Highsmith: Yea, Rowdy Layton: Yea, Shelby Miller: Yea, Brian Mooney: Yea, Shannon Walker: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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Jesse Highsmith, President

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Shannon Walker, Clerk

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Rowdy Layton, Vice President

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Brian Mooney, Deputy Clerk

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Shelby Miller, Member

An official record of these minutes is on file in the Office of the Superintendent, 707 South Curtis Street, Welch, Oklahoma 74369.

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Madonna Woolfolk, Board Minutes Clerk