

**Minutes of the Regular/Organizational Meeting
Joint Powers Board
January 28, 2026**



**NORTHWEST SUBURBAN
INTEGRATION SCHOOL DISTRICT**
A Global Community Learning and Growing Together

Call to Order

Chair Gordee called the regular/organizational meeting of the Joint Powers Board to order at 6:15 PM on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. The meeting was held in person with the following members present: Kacy Deschene, Rich Zeck, Nikki Auna, Sarah Hamlin, Tanya Prince, Amanda Lawrence, Eric Gordee, and ex-officio Heather Lyke. Also in attendance: Kim Hiel, Osseo Area Superintendent; Chelcie Johnson, NWSISD; and Aaron Nielsen, LB Carlson auditor.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Lawrence, seconded by Deschene, to approve the agenda as presented for January 28, 2026. Upon roll call, all voted in favor, none voted against. Motion carried.

Board Representation

- Welcome new board members: Nikki Auna, Fridley; and Sarah Hamlin, ISD 728.
- The board recognized former board members Avonna Starck (Fridley) and Mindy Freiberg (ISD 728) with sincere thanks and appreciation for their service and time dedicated to the NWSISD collaborative.

2026 Organizational Action Approvals

Motion by Gordee, seconded by Deschene, to strike the word “virtually” in NWSISD organizational item #8. Upon roll call, all voted in favor.

Motion by Lawrence, seconded by Auna, to approve the NWSISD organizational items #1-3 and #5-8. Upon roll call, all voted in favor.

Motion by Gordee, seconded by Prince, to approve the NWSISD organization item #4. Upon roll call, Zeck, Lawrence, Auna, Hamlin, Prince, and Gordee voted in favor, Deschene abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Officer Appointments

- **Chair:** Rich Zeck
- **Vice Chair:** Tanya Prince
- **Treasurer:** Nikki Auna
- **Clerk:** Amanda Lawrence

Joint Working Group Appointments: Board members Rich Zeck and Tanya Prince will serve on the committee with Superintendents to be determined. This committee will meet on an as-needed basis.

Organizational Items

- Designation of Official Newspaper - Sun Post
- Designation of Official Depositories for District Funds - MSDLAF
- Authorization of Payments for Goods and Services in Advance of Board Approval
- Authorization of Procedures for the Investment of Excess Cash
- Authorization Relating to Negotiable Safekeeping
- Designation of Identified Official with Authority for the MDE External User Recertification
- Adoption of 2025 Board Meeting Dates

NWSISD Programs and Other Reports

1. **NWSISD Financial Audit:** Aaron J. Nielsen, Principal with LB Carlson, presented the audit report and findings for FY 2024-25. LB Carlson completed our regular NWSISD financial audit this year. Nielsen reported it was a great audit and thanked NWSISD staff for their assistance.
2. **NWSISD Financial Report:** Lyke presented the monthly financial report, making note NWS is right on track for their 2025-26 budget.
3. **Executive Director Report:** Lyke provided a written report giving details on magnet schools, college & career readiness, family & community engagement, and professional development.
4. **NWSISD Magnet Schools Update:** Lyke presented a report on the number of assignments made during the first lottery. Notification letters have been completed and communicated to families.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Gordee, seconded by Prince, to approve the Consent Agenda of routine action items including: Check register for November – December 2025; Minutes from the regular Joint Powers Board meeting, held on November 19, 2025; and annual review policies series. Upon roll call, all voted in favor, none voted against. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Prince, seconded by Auna, to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM.

Amanda Lawrence
Board Clerk