

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
ELKHART LAKE-GLENBEULAH SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUGUST 17, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah was called to order by the president at 6:00pm on Monday, August 17, 2026.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present:

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| ➤ Mike Meeusen | ➤ Sarah Rudnick |
| ➤ Sarah Tegen | ➤ Amanda Gebert |
| ➤ Erica Spatz | ➤ Chad Kraus |
| ➤ Grant Stecker | ➤ District Administrator, Dr. Adam Englebretson |

Also in attendance were:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Kayla Groh-Bardon | ➤ Alicia Schwinn |
| ➤ Ryan Faris | ➤ Tim Wiencek |
| ➤ Chris Petrie | ➤ Sarah Hall |

Mrs. Rudnick offered a motion to approve the agenda, moving item 8-C-1 after item 4, as the official order of business. Mrs. Gebert seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

Mrs. Spatz offered a motion to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2026 Board meeting. Mr. Kraus seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

Agenda item 8-C-1 -

Loan Defeasance: Tim Wiencek from Baird attended the meeting to provide information on a loan defeasance. When the last loan for the building project was sold, it sold above the bond cost as a bid premium. A bid premium is the difference in the bond rate and the current market rate yield. The winning bidder is giving us the bid premium, which can only be used to offset the loan. The difference gives us an opportunity to defease a portion of the loan to keep the tax levy rate constant, and also pay less interest over time. Mrs. Rudnick made a motion to defease a portion of the District's loan for the 2027 school debt payments. Mrs. Gebert seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report and voucher review were presented showing:
As of July 1, 2026 -

Cash balance on 7/1/26	\$5,423,074.54
July receipts	\$ 247,372.10
Interest received	\$ 17,005.72
July disbursements	<u>\$ 877,370.03</u>
Cash balance on 7/31/26	\$5,687,452.36

Cash balance on 7/1/26 comprised of:

Local Government Investment Pool account #1 (general)	\$4,573,381.73
Account #2 (technology)	\$ 263,820.87
Account #3 (HVAC)	\$ 64,483.72
General fund checking account	<u>(\$ 91,603.99)</u>
Total	\$4,810,082.33

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Mrs. Spatz offered a motion to approve the monthly financial report and voucher review. Mrs. Tegen seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

Under donation recognition and acceptance, Dr. Englebretson noted the following:

- Ann Buechel-Haack and Tim Haack: \$500 – Band
- ElkhartCares: \$253.50 – 4K Classroom
- Jeanette and John Goeden: \$1,000 – Football

Mr. Kraus offered a motion to accept the donations as presented and thanked the donors for their generosity. Mr. Stecker seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

GUEST CORRESPONDENCE

Public Comment: None

Written Comment: None

SCHOOL REPORTS

The administrative team of Mr. Faris, Mr. Petrie and Mrs. Schwinn reviewed and tracked attendance, comparing the 2025 - 2026 attendance data to the past five years. Being absent impacts learning and the team is finding that communication (letters, phone calls, conversations) with students and parents is helping to get students to school. Seeing attendance trends early, getting students to feel engaged and continual communication is helping ELG chart higher than the state attendance average.

Mrs. Schwinn's 4K - 4th grade activities report discussed a meeting with Mental Health of America Lakeshore to plan a Professional Development Day on August 27. She also shared the highlights from the Resilient Classroom Project School Wide Impact Report. First, students were more engaged in learning. The percentage of students who reported paying attention to their teacher increased from 83% to 91%, representing the largest gain during the implementation. Next, students strengthened emotional regulation skills. More students reported knowing what to do when they felt mad or sad and were more likely to pause before reacting to situations, demonstrating growth in self-regulation and decision making. Finally, students built healthier self-beliefs. Three out of four students reported thinking kind thoughts about themselves, reinforcing the importance of positive self-talk as part of everyday learning. A Resorter Resilience committee, with sub-committees, is being planned for the 26-27 school year.

Mr. Petrie's grade 5 - 8 activities report looked at academic achievement and growth. Summer professional development planning including curricular review and adoption of high school ELA, support for grades 5-8 math and algebra and curriculum implementation and coaching for Arts & Letters for grades 6-8 will help to improve academic outcomes. The District had 171 students participate in Summer School in grades 4K - 7 and 211 students in grades 4K -12. Our Middle School Student Government made and sold balloon animals at Downtown Night. The District Leadership Team's Professional Development Focus this year is Resiliency and Regulation, being proactive and having the tools needed to succeed.

Mr. Faris' grade 9 - 12 activities report started by sharing last school year's AP Biology scores. He stated that several groups and a variety of students volunteered their time for Downtown Night. Resorter Connection Day was August 12, with a theme of You vs You. Approximately 45-50 students and staff in attendance. Guest speaker, Shane Sparks, spoke to students about teamwork and leadership. Mr. Faris shared an update on Big East Passes and Hudl for the 26-27 school year.

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NEW BUSINESS

The ***Seclusion and Restraint Annual Report***, with incidents from the 2025 - 2026 school year, was presented to the Board.

Facility Planning Review | Update: Dr. Englebretson reviewed the discussions, progress on the plans, and what steps occur next while facility planning with PRA and Jos. Schmitt Construction at Core team meeting(s). Designs for the Elementary School continue to be worked on. Bids are being prepared to go out in October. The project continues to be on budget and on time. Dr. Englebretson will look into scheduling a tour for the Board prior to our September meeting.

The ***District At-Risk Student Plan***, which helps students who are at risk of not graduating high school, will be reviewed in September. The District's plan is for elementary, middle and high school students.

The WASB fall regional meeting, workshops and state convention schedule was shared with the Board. A ***WASB delegate*** needs to be appointed for the 26-27 school year. Mrs. Rudnick made a motion to appoint Chad Kraus as the Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District's WASB delegate and Legislative Liaison. Mrs. Tegen seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

NEOLA recommends updating ***NEOLA Policy Updates: ACT 89 (first reading)*** to remain current with legal language and practices. Policies sent to School Board members. Mrs. Tegen made a motion to approve the updated policy changes as recommended by Neola. Mrs. Rudnick seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

Mrs. Spatz offered a motion to approve the ***staffing hire*** as presented:

- Kelly Thill: Child Care Director
- Tracy Buchanan: Child Care Teacher

Mrs. Gebert seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

Mrs. Rudnick will attend the August 24 in-service day and welcome staff.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mrs. Gebert made a motion to adjourn at approximately 6:50pm. Mrs. Spatz seconded the motion. Motion passed, 7 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Hassinger
Secretary of the Meeting