

**Deerfield Community School District
300 Simonson Boulevard
Deerfield, WI 53531**

**Board of Education
Regular Meeting
District Boardroom
January 19, 2026 6:00 p.m.**

BOE Present: Fischer, Frame, Hart, Kessenich, Mack, Salkowski, Sigurslid
BOE Absent: No one absent

Administration Present: Jensen, Kamrath, McDonough, Treuden
Administration Absent: Frey, Peachey

Others Present: Kendall LaChance, Jamae Wierzba, John Doyle, Samantha White, Mitchell Schroepfer,
Theresa Schuster

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by President, Lisa Sigurslid at 6:00 p.m. as duly posted under s.s. 19.84(1)(2)(c).

2. Call of Roll:

Present: Fischer, Frame, Hart, Kessenich, Mack, Salkowski, Sigurslid

3. Proof of Posting:

Michelle Jensen presented proof of posting of meeting agenda on January 15, 2026 at the village hall, district buildings, and the district website.

4. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Hart/Frame to adopt the January 19, 2026 agenda as posted. Carried 7-0.

5. Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Fischer/Kessenich to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2025 regular meeting.
Carried 7-0.

6. Financial Report and Approval of Current Expenditures:

Doreen Treuden presented financial statements for November, noting total receipts of \$219,314.97 and vouchers of \$137,090.71. Motion by Fischer/Salkowski to approve the financial reports for November. A roll call vote is required to approve the current expenditures. All ayes.

7. Public Input: Samantha White, agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Stoughton High School, spoke in support of adding a full time agriculture teaching position and launching an agricultural education program at Deerfield Middle/High School.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Student School Board Representative Report: Kendall LaChance shared that there will be a blood drive at the middle/high school on February 11 and some of the members will be helping with the Kids Heart Challenge event at the elementary school in February.

B. Legislative Report: No report.

C. Policy and Personnel Committee Report: No report.

D. Health and Wellness Committee Report: It was reported that online morning check-ins for middle school students will began after winter break as well as an anxiety group. Seventh grade students learned CPR and had a pig lung demonstration in health class. The district will be transitioning to Bound, a new activities and facility management software. Health resources for the holiday season were shared with staff. A senior project is focusing on mental and emotional health with locker signs and ‘take what you need’ slips hung around the school.

E. Joint Interactive Committee Report: No report.

9. NEW BUSINESS-ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Donations to the District: Appreciation was given to recent donors for their support of the district: Gail Polzin, for her donation of \$150 to TRUE ID; the music boosters, for its donation of \$392.93 towards the purchase of a container to store electronics; Josh and Cassie Galbraith, for their donation of \$1,800 to the elementary school for lunch accounts, and Knights of Columbus, Cambridge chapter, for its donation of \$400 to the Deerfield Education Support Professionals.

B. District Grants Update: No report.

C. Building Project Update: Michelle Jensen shared progress notes: deconstruction in the former student services and building and grounds areas is taking place as well as framing work in the new Family & Consumer Sciences classroom. Nickles Electric is working on restoring solar power to the building. The freezer and refrigerator units have been installed in the food service kitchen and exterior siding is complete.

D. Announcement of School Board Candidates: Michelle Jensen announced the two candidates for the April 7, 2026 election are Anne Kessenich and Shelley Mack.

E. Overnight Trip Request for Academic Decathlon State Competition in Green Bay February 26-27, 2026: Michelle Jensen shared information about the trip, offering congratulations to the team on this achievement. Motion by Hart/Fischer to approve the overnight trip request for academic decathlon to the state competition in Green Bay February 26-27, 2026 as presented. Carried 7-0.

F. High School Course Book for 2026-27: Proposals and Revisions: Michelle Jensen reviewed the new course proposals, noting current course descriptions within departments are currently undergoing revisions to reflect accurate information. Motion by Kessenich/Salkowski to approve the high school course book for 2026-27 as presented. Carried 7-0.

G. Middle School Calendar End Date for 2026: Michelle Jensen provided background information based on the building contractor’s timeline for phase three of the project. A request was presented to change the end date for middle school students from May 27 to May 22, 2026. This will not impact required instructional minutes as set by the Department of Public Instruction. Motion by Frame/Mack to approve the end date of May 22, 2026 for middle school students. Carried 7-0.

H. School Calendar for 2026-27: Michelle Jensen presented the school calendar. Motion by Kessenich/Hart to adopt the 2026-27 school calendar as presented with a start date of September 8 and end date of June 4. Carried 7-0.

I. Summer School Dates for 2027: Melinda Kamrath presented the proposed dates: June 14-25 for session 1 and June 28-July 9 for session 2, noting the schedule of Monday-Friday from 8:00-noon. Motion by Fischer/Mack to approve the summer school dates for 2027 as presented. Carried 7-0.

J. Open Enrollment Availability for 2026-27: Michelle Jensen presented the recommendation. Motion by Frame/Kessenich to approve the open enrollment availability for 2026-27 as presented. Carried 7-0.

K. Middle School Course Configuration for 2026-27: Michelle Jensen shared background information and proposed configuration as plans are made for sixth grade to join the middle school in the fall. Motion by Kessenich/Mack to approve the middle school course configuration for 2026-27 as presented. Carried 6-0, Salkowski abstained.

L. Staffing Proposal for 2026-27: Michelle Jensen shared the proposal which includes moving sixth grade to the middle school, the reduction of one middle school core subject teacher due to reduced enrollment and course configuration, and the addition of a middle/high school agriculture teacher. Motion by Mack/Fischer to approve the staffing proposal for 2026-27 as presented. Carried 7-0.

M. Staffing Resignation(s) including but not limited to: No resignations.

N. Staffing Recommendation(s) including but not limited to: No recommendations.

O. Support Staff Employment Report: Michelle Jensen announced the hiring of Madalynn Smith as the high school spring play assistant director.

10. School Board President's Report: No report.

11. Administrative Reports:

Michelle Jensen: Superintendent Jensen announced that she will be attending the State Education convention in Milwaukee this week. She shared that there have been several Deerfield alumni that have walked through the new spaces and the feedback has been extremely positive with excitement for what the final project will look like in the fall.

Karen Frey: No report.

Melinda Kamrath: Principal Kamrath shared information about the upcoming information sessions for incoming 4K and 5K families. Families should sign up online for parent/teacher conferences which are set for February 5 and 12. The theme for this trimester is being respectful and responsible. The students will welcome the UW-Whitewater wheelchair basketball team and practice what they are learning. Thanks to the PTO for sponsoring this great event.

Shannon McDonough: Principal McDonough shared that the middle school forensics team had their first competition on January 5 and represented Deerfield with pride. The high school academic decathlon team has earned its right to compete in the state competition later in February. First semester high school final exams took place on January 15-16.

Laura Peachey: No report.

Doreen Treuden: No report.

12. Schedule Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings were scheduled.

13. Adjournment: Motion by Mack/Fischer to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Carried 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelley Mack
Board Clerk