

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Tiger Den, Delano High School
Delano Public Schools
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

1. Call to order at 7 p.m.

A. Record of members present or absent.

Members present: R. Depa, J. Gierke, S. Roeser, S. Baker and C. Black. J. Moyryla and R. Schaust arrived at 5:35 p.m.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Upon motion by Depa, seconded by Baker, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Work Session

Lyndsey Westphal, Monica Kunkel and Cassidy Phelps updated the board on how EduClimber is used and how they will roll it out to teachers. EduClimber is used to track results from FAST testing, MCAs, career and college readiness, and attendance and incident/behaviors. EduClimbers is a software platform that integrates academic, behavior, social-emotional, and attendance data into one system to support Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). It helps educators visualize student data, track interventions, and identify trends to make data-driven decisions at the student, classroom, and district levels. Using EduClimber will be rolled out to teachers in phases over three years. Katie Thompson updated the board on the DIS Action Cards. Action Card #1: Core curriculum. Reveal Math: 6th grade implementation take aways: Higher level thinking and instruction around conceptual understanding has been challenging but in a good way (conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, application). Teachers adapted materials to suit student needs-handouts, notetaking supports. Assessments continue to be difficult but we think are worth keeping un-modified, we believe this curriculum mirrors the level of rigor. Other curriculum areas: DIS is taking a new Reading MCA IV this year and anticipate a slight dip in scores as we acclimate to a new test, similar to the Science MCA IV, but feel confident that we will learn from the data we gather to make any needed improvements. Action Card #2: Intervention tier reflection and improvement. Vertical teams are doing this during monthly staff meetings. Started with a modified version of the MDE MTSS self-evaluation tool, sparked great conversation on areas for growth. Positive feedback on format. Vertical curriculum writing time happening 4-6 in the area of Tier 2 reading interventions. SEL group will be creating an inventory of Tier 2 interventions that we can train on as a building that will allow for much more fidelity and consistency. Action Card #3: Multi-grade Tiger Time, Tiger TEAM! Have had a number of these meetings now and have gotten positive feedback mostly for two reasons: Staff that don't usually get to lead a Tiger Time, are getting to work with kids and kids are meeting kids outside of their grade. We are considering options for next year, including keeping the groups as cohorts so they get to know one another over the course of their three years at DIS. Action Card #4: Emergency Procedures/Crisis Team. Positive feedback from staff on feeling of familiarity of the SRM protocols. Quarterly crisis meetings as well as utilizing the crisis team as a means to create a communication loop has been very useful and has filled a need identified last year for our team. Mary Reeder will draft a WTC LTFM Resolution for the next board meeting. Matt Schoen provided an update on the Community Education rebuild project. Plans include gathering and analyzing educational alignment, capacity and enrollment, community engagement, submit recommendations to the board and hold a referendum. Abbey Lang briefed the board on a Delano student potentially participating in the state Archery competition.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Program Review

Anthony Frank, Special Education Supervisor. Districtwide caseload numbers: 440 active students ages 3-22. Just under 5,000 hours of Sped services a week combined. Sped Staffing Projecting to work with the current FTE in place for the 2026-2027 school year. Setting III Updates/Action Card: Working with MAWSECO's Classroom Systems Consultant to look at ways we could improve our spaces and support students and staff. The ultimate goal is to keep students in the district. MASE Day at the Capital. Area Special Education leaders took to the capital in support of Sped funding. Hockey Day MAWSECO. Students participated in both playing and supporting this year's event! DAPE Extravaganza DIS students who receive DAPE services will participate! Transition Programming. Working with DHS staff to better support students as they graduate from DHS. Systems and Procedures. Teams are working together to increase efficiency in how and when to discuss additional services.

7. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Schaust, seconded by Moyryla, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Feb. 23, 2026 School Board Meeting Minutes.

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments
2. Investment Transactions
3. CARES Act Budgets
4. Wire Transfers
5. Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund
6. Cash Report
7. Revenue Report by Fund
8. Expense Report by Fund
9. Expense Report by Program
10. Expense Report by Object
11. List of Bills Presented for Payment

8. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts

Upon motion by Schaust, seconded by Baker, the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Roll call passed 7-0.

9. Personnel Matters

Upon motion by Black, seconded by Gierke, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 7-0.

10. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent

Superintendent M Schoen briefed the board on CE. The CE task force is meeting with the architects to start conceptualizing a CE plan including long term action items. The district has filled two vacant positions: HS principal and a director of finance and operations. Scott LeSage, the Director of Finance and Operations, thanked the board for his assignment and praised Mary Reeder.

B. Principals

Principal **K. Thompson** reported on behalf of the intermediate school. SBLT: Handbook revisions, work from Take 20s--positives around teamwork, climate and culture, PIE, areas for growth around WIN organization of interventions, SST communication loop, how kids are using Chromebooks. Professional Development: LETRS, first installation of Phase 2 READ Act Training which is a program called STRIVE. About 1/2 of DIS staff will be participating in this training. Between this and LETRS, most staff will be participating in a SOR training of some sort. Mr. Hinker is facilitating a new para training, using our veteran paras to host a Q & A to continue to build capacity in our new paras. MTSS: April: Round 2 of SAEBRs. Events: Author Lynne Kelly visiting DIS, Battle of the Books wrapping up this week, 5th grade attended Biztown earlier in March.

Principal **Barry Voight** reported on behalf of the high school. Thanks to the Delano community for their support of all our activities teams. MSHSL has passed that they had really hoped we would have won the semi-final due to our community support. Class A record attendance for Friday and Saturday! Upcoming Events/announcements - Testing Season - ACT on Wednesday. MCA Testing is right around the corner. Spring activities have started or will start very soon (PAC meeting on March 9 to officially kick this off). SBLT Updates -Action Cards - FAST Testing 7-10gr, Math T2 FAST 82% (87%), Read T2 FAST 81% (76.5%) Discipline Data - 4-25 Minor Incidents = 1284. 25-26 Minor incidents - 595 (cell phone is 223; conduct violation 111; insubordination; disruptive). F report from T2 - 27 students from grades 9-12 (preliminary numbers) representing - 34 Fs. 34 students from grades 7-8 representing 78 Fs. 7/8 class meetings are done - will do one with 10th grade after break. Tiger Tracks - hosted their first breakfast with mentors/mentees on Friday, March 13. Plans for students to join DIS over the summer for the induction/beginning of the year process. Thanks to DEF for their funding support.

Principal **Rachel Schultz** reported on behalf of the elementary school. SBLT: Site Base Update: Mid Year Review of our plan checking progress on our goals, handbook revisions, August Retreat Day, Staffing, DDE Surveys. PD plan for 25-26: Implementation of new math curriculum, Vertical Team Meetings, Data Analysis/WIN planning, EduClimber. Events we had or are looking forward to: Mr. Aalfs 2nd and 3rd grade Music Concerts. Kindergarten Open House - new format was successful - thank you to all that participated - bus, food, social worker, CE. Tiger Fun Fair - thank you to PIE for making that happen. Upcoming Preparations are underway for MCAs, Imagination Fair - April 18.

C. Business

Business Manager, **M. Reeder** briefed the school board on the School Board Financial Board Report and the WTC LTFM. The reports are included in the official minutes.

D. Community Ed

Community Education Director, **A. Lang** presented Community Ed updates. Participated in K Open House! Attended Franklin Township Annual meeting: increased support by 11%. Parent Aware - We have the highest rating available and are the only school readiness (preschool program in Delano with that rating). High quality early learning experiences and kindergarten-readiness practices. Licensed Early Childhood Educators Leading Instruction as well as continually professional development and continual improvement planning. Instruction is intentionally designed around research-based early learning practices. Research-Based Curriculum and Child Assessments - Creative Curriculum directly aligns with ECIPs (Early Childhood Indicators of Progress) and TSG for assessments. Strong Family Engagement and Kindergarten Transition. Ability to accept Early Learning Scholarships. Touch-A-Truck is scheduled for Saturday, May 2 from 10-noon at Central Park. Free. The helicopter has been confirmed, weather pending. No horns (sensory hour) from 10-11am. Looking for limo, monster truck, farm equipment, race car. Cora Schmitt - 5th in HS Girls for Archery. Swim teachers and lifeguards partnership with Velocity. assessment in Sept/October. Move away from Red Cross and take on the program. CE can have an equally as good program that meets the needs of our community. Updated the registration system-same look and feel until the branding process is complete. Summer registration should open early-mid April.

11. Student School Board Reports

Student School Board Representatives met with the principals at all three schools. NHS students volunteered at Tiger Fun Fair, DIS, and as judges at History Day.

12. Board Reports

A. Wright Tech Center

R. Schaust reported on behalf of the Wright Tech Center. Recent meeting was a meeting to discuss the budget and prepaying bills where they could. Meeting was 24 minutes long.

B. MAWSECO

S. Baker reported on behalf of the MAWSECO board. MAWSECO reviewed 3rd party contratec services and ways to share staff. Reviewed the Step and Trek Program.

13. Old Business

A. None

14. New Business

A. **Approve the extended field trips for Girls Volleyball, Dance Team, Football, Boys Soccer and the 6th grade class trip to Eagle Bluff Environmental Center.** Upon a motion made by Schaust, seconded by Black, the Board of Education approved the extended field trips for Girls Volleyball, Dance Team, Football, Boys Soccer and the 6th-grade class trip to Eagle Bluff Environmental Center. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Approve the Resolution to Limit the Enrollment of Nonresident Pupils during the 2026/2027 school year. Upon a motion made by Moyryla, seconded by Baker, the Board of Education approved the Resolution to Limit the Enrollment of Nonresident Pupils during the 2026/2027 school year.

14. Adjournment

Upon motion made by Gierke, seconded by Depa, with a 7-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke
RECORDER