

MEETING MINUTES

East Marshall Community School District
204 West Center Street
P.O. Box 159
Gilman, Iowa 50106
Ph. (641) 498-7481/Fax (641) 498-2035
Anthony Ryan, Superintendent
tryan@e-marshall.k12.ia.us

Matt Rasmusson	Kim Tarbell	Mark Albertsen	Allison Frost
High School Princ.	M.S. Princ.	Elementary Princ.	Business Manager
(641) 479-2785	(641) 498-7483	(641) 476-3342	(641) 498-7481

TENTATIVE AGENDA

NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

You are hereby notified that the Board of Education of the East Marshall Community School District will conduct a Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar and conduct the Regular School Board meeting at the District Office in Gilman, Iowa on Monday, February 17, 2025 at 6:30pm.
At the meeting, the tentative agenda will be as follows:

The tentative agenda will follow School Board Policy 210.05. As defined in Board Policy 210.05, additions, adjustments, and updates may occur to the posted agenda up to 24 hours prior to the posted date and time of the board meeting.

Attendees

Voting Members

Lisa Meling, Board President
Megan Ruopp, Board Vice President
Andrea Terrones, Board Member
Elizabeth Crandon, Board Member
AnnDee Bloom, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Anthony Ryan, Superintendent
Allison Frost, Business Manager

1. Call Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Academic Calendar to Order and Read the Mission Statement.

Meling called the Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Academic Calendar to Order at 6:33 p.m. Ruopp read the mission statement. Those in attendance are Meling, Ruopp, Bloom, Terrones; Superintendent

Anthony Ryan; Board Secretary/Business Manager Allison Frost. Crandon not present (arrived at 6:35 p.m.)

2. Open Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Academic Calendar to the Public.

Mr. Ryan stated that the Academic calendar presented is consistent with the past several years. January 2, 2026 is slated as PD day (this is a Friday). The board will need to decide if this will be a required in-person PD day or if staff will be allowed to document PD work done over winter break and not need to be in-person on 1/2/26.

3. Adjourn/Close Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Academic Calendar and Move to the Feb. 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Ruopp at 6:40 pm to Adjourn from the Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Academic Calendar and move to the Regular meeting; second by Terrones. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Andrea Terrones

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

4. Call Regular Meeting to Order, Read the Mission Statement, and Approve Agenda

Meling called the Regular meeting to Order at 6:40 pm. Meling read the mission statement. Ruopp made the motion to approve the agenda; second by Terrones. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Andrea Terrones

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

5. Greet Visitors and Hear Citizen Concerns and Comments

One citizen in attendance-no comments or concerns voiced.

6. Staff Presentation(s):

No staff presentation this month.

7. Approve Consent Agenda

Terrones made the motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented, with pulling Item C for comment; second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Andrea Terrones

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

A. Good Things in Schools

a. Bells and Whistles

b. Other

B. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes from 1/20/25 Regular meeting; 1/23/25 Special meeting; and 1/30/25 Work session.

C. Approval of Bills, Invoices, and Financial Statements

Item C was pulled for further review/comment: Terrones noted the amount the district is paying other districts for the open enrolled out students. She stated this is a concerning amount and something that she would like to see decreased by keeping our students in district. Ruopp made the motion to approve Item C; second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

D. Approve donations and fundraisers .

Approval of the following donations:

*Laurel Church \$172.68 for the Kids benefit fund

*Donation from an anonymous donor beginning Feb 2025 through Dec 2025 of \$215 per month to be used by the 4th & 5th grade students who are on Free / Reduced Lunches that would like to have a 2nd entrée. Up to 100 students could have this option per month with this donation.

E. Approval of Request to Discard Obsolete Equipment per Policy 801.01.

No requests were received this month

F. Approval of Renewal of Donovan Group Agreement for 2025-2026.

Approval of the renewal of Donovan Group Agreement for 2025-2026. This contract runs from 3/1/25--2/28/26 and is \$2750/month.

G. Approval of Wandering Creek Golf Course Agreement for Spring/Summer 2025.

Approval of Wandering Creek Golf Course Agreement for the Spring 2025 Golf Season at \$975, with correction of updating the number of home events in the contract.

H. Approval of the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar.

Approval of the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar, as presented. It is noted that 1/2/2026 will be a flexible day, with recorded employee accountability.

I. Approve Heat Pump Replacement in Wood Shop Classroom.

Approval of the quote from B&G HVAC of \$9950 to replace the heat pump in the Wood Shop classroom.

J. Approval of Interfund Transfers.

No Interfund Transfers to approve.

K. Approve Interagency Special Education Agreement(s).

Approval of Special Education Agreements with South Tama CSD and GMG CSD for the 2024-2025 school year.

L. Approvals of Open Enrollment

a. Open Enrollment IN

Approval of the following Open Enrollments In to East Marshall:
2024-2025: Daejon Lennie, 6th grade, from Marshalltown
2025-2026: Luka Krough, KDG, from Marshalltown

b. Open Enrollment OUT

Approval of the following Open Enrollments Out of East Marshall:
2024-2025: Colton Krough, 10th, to MVA
2025-2026: Channing Desisso, 9th, to Iowa Connections Academy; Roland Ruopp, 7th, to Grinnell-Newburg; Cassidy Ruopp, 3rd, to Grinnell-Newburg.

M. Approvals on Resignations, Retirements & Contracts

a. Resignations

Approval of resignation from Brenda Liddle, MS/HS Band Teacher, effective at the end of 2024-2025 contract.

b. Retirements

c. Contracts

Approval of the following contracts:
Anna Engelman as High Math Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. Hired at BA-1, salary TBD.
Matt Bowie as Middle School baseball coach at \$2,456

N. Reports from Principals and Directors

- a. High School, Middle School, and Elementary Principals
- b. Buildings & Grounds Director
- c. Technology Director Report

8. Discussion of FEH Architects and Facilities Planning Updates

A. Discussion JBAD Solutions Compensation Summary for FEMA Application Process.

Tyler Riley with FEH presented the board with some more information regarding the FEMA application process. Mr. Ryan is currently working on the application; there is no cost to the district to submit the application. FEH already has the basic designs for a gym at Laurel from the previously proposed bond; however there may need to be some minor changes made to meet the FEMA standards. Iowa Homeland Security pays for FEH design fees and the grant writing fees. FEMA funds nearly 75% of the actual FEMA shelter; additional items such as carpet, ceilings, etc would have to be covered by the district. Tyler said the district can go for a bond referendum to cover the costs that FEMA does not cover; November 2026 would be the soonest to attempt the bond vote.

B. Discussion on Update of the Expired Boiler Room Fuel Tank in High School Boiler Room.

Tyler also gave an update of the old tank in the boiler room at the high school. He said the area behind the wall is filled with dirt, which is where the moisture is coming from. The tank appears to be dry inside. Tyler does not have cost opinions at this time for the removal of the tank. There are other options to consider that would not require the removal of the tank, but would take care of the moisture issues. In the meantime, it is recommended to move forward with removing the crumbling wall in the boiler room due to it being a safety concern. Tyler will get some estimates for the removal of the wall.

9. Approval of Agreement with Search Consulting Firm for Superintendent Position.

Frost notified the board that she had received two of the three requests for proposals that were sent. After reviewing the proposals, Ruopp made the motion to approve Grundmeyer Leader Services, second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

10. Discussion of Media Recording of Board Meetings.

Kole Knipfel, Technology Director, was present to give the board information and answer questions

regarding their request to record board meetings. After several options were presented, the board decided they are leaning more towards using an "Owl" and then uploading the recording to Zoom or YouTube. Kole will get things ready to do a trial run of recording and uploading so that the board can see what this looks like and how it works.

11. Approval of Final Public Hearing Date for Annual Budget First Public Hearing.

Mr. Ryan advised that this is a two-hearing process, similar to last year. The earliest date the first hearing can be is March 20th. The March regular board meeting is scheduled for March 17th. Mr. Ryan advised that we could schedule a separate meeting for the budget hearing, or we could re-schedule the regular meeting and have both on the same date. After discussion, the board decided to change the Regular meeting date to March 25th and will add the Public Hearing #1 to this date as well. Public Hearing #2 will take place on April 21st. Ruopp made the motion to approve the Regular meeting date changing from March 17th to March 25th and to have the Public Meeting held on March 25th; second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

12. Approval of Reauthorization of Agreement with ISEBA Insurance for the 2025-2026 School Year (Health).

Renewal information was received late last week. Health insurance has a 4.49% increase and dental has a 2% increase for the 2025-2026 year; all other benefits did not have any increase or change in premiums. Frost presented the board with comparison numbers of current year premiums and credits vs proposed numbers for next year. The board requests that more information is requested regarding other plan options, such as Employee + Spouse, Employee + Child(ren), etc. Frost will contact ISEBA to get this information and will have it ready for the next meeting. Terrones made the motion to Table this topic; second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Andrea Terrones

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

13. Approval of Reauthorization of the Waterbeck Parking Lot Agreement.

Mr. Ryan stated that he is waiting on a return call from Mr. Waterbeck regarding the contract for 2025-2026. The board recommended to go ahead and sign and send the contract to Waterbeck. Motion by Crandon to approve the contract at \$8500; second by Terrones. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: Andrea Terrones

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes
Megan Ruopp - Yes
Andrea Terrones - Yes
Elizabeth Crandon - Yes
AnnDee Bloom - Yes

14. Board Professional Development Dialogue/Activity.

The board discussed Chapter 9 of The School Board Member's Guidebook.

15. Superintendent Report.

Mr. Ryan discussed the following items with the board:

*Admin team met with the AEA leadership staff to discuss services for 2025-2026. AEA is now a "fee for service" model. We would like to continue the sharing agreements for our curriculum director and special education director, and potentially increase the special education director by another 20%.

*Winter weather is here and we have canceled one day of instruction so far due to the weather.

*Legislation has some unique bills to work through. One of the bills is in regard to the "first day to start the school year"

*State SSA appears to stay around 2% or slightly above. This does not keep up with the cost of inflation.

*Reminder to the board that if they wish to pursue another bond vote this November, it is best to get moving on the next steps now.

*District wrestling is this weekend in Webster City. Girls Basketball is Saturday evening in Lisbon.

16. Adjourn

At 8:33 pm, Ruopp made the motion to Adjourn; second by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes