Regular school Board Meeting
Necedah Area School District
Necedah EC-12 – Library Media Center
November 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

1. President Dan Dutscheck called the meeting to order. Present were board members Herried, Horak, McNally, and Ard for the opening of the meeting. Also present Elementary School Principal Jessica McCracken, Middle and High School Principal Mark Becker, and Superintendent Tanya Kotlowski.
2. President Dan Dutscheck began the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Motion by Mike Horak, second by John Ard to approve the agenda, Motion carried.
4. Citizens Forum:
   1 No one came forward.
5. Motion by Matthew McNally, second by John Ard for approval of the minutes for the Regular Board meeting, Monday October 26, 2025. Motion carried.

6. Motion by Roger Herried, seconded by John Ard to approve the following: Vouchers and EFTs - Checks for approval: 85874-85932, 85937-85978
- Wire Transfer/ACH - #84444646; Wire Transfers/ACH - Wire Transfer/ACH 202500XXX 006, 016-017, 032, 048, 068, 083, 102, 106-107, 123, 127, 139-148, 150-165, 167-167, 170-172, 174-178; ending in – Wire Transfer/ACH 252600XXX ending in 042-049, 056-061.

Motion carried.

7. New Business:
   a. **Board Development Board Development - Assessment Update:** The Administration is continuing to innovate practices around how we assess/test students. “Making Learning Visible” fosters deeper understanding, collaboration, and student ownership of learning. When teachers and students make thinking, processes, and progress visible through documentation, reflection, and discussion, learning becomes a shared, dynamic experience. Students gain confidence as they see their growth and understand how they learn best, while teachers can better tailor instruction to meet individual needs. This practice also strengthens the classroom community—encouraging dialogue, curiosity, and respect for diverse perspectives—ultimately transforming classrooms into vibrant learning communities where every learner’s voice and progress matter. Making Learning Visible is a practice that prioritizes “skills” over “content knowledge.” With shared priorities listed in the Necedah Graduate Profile, this strategy amplifies ways in which we teach and monitor skills needed in the real world, beyond the academic standards. This was the topic of our Visioning Session on November 7th, and we have a plan for a 30-Day Challenge for teachers. There was shared energy to continue down this pathway of learning and exploration. A Shift to Student Led Learning is a change in course that puts student responsibility at the forefront of learning. Middle school is embarking on this powerful innovation to more deeply engage students

   b. **Budget Forecasting FY 2027 and Beyond:** Brian Brewer, Baird Financial Advisor, attended the school board meeting and shared information and various scenarios regarding our financial forecast. This

information informed the school board on strategies for addressing a looming $1.4 million shortfall in 2026-27. Tanya met with him on Thursday at the finance workshop. A referendum is necessary to avoid going into a negative balance.

Special board meeting will be December 1st, 2025, to go over the needs to figure out what the future operational referendum for the regular board meeting that will occur December 15th, 2025.

c. **Title 1 Annual Policy (2262.01) Review:** The new law requires an annual review of the Title 1 policy that addresses family engagement.

Motion by Mike Horak, second by Matthew McNally to approve the Policy #2262.01 Parent and Family Engagement in Title 1 Programs. Motion carried.

d. **Continuing Board Member Salary Refusal:** The board members are reminded of their right to refuse salary. The refusal needs to happen before December 1, 2025.

. No action was taken tonight.

e. **Policy Updates - Second Reading:** I will go over a few specifics regarding the changes in policy.

- 0144.5 – Board member behavior, communications, and code of conduct
- 3431 – Employee Leaves
- 4431 – same as 3441
- 4124 – Notice of reasonable assurance of employment
- 4213 – Student supervision and welfare
- 5411 – Third grade promotion and retention: At-Risk Students
- 5461 – Children at-risk of not graduating from high school
- 5505 – Academic Honesty
- 5530 – Student use or possession of intoxicants, drugs, or paraphernalia
- 6110 – Grant Funds
- 6111 – Internal controls
- 6112 – Cash Management of Grants
- 6114 – Cost principles – spending federal funds
- 7440.03 – Small unmanned aircraft systems (Drones)
- 7450 – Property inventory
- 7455 – Accounting system for capital assets
- 7530.02 – Staff and school officials use of personal communication devices
- 7540 – Technology
- 8420 – School Safety and reporting of crime statistics
- 8660 – Transportation by private vehicle for district-sponsored activities or trips
- 9151 – Use of cameras and other recording devices in locker rooms

Motion by Roger Herried, second by John Ard to approve the second reading of the policy updates. Motion carried.

f. **Resignation/Hiring Recommendations:**

i. Resignations:

- None at this time.

ii. Hirings:

- None at this time

iii. Request for Leave:

- None at this time.

- iv. Resignations:

- None at this time.

. Acceptance of Donations/Grants:

1. Saylor Foundation Family Educational Scholarship Trust: Donated $2,000 for ASP and $2,000 for Charter Schools for a total of $4,000.

Motion by Matthew McNally, second by John Ard to approve $4,000 donation for ASP and Charter schools from the Saylor Foundation Family Educational Scholarship Trust. Motion carried.

2. Juneau County Retired Educators: Donated Kleenex, notebooks/folders, socks, and leggings and pants.

Motion by John Ard, second by Matthew McNally to approve the donated Kleenex, notebooks/folders, socks, and leggings and paints from the Juneau County Retirement Educators of student essentials. Motion carried.

3. Veterans Memorial Hall: Donated $1,000 for winter clothing for students.

Motion by John Ard, second by Mike Horak to approve the $1,000 donation for winter clothing for students by the Veterans Memorial Hall. Motion carried.

4. TUMMA-Upper Mississippi MFG Alliance: Donated $200 to pay for food for the CTE Open House.

Motion by Matthew McNally, second by Roger Herried to approve the $200 donation to pay for food for the CTE open house by the TUMMA-Upper Mississippi MFG Alliance. Motion carried.

5. USEMCO: Donated $200 of sheet metal for CTE classes.

Motion by Roger Herried, second by Matthew McNally to approve the $200 donation of sheet metal for CTE classes by USEMCO. Motion carried.

6. Gilbert and Peggy Saylor: Donated $4,000 for welding machines for the CTE classroom.

Motion by John Ard, second by Mike Horak to approve the $4,000 donation from Gilbert and Peggy Saylor for welding machines for the CTE classroom.

7. Coughlin-Sanford Post 277 (veterans): Donated $200 to put towards turkeys for Thanksgiving meals for families in need.

Motion by Matthew McNally, second by John Ard to approve the $200 donation for Thanksgiving turkeys for

families in need by the Coughlin-Sanford Post 277 (veterans). Motion carried.

8. Oakdale Electric Cooperative: Donated $1,000 from their members who participated in Operation Round-Up to pay for clothing and hygiene products for students.

Motion by Roger Herried, second by Matthew McNally to approve the $1,000 donation for clothing and hygiene items for students by Oakdale Electric Cooperative. Motion carried.

9. Island Lake Community: Donated $265 from Island Poker Run to support student essentials.

Motion by John Ard, second by Roger Herried to approve the $265 donation for the purchase of student essentials by Island Lake Community. Motion carried.

Administrative reports:
Jessica McCracken, Grade School Principal Updates
From the Office of the Principal

- Good Vibes committee bringing lots of camaraderie for staff with caramel apple bar and fresh new bulletin boards
- Reading plan meetings are starting (ACT20)
- Watching new legislation mirroring ACT20 for math....
- Family Night was a great success-initial number are 116 students (~40%) 73 different families! ● 4K Breakfast with Buddies with a parent presentation by Wendy Horbinski, who will be hosting some 4K parent support sessions
- PATT Pie in the Face fundraiser upcoming
- Mill Haven Foods Thanksgiving basket donation to 60 (!!!) families
- Frigid 5 donations distributed

From the Classroom

- The local VFW sponsored an essay contest for 4 and 5 grade students again this year. 4 grade: 3 place Zoey Tozer, 2 place Livvy Krause, 1 place Millie Flowers-Hannes. 5 grade: 3 place Josie Blum, 2 place Lydia Apitz, 1 place Stella Schmelzle
- G/T Lego Challenge takes place on Tuesday, great stem activity for 3rd-4 grade students ● Veterans day learning spilled into the assembly with great musical performances, leading of the pledge, essay reading, and pictures for veterans in attendance
- 1 round of assessments done and interventions planned

Upcoming Dates

- Nov. 18: PATT meeting 3:30 pm
- Nov. 26-28: No School-Thanksgiving
- Dec 5: Parent Teacher Conferences

- Dec 16: PATT meeting 3:30
- Dec 22: Elementary Christmas Program 1:15 – 1:45
- Dec 24-Jan 5: Christmas Break

Professional Development

- ELA and Phonics support visits from CESA 5 coach Maggie Trenda
- ELA pilot teachers had a half day virtual training on CKLA by Amplify, which will begin in January and is the 3 and final pilot
- Teachers focused on PLC and the PLC data process, recording their PLC meetings and submitting them for feedback to Casey Watts, our trainer from the summer PD

Mark Becker, Middle & High School Principal

Updates

- Student Leadership Opportunities -
  - Youth Governs - The following students will be attending the Youth Governs Field trip in Mauston.
    - Maria Blum, Brady Cross, Jessica Fandre, Madalynn Hoffmann, Skylar Hudson, Sebastian Jardine, Deziray Klassy, Avery Knutson, Olivia Nelson
  - DECA Emerging Leaders Conference - 20 Students attending
  - Youth Leadership Summit - 14 students attended
  - Grades 7-10 Youth Leadership and Action Planning Workshop - 25 students
- National Honor Society Induction - 6pm - Nov 19, 2025
- MS/HS Christmas Concert - December 6
- Winter Sports season is underway!

Cardinal CallOUTS

- Staff - Efforts to build relationships with students and build connections to enhance student learning.
- Thank you to Mr. Siedschlag, our Food/Nutrition Staff, our Music Department, and our Custodial Staff for their efforts in planning our Veterans' Day Program.
- National Honor Society Blood Drive
- Jesters Club - Cinderella - Great performances!
- 6th Graders participated in Math 24 on November 4 in Tomah.
- Skylar Hudson was not present to report on the Student Council.

Professional Development

- Necedah MS/HS Strategic Plan

Tanya Kotlowski Updates:

- **Panic Buttons in Office:** A panic button was added in both offices for the purpose of direct communication to 911. We are working to update our entire system to ensure all systems are integrated and function as one system.
- **Sitelogiq Warranty Work Update**: We met with Sitelogiq and POB regarding our drainage issues and warranty work. They are sending us a proposal, and we will share it as soon as we receive it.
- **State Convention 2025**: If you want to attend the 2025 State Education Convention this year just let me know.
- **Visioning**: Roger Herried attended our visioning session. I felt good about the participation, and we have considered how to share the great things taking place with the community and families.
- **Family Letter:** We ran a 'test' of our emergency alert system. After realizing how the system communicated, we felt it was necessary to provide another test to ensure a phone call went through. The final test has prepared us for inclement weather or a school crisis that will require a phone call.

Superintendent Events:

- I attended a Baird Forecast Model workshop in WI Dells.

CLOSED SESSION:

a. Convene to closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(a)(f)&(g), WI Stats. For the purpose of considering the personal and academic history of a student, to consider expulsion of a student, to hold and conduct an expulsion hearing, or deliberate concerning said expulsion and to consider oral advice from legal counsel.

Motion by Mike Horak, second by Matthew McNally to go to a closed session. Roll of yes was orally taken (5) yes was received and motion was carried.

Motion: by Matthew McNally, second by John Ard to adjourn from closed session. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Matthew McNally, DC, DCCJP
Clerk