

**Upper West Shore School District #33
Regular Board Meeting of Trustees
February 25, 2025 - 5:30 PM**

1. Open Meeting -

The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Simonson at 5:30 pm. Trustees Ron Tjaden and Arnold Bjork present,, Carolyn Hall, Superintendent, Brycen Ek, Principal and RaSena Christopher, District Clerk, Present. Others present and signed-in, available upon request.

2. Old Business:

- **Approve January 20th Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made by Arnold Bjork to approve the minutes from the January 20th board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ron Tjaden..

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

- **Teacherage Sale Update**

Superintendent Hall updated the Board, currently we do not have anyone interested in purchasing the building. The decision was made to table this item until March meeting.

3. New Business:

- **Correspondence for Trustees - Union Negotiation Request**

The Dayton Teachers union members have requested to open up negotiations of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Board Members acknowledge the request and have asked to correspond with representatives for possible meeting dates to start negotiations.

- **Teachers - No Report:**

No report from the teaching staff.

- **Dayton PTO - No Report:**

No report from the Dayton PTO.

4. Principal Report: Brycen Ek - Monthly Status Update

Principal Ek reported that there is no change in enrollment (43 students) and the students have achieved a 95% attendance rate at this time.

The second window of MAST testing is complete.

There will be a student based artisan/garden sale on May 10th, 2025 in the parking lot. It is Principal Ek's request that all funds from sale go back to the Gardening fund.

The food pantry is currently full and Dayton Elementary has been able to send food home with all students who may be experiencing food insecurity.

The annual ski trip is coming up and the PTO has agreed to cover all of the associated costs.

Archery Tournament:

Principal Ek is requesting permission to travel for the archery tournament on March 18th, 2025. Board Chair Simonson motioned to approve the trip, Trustee Tjaden seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

5. Clerk: RaSena Christopher

- **Cash Report/Expenditure Budget vs Actual/Warrants**

The January 2025 Cash Report, Budget vs Actual reports and Warrants were presented for approval. Trustee Bjork motioned to approve, Trustee Tjaden seconded, motion carried.

- **Spring Count Day**

Spring count day ANB date was presented

6. Superintendent: Carolyn Hall

- **District Clerk Job Description - Update from MTSBA**

An updated job description was presented with new requirements outlined from MTSBA. These changes are being made ahead of time to maintain compliance for future funding purposes as included in the STARS Act.

- **STARS Act with Continued Discussion of Gen. Fund Levy**

The STARS Act calculator was presented to the Board of Trustees and discussion was held on the future salary and operation costs. We will continue to explore this option, but the total it would add to the required budget creates a huge deficit (\$200,000) and leaves no operating monies.

Discussion was held regarding implementing Transportation and a Lunch Program into Dayton to attract new students. Ideas continued for increasing enrollment which drives finances.

Teacher Retention: Trustee Tjaden remarked that a retention bonus of \$10,000.00 for a 2 year sign-on, (\$5,000 given after each school year is complete) would be something he would like considered as an offering to the Certified Staff. Monies would come from the fund set-aside from the Rollins school sale.

The General Fund Levy - amount is set by OPI and is dependent on enrollment and a percentage of the General Fund since it is considered the “over-Base” funding of the General Fund. We know it will be less than we attempted last time because our enrollment is lower. New Preliminary Budgets will be issued that will drive this amount. Resolution was already passed with our Trustee Election resolution to have a levy, now we wait for final wording to add to the Ballot for the County Election Administrator.

7. Trustee & Community Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Principal Ek reported that the teachers of Dayton are interested in participating in the Adopt a Highway program.

8. Dismissal:

Motion was made by Arnold Bjork to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Greg Simonson.

Action: Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.
