



2525 3rd Ave. South
Escanaba, MI 49829
Phone: (906) 786-9300
FAX: (906) 233-9541
www.dsisd.net
Doug Leisenring, Superintendent

**Board of Education - Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Delta-Schoolcraft ISD - Large Conference Room
Escanaba, Michigan 49829 - Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 4:00p.m.**

The DSISD regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp, president, at 4:00p.m.

Roll call showed the following Board Members present: Joan Ecclesine, Mary Simonsen, Shanna Hammond, Michelle Denkins, Dave Bosilovatz and Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp.

Absent: Bob Chaillier.

Also present: Bill and Rachel Wagner, Jim Berthaume, Mark Christoff, Tim Racicot, Trent Bellinger, Lindsey Pepin, Ashley Aaron, Jennifer Day, Mary Lou Lund, Isabelle Fletcher, Celina Sundholm, April Detloff, Tricia Bray, Tracy Bourdeau, Pam Cloutier, Becky Racine, Connie Gutierrez, Stacey Cunningham, Holly Faust, Kristie Latsch, Beau Miller, Andrea Tourangeau and Doug Leisenring.

Motion by Dave Bosilovatz, with support by Michelle Denkins, to approve the consent agenda with moving F4. Closed Session to F5. and adding F4. CTE Budget Transfer and including the approval of the minutes of the April 10, 2025 regular School Board meeting and the April 21 special School Board meeting, the approval of Jennifer Day to the parent advisory committee (PAC) at the Learning Center and the approval of the invoices as presented: General Fund- \$468,068.00, Clear Lake Fund- \$4,991.17, Special Education Fund- \$106,512.95 and Career Tech Fund- \$65,808.06 and Welding Lab Project- \$28,207.27 for a total of \$673,587.45. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays.

No public participation or Board reports.

Tim Racicot, gave Mary Lou Lund the ABCD (Above and Beyond the Call of Duty) award. Mary Lou has been a staple at the Learning center for over 11 years. She rarely misses a day of work, he shared that the kindness she shows in her job makes the Learning Center a better school.

Holly Faust, honored Connie Gutierrez as she wraps up her speech and language pathologist career with the DSISD. Sharing that Connie not only helped young people find their voices, but she served as a mentor for many new SLP's and those lessons will carry on for many years to come.

Trent Bellinger, honored Bill Wagner, who is retiring after 16 years providing career tech education, Bill started with the DSISD as an aide in various classrooms and has spent several years teaching automotive in both

GENERAL, SPECIAL AND CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Manistique and Escanaba. He highlighted the positive attitude Bill always brought to work and that he was revered by the kids over the years.

Doug Leisenring, honored Mark Christoff who is retiring after 24 years as the first technology director to serve the district. He shared how far technology has come and changed over his tenure and thanked him for the great work he did keeping the DSISD ahead of the curve.

Doug Leisenring, took a moment to thank the Board for their support over the years as he prepares to retire from the DSISD. Sharing that they were a pleasure to work with and noting that over the years he has had many great jobs in education that he truly enjoyed, and this job has been his favorite.

The Board honored milestone service year recipients for their dedicated service: 20 years: Connie Gutierrez, Dawn Hanson and Celina Sundholm, 10 years: Tracy Bourdeau, Pam Cloutier, Stacey Cunningham and Doug Leisenring.

No Board reports or public participation.

Trent Bellinger, career-tech education director, shared links of the student scholarship winners, he is working through trying to secure funding with Invest UP for getting water and sewer to the new lots in Manistique. He also gave details on the additional agenda item to purchase a new vehicle for department use.

Holly Faust, special education director, gave an update on the corrective action plan with the state, shared preschool consult increases, noting locals have done a good job referring kids for evaluation, and gave updates on open positions status.

Tim Racicot, Learning Center supervisor, shared that the talent show was a big success, and that the new parking lot was currently going in, which will alleviate the congestion in front with busses.

Kristie Latsch, general education director, gave updates on the Acadience collaboration with Great Start Readiness teachers which is a big step in bridging the expectation gaps between pre-k and kindergarten, she shared updates on the response to Whole Child Classroom year one with the first two districts and the start of a second cohort with 2 more districts, she also shared the response to UFLI registrations for the literacy intervention training, which has 3 times as many attendees as expected.

A written report was shared for Kristy Alimenti, mental health services and systems coordinator, including additional allowances for 31n funds to assist with professional development of staff.

Ashley Aaron, early childhood coordinator, gave an update on Funfest with about 475 people attending and many kids not wanting to leave, she noted it was a big community effort and much thanks goes to partners like the YMCA for making it possible. She also shared there is a big push by early childhood advocates and state level leaders to advocate for Head Start, noting there is no way current options like GSRP can absorb the need.

Mark Christoff, technology director, gave updates on the fiber project, including waiting on a railroad permit and an under highway permit, he introduced Beau Boden, Beau will be taking on the tech director job on July 1st and brings experience from both the school setting and government agency at MichiganWorks.

Doug Leisenring, superintendent, updated the Board on transportation changes.

D. Leisenring, also gave the construction update with the current focus on the AC units and getting the new system installed last year up and running.

The First Reading of NEOLA 39-2 policy was held, he reviewed the recommendations for 2264, and the changes to 2266 just are removing before and after dates.

Motion by Joan Ecclesine, with support by Mary Simonsen, to approve the digital controls project to upgrade the air handling system, the upgrade will save money over time and tie in to the new addition. The project is allocated in the budget for \$140,000. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Motion by Mary Simonsen, with support by Joan Ecclesine, to approve the extended school year (summer programming) postings for special education. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Motion by Joan Ecclesine, with support by Shanna Hammond, to approve the transfer of CTE funds from instruction to building operations to purchase a vehicle mainly used for staff transportation to Manistique. Motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Motion by Joan Ecclesine, with support by Michelle Denkins, to go into closed session for negotiation strategy at 4:50p.m. Motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays.

The meeting returned from closed session at 5:17p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m. by Tammy Wolfe Beauchamp.

Mary Simonsen, Secretary
DSISD Board of Education

Please note the next regular School Board meeting will be on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 4:00p.m at the DSISD main campus.