

DALLAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #327  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2025  
ROOM 5

The meeting was called to order at 6:57 p.m.

Members answering roll were:

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Present
Bob Castillo	Present	Cathie Smith	Present
Scott Faul	Absent	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Present		

Also present were: Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Finch, Mrs. Ryner, Mrs Woolson, Ellen May, Claudia Webster, and Kurt Webster.

A moment of silence was observed.

Sarah Schaefer thanked the board for voting Cross Country in. Mrs. Tucker announced that 7<sup>th</sup> & 8th grade girls sectionals and state are looking good. The volleyball number are also looking awesome.

The consent agenda was presented to the board for review. A motion was made by Ferguson, seconded by Schaefer, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Absent	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 4 Yeas, 3 Absent

The bills were presented to the Board for payment. A motion was made by Schaefer, seconded by Smith, to pay the bills as presented (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Absent	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 4 Yeas, 3 Absent

The Board Member code of conduct rule #8 was read from the IASB Code of Conduct Principles.

A motion was made by Schaefer, seconded by Smith, to approve the FY 2025 Annual Financial Report as presented (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea

Scott Faul	Absent	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 4 Yeas, 3 Absent

Scott Faul arrived to the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

A copy of the Preliminary Tax Levy was provided to the board. A motion was made by Ferguson, seconded by Smith, to approve the FY 2026 Preliminary Tax Levy as presented (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

There was no need to set a tax levy hearing.

Mrs. Tucker went over the Illinois State Report card with the board.

Mrs. Tucker gave a presentation on Evidence Base Funding.

The board agreed to all the bullet points on when to contact the District Lawyer.

When to contact school district lawyers:

- Disputes and litigation:
  - Formal complaints filed against the district.
  - Special education due process hearings, mediation requests, or state complaints.
  - Disciplinary actions, especially those involving potential expulsion or suspension, where a student has constitutional rights to due process.
- Compliance and risk management:
  - Questions regarding compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.
  - Handling employee grievances, potential employee misconduct, or wrongful termination claims.
  - Issues with union negotiations or contract disputes.
- Finance and policy:
  - Complex financial transactions, including bond referendums, tax levy processes, and interfund loans.
  - Developing or updating school policies that may have legal implications.
- Special circumstances:
  - Any situation where the district could face significant legal or financial liability, such as serious student injury or emotional distress claims.
  - Situations where administrators have received conflicting information from different sources.

In emergencies, the administrator will contact without board directive only when information is needed immediately to mitigate risk to the district

In all other situations, the Administrator will contact the lawyer after consultation and direction from the board president. If the board president is unavailable or incapacitated, the administrator will consult and receive direction from the board vice president.

A motion was made by Schaefer, seconded by Faul, to approve Press Plus Policy Issue #120 as amended. The board does not want to include the instruction on the Irish Famine in the curriculum ( Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Faul, to authorize the school maintenance project grant application with reserved local funds to meet the local match requirement of a maximum of \$50,000 (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

The board had a discussion on the changes to the Dismissal Procedures.

We made an immediate change after the last board meeting that all parents must call the school by noon if they are going to be picking their child up from school. That has been working great.

1. Parents will identify one procedure for dismissal to be used every day. For example, a parent might decide they will always pick their child up. Another parent might decide their child always rides the bus home. Or, a parent might decide the child will go by bus to dad's house every Friday and mom's house Monday-Thursday. For consistency, only one plan or procedure for dismissal will be allowed for each child.
2. Parents who need to make alternative plans for the end of the day will do so as follows for bus riders.
  - a) Parents will make arrangements for changes when their child is dropped off at the bus stop. Ex. the child needs to go to grandma's house. So, grandma picks the child up from the bus stop and escorts or transports the child to her house.
  - b) Parents may pick children up from school must call the school before noon.

A motion was made by Schaefer, seconded by Faul, to approve the dismissal policy as presented (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea

Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Faul, to enter the Closed Meeting at 8:12 p.m. to discuss items per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(10) (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ferguson, to leave closed meeting and return to open meeting on November 19, 2025 at 9:21 p.m. (Voice)

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

A motion was made by Schaefer, seconded by Faul, to approve the Personnel Report as amended (Roll Call).

Phillip Butler	Absent	Sarah Schaefer	Yea
Bob Castillo	Yea	Cathie Smith	Yea
Scott Faul	Yea	Lee Wibbell	Absent
Erica Ferguson	Yea		

Motion carried 5 Yeas, 2 Absent

A motion was made by Faul, seconded by Schaefer, to adjourn at 9:22 p.m. (voice).

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held December 18, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

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Board President, Bob Castillo

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Board Secretary, Erica Ferguson

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_