

FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT # 6004

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, April 29, 2026
2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN

The meeting was called to order by Chair Huttunen at 5 P.M.

Board Members Present: **Chair** - Rod Huttunen-Sebeka, **V. Chair** - Barb Tumberg-Wadena-Deer Creek, **Clerk** - Scott Veronen-Verndale, Russ VanDenheuvel-Bertha-Hewitt, Rodney Thalmann – Henning, Katie Howard-Menahga, Ryan Wright-Staples-Motley, Chuck Wolf- Long Prairie-Grey Eagle.

Superintendents: Lee Westrum- Wadena-Deer Creek.

FED Admin: Eric Weber and Jordan Anderson.

Others: Alicia Wahlin, Ruth Bowman, Kristina Macheel, Robin Rothstein, Jena Osberg, Shawn McAllister, and Mikayla Jorgenson.

Approving the Agenda

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel and SECONDED BY Wolf to approve the agenda as presented. VOTE- U/C

Presentation- Shawn McAllister, Director of Programs and Evaluations, presented to the Board the Family Survey on Coaching Program.

Consent Agenda

MOTIONED BY Tumberg and SECONDED BY Veronen to approve the consent agenda as presented.

April 9, 2026, Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes.

April 8, 2026, Superintendent Advisory Minutes.

Payments 67365-67721

Aksamit Transportation Inc. Agreements for Feb - May '26

26.27 SY Menu Options: Menahga Staples-Motley

Region 5 Reciprocity Agreement for Elevate PD Credits, effective July 1 2026- June 30, 2029.

Renew the 26.27 SY School Nutrition Program Joint Agreement with Staples - Motley ISD 2170 and FED Staples ALC.

Staples ALC 26.27 & Academy & Wadena ALC 26.27 School Calendar

Permission to advertise and hire for the following positions:

- .5 - 1.0 FTE Business Manager Assistant
- 1.0 FTE Speech Language Pathologist (Birth-5 Early Intervention & Evaluations)
- Part-Time School Readiness Paraprofessional for the 26.27 SY
- Part-Time Early Childhood Special Education Paraprofessional for the 26.27 SY

VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann and SECONDED BY Howard to approve the retirement of Tammy Miller, Program Assistant/ECSE Age 3-6 MARSS Reporter, effective June 30, 2026. VOTE- U?C

Informational Items:

Report of Superintendent: The Executive Director search is active - Committee meeting on May 8th to review applications. Personnel Committee continues to work on Para/RVR Driver agreement, with Mediation set for May 7th. Exploring the idea of adding an interior door at Level IV for safety.

ALC/Targeted Services summer programming held its annual spring meeting for leads, with 11 districts in attendance.

Technology will be upgrading our entry door security system at FED Admin Office, SALC, and WALC using grant dollars.

Reviewed Academies Enrollment: White Pine - 8/8; Elm Tree - 12/12 (2 on waiting list), and Leaf River - 22/24.

Reviewed the Finance Reports of the 2026 Quarter 3 Finance Report and presented on the Business Service Plan Update, "Dream Big."

New Business

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel and SECONDED BY Wright to accept and approve the recommendation from the Freshwater Education District Superintendent to sell Director of Special Education and Program Specialist/Assistant Director of Special Education time to PAWN and Up North Learning Center (UNLC) for FY26 and FY27. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg and SECONDED BY Veronen to approve the Summer 2026 Targeted Service and Credit Recovery Extended Time Agreement Template. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann and SECONDED BY Howard to approve the fiscal year 2026 revision III budget and assessment manual. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Wright and SECONDED BY Tumberg to approve the LTFM Levy 10-year plan as presented. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann and SECONDED BY VanDenheuvel to approve the Business Manager Service Agreement with Perham-Dent ISD#549. VOTE: U/C

No motion was brought forward regarding the request for a leave of absence. No formal action was taken.

Adjournment-

MOTIONED BY Wolf and SECONDED BY VanDenheuvel to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Scott Veronen, Clerk
Freshwater Education District