

**UNADOPTED MINUTES
OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mission: "To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel."
Vision: "To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future."

President Margaret Hansen called the 445th special meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education to order at 4:01 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2026, District Office Katima Room, 744 Third Avenue, Kotzebue, Alaska.

Board Members present were:

Tillie Ticket
Carol Schaeffer
Marie Greene
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Alice Adams
Lawrence Jones
Erica Nelson
Margaret Hansen
Alice Melton-Barr

Board Members absent and excused were Millie Hawley and Shannon Melton.

A quorum was present.

Observed.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff and Guests present: Terri Walker, Superintendent; Jeff Alexander, Assistant Superintendent; James Stewart, Director of Human Resources; Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services; Natalie Dickie, Director of Administrative Services; Mark Moore, Director of Property Services; Joy Cogburn-Smith, Director of State and Federal Programs; Joe Groves, Director of Alaska Technical Center; Sable Marandi, Homeschool Principal; Paulette Schuerch, Director of Inupiaq Programs; David Westenhover, Principal of Buckland; Jenny Paiyanan, Naomi Whitiker, Terri Cooper, Margaret Stalker, McCenna Bauers, Kathy Hansen, Terri Cooper, Melissa Winnifred, Richard Monroe, Ta'Shona Pernel-Hayes, Lisa Ungry

Margaret Hansen motioned that the Board go into an executive session at 4:12 p.m.; Seconded by Erica Nelson. Unanimously approved. The Board reconvened from executive session at 5:06 p.m.

Marie Greene motioned to adopt the consent agenda. Carol Schaeffer seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

Margaret Hansen motioned that memo 26-157 be open for discussion, Marie Greene seconded. Motion passed. Margaret elaborated on local anticipated funds to the FY27 General Operating Budget. Superintendent Walker explained the preliminary budget adjustments made due to the anticipated revenue; including adding meals back into the budget. Should additional funds be contributed, the Board stated that student activities will be at the top of the list. Margaret stated the different steps the Board has taken to reduce the budget in FY26 through FY27 and the continued Lobbying efforts by the Board. Marie Greene concurs with President Hansen with all that has been shared and expressed the appreciation of not only the Board in stepping up with what needed to be done, including Superintendent Walker and her team who volunteered to make some changes that helped reaching a balanced budget. Marie further states that it's critical to hear from the parents and people interested in providing education to our students. She thanks President Hansen for her dedication and leadership on behalf of the District. Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus agrees and thanks the people that showed up to the meeting and states the importance of hearing from them. No further comments were made.

The School Board shall establish and maintain a balanced budget. The FY27 Operating Fund Budget is being presented for adoption. Proposed actions to balance the budget were presented and discussed at the budget work session on March 23, 2026. The Board of Education and Superintendent created the FY27 Operating Fund Budget based off estimated increases to expenditures and decrease to revenues.

Presented to you for adoption is the FY27 Operating Fund Budget, which includes:

- Revenue Plan of \$73,049,090
- Expenditure Plan of \$72,046,090
- Transfer In from Investment Account in the amount of \$3,000,000
- Transfers Out to Other Funds in the amount of \$1,753,000

The FY27 Operating Budget includes the following:

- Increase targeted student:teacher ratio

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF/GUESTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MEMO 26-157 FY 27 GENERAL
OPERATING BUDGET

- Reduce Student Activities
- Reduce Property Services budget
- Reduce DO Administrator contracts
- Reduce Board of Education budget

Further reductions may be needed if revenue and fund balance actuals differ from projections
The District Administration will continue to look for revenue sources to pay for these important programs.

The next regular meeting of the NWABSD Board of Education will be held June 2, 2026, via Microsoft Teams with time at 4:00 p.m.

Marie Greene motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alice Melton-Barr. Motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Tillie Ticket, Secretary

Kristen Walker, Recording Secretary

DATE/TIME OF NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

ADJOURNMENT