

MINUTES  
DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, January 26, 2026

The Douglas School District No. 51-1 Board of Education held a Regular meeting on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 5:00 PM in the library conference room at Vandenberg Elementary School, Box Elder, South Dakota. President Tanya Gray presided. Those present were:

Ben Frerichs: Present, Tanya Gray: Present, Amy McGovern: Absent, Chris Misselt: Present, Tonya Welch: Present. Paul Koecher: Associate Member, present; Jo Anne Mulholland: Alternate Associate Member, present. Amy McGovern: Present. Paul Koecher: Associate Member, present; Jo Anne Mulholland: Alternate Associate Member, present.

All actions in these Minutes were by unanimous vote unless otherwise stated.

President Tanya Gray called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Executive Director of Operational Support Services Tim Kusters introduced the new Buildings and Grounds Coordinator, Hunter Pettit.

There was nothing for Public Forum.

Approved Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026.

Approved Personnel Action for January 26, 2026. (Attachment)

Approved December Financial Reports. (Attachment)

Approved Accounts Payable Report. (Attachment)

Approved capital outlay request in the amount of \$19,394.00 to repair the high school roof and shed damaged by hail.

There were no conflicts disclosed as defined in SDCL 3-23.

**Superintendent Items:**

Superintendent Kevin Case shared an update on the Portrait of a Graduate (POG) work. The district gathered stakeholder feedback through in-person and virtual sessions to define the skills, characteristics, and measures of success for Douglas School District graduates. Themes

from this input are being reviewed by the Portrait of a Graduate Steering Committee, with a final version planned for board presentation in spring 2026.

Superintendent Kevin Case gave an update on the federal funding for the Douglas Elementary School #1. The final THUD appropriations package for FY26 has currently been passed by the House and is awaiting approval from the Senate, which will hopefully happen the week of January 26. This is the bill that includes the \$42 million request to support construction of a new elementary school.

### **Fiscal Resources Items:**

Business Manager Trista Olney gave a presentation explaining the 2026 budget. It covered the different funds and revenue sources, as well as, how local, state and federal funding works. Federal impact aid funding which Douglas receives due to part of the district being Ellsworth Air Force Base provides a major part of the budget and is dependent on military-connected student enrollment.

### **Reports:**

Committee Reports from Board Members and Comments from Associate Board Members.

Tonya Welch attended the Curriculum Coordinating Council and Audit Committee meetings today. Reports were covered by others tonight.

Ben Frerichs stated he will be attending the Wellness Committee on Wednesday.

Amy McGovern attended the Box Elder Area Chamber of Commerce meeting last week and stated the Ball for Kids is an upcoming event.

Tanya Gray has submitted her petition for reelection to the ASBSD Board of Directors. She also attended the Black Hills Area Community Foundation committee meeting for affordable housing for Box Elder.

President Tanya Gray called the Board out of executive session at 6:44 p.m.

No action taken.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tanya Gray, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trista Olney, Business Manager

\_\_\_\_\_ Initials

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_.