School District of Rhinelander - Board of Education
Operations and Strategic Planning Committee
Monday, March 9, 2026

Minutes

The Operations & Strategic Planning Committee meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2026, in the Professional Development Center, Rhinelander High School, 665 Coolidge Ave., Rhinelander, WI.

Mike Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present:	Mike Roberts, Merlin Van Buren, and Ronald Lueneburg
Committee Members Absent:	None

Others present at this meeting were Superintendent, Eric Burke; School Board President, Ron Counter; Director of Business Services, Bob Thom; Director of Instruction, Ryan Ourada; Director of Learning Support, Richard Gretzinger; Director of Human Resources, Michele Cornelius, Secretary/Deputy Clerk, Shelley Anderson, and Heather Schaefer of the Northwoods Star Journal. Three other people were also present.

Committee Chairperson Report

- No report was given.

Superintendent Report

- No report was given.

Citizens/Delegations

- No citizens/delegations wished to address the Committee.

Report, Discussion, and/or Action Topics

February 9, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes.
MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Accept the minutes of February 9, 2026, as printed.
M. Van Buren abstained.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Review of the February Budget Status Report.
Director of Business Services Bob Thom reported that the District is currently on budget, contingent on the State providing Special Education funding at or near the anticipated level. The District budgeted funding at 35%, while the initial state aid projection was 38%.

Consider Revisions to Policies Relating to Administration, Students, and Property.
Policy 1240 – Evaluation of the District Administrator
Policy 5111.01 – Homeless Students
Policy 5136 – Personal Communication Devices

Policy 5505 – Academic Honesty
Policy 7540.02 – Digital Content and Accessibility
MOTION: M. Van Buren, seconded by M. Roberts.
Recommend the board approve the revisions to the following policies:
Policy 1240 - Evaluation of the District Administrator
Policy 5111.01 - Homeless Students
Policy 5136 - Personal Communication Devices
Policy 5505 - Academic Honesty
Policy 7540.02 - Digital Content and Accessibility
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider Rescinding Policy Relating to Relations.
MOTION: M. Van Buren, seconded by R. Lueneburg.
Recommend that the board approve to rescind the following policy:
Policy 9211 – District-Support Organizations
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider 2026-2027 Chromebook Replacements.
MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Board approve the purchase of 560 Chromebooks with licenses from BDJ Tech at a cost of $171,920.00.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider Refinishing and Replacement Needs for Outdoor Track, Indoor Track, and Indoor Tennis Courts.
MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Board approve the refinishing of the RHS outdoor track for $118,162 to be done by Upper Midwest with funds coming from the earned interest in the referendum account.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Board approve to replace the Hodag Dome indoor track for a net cost after insurance of $31,444.00 using Upper Midwest full pour polyurethane with the funds coming from the referendum interest earnings.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Board approve to have the Hodag Dome tennis courts patched and recoated by Upper Midwest for $47,870 with the funds coming from insurance.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider the CESA 9 Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year.
MOTION: M. Van Buren, seconded by R. Lueneburg.
Board approve 2026-2027 CESA 9 Shared Services Contract as proposed.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Adjourn

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.
Move to adjourn.
Motion passed with a voice vote at 6:15 p.m.