

**MULLEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**January 12, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Mullen School Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Liza Simonson She announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall. Board members in attendance were **Present:** Mike French, Dane Peterson, Casey Phillips, Liza Simonson, Michael Stichka, Patrick Wright. Also present were 3 administrators, \_\_ staff, \_\_ students, and \_\_ patrons

Motion by Patrick Wright, second by Michael Stichka to approve to keep the same officers with Liza Simonson- President, Dane Peterson-Vice President, Mike French-Secretary, and Casey Phillips- Treasurer. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Mike French, second by Casey Phillips to approve the 2026 Board of Education Committees as presented. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Mike French, second by Dane Peterson to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Mike French, second by Patrick Wright to approve payment to JEO consulting group for the schematic design of the gym locker room/infill project using the Special Building Fund. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Dane Peterson, second by Michael Stichka to approve payment to Creative Sites for the Preschool Playground Structure using General Fund and NDE State Preschool Grant Funding. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Casey Phillips, second by Mike French to approve the claim from the Hooker County Tribune for \$91.44. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: Abstain (With Conflict), Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Motion by Casey Phillips, second by Mike French to Approval of the following January claims: Payroll \$349,945.31, General Fund \$132,219.07, Lunch Fund \$4,387.04, Special Building Fund \$22,950.00, and December Activity Fund \$21,946.60. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Dane Peterson, second by Mike French to reaffirm 2001 Role of the Board of Education. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Dane Peterson, second by Patrick Wright to reaffirm policy 2006 Complaint Procedure. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Dane Peterson, second by Michael Stichka to reaffirm Policy 2012 Board Code of Ethics. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Casey Phillips, second by Dane Peterson to reaffirm Policy 3035 Chain of Command. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Casey Phillips, second by Dane Peterson to approve the 2026 Mullen Board of Education Calendar. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Patrick Wright, second by Casey Phillips to approve Dayspring Bank in Mullen the designated depository bank for Mullen Public Schools for the year 2026. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

Motion by Casey Phillips, second by Michael Stichka to approve the Hooker County Tribune as publication newspaper for Mullen Public Schools for the year 2026. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: Abstain (With Conflict), Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Motion by Dane Peterson, second by Patrick Wright to approve KSB School Law as legal representation for Mullen Public Schools for the year 2026. Motion carried.

Casey Phillips: yes, Dane Peterson: yes, Liza Simonson: yes, Michael Stichka: yes, Mike French: yes, Patrick Wright: yes

yes: 6, no: 0

As soon as the next month's meeting notice is posted on the Mullen Public Schools website, an agenda will be available for public inspection on both the school website and on the SPARQ meetings site.

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Chris Kuncl, Recording Secretary