

School District of Rhinelander - Board of Education
Operations and Strategic Planning Committee
Monday, September 8, 2025

Minutes

The Operations & Strategic Planning Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2025, 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 Human Resources, Michele Cornelius; and Secretary/Deputy Clerk, Shelley Anderson. Two other people were present.

Committee Chairperson Report

- No report was given.

Superintendent Report – Update on Back-to-School Week Highlights with Staff

- Eric Burke, Superintendent, reported the following:
 - The 2025–2026 school year has begun with a staggered start: elementary, 6th grade, and 9th grade students attended today, and all other students will attend on September 9.
 - The school year started later than usual due to ongoing remodeling projects.
 - Last week, all staff returned to their respective buildings to prepare for the start of the school year.

Citizens/Delegations

- No citizens/delegations wished to address the Committee.

Report, Discussion, and/or Action Topics

June 16, 2025, Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.

Accept the minutes of June 16, 2025, as printed.

M. Roberts abstained.

Motion passed with a voice vote.

Review of the August Budget Status Report

Director of Business Services Bob Thom reported that the personnel portion of the budget has not yet been fully loaded. To date, overall district spending is tracking in line with the previous year.

Consider New Policies Relating to Program, Property, and Operations

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Van Buren.

Recommend the Board approve the first reading of:

Policy 2431 - Interscholastic Athletics

Policy 7440.03 - Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems

Policy 7455 - Accounting System for Capital Assets

Policy 8550 - Competitive Food Sales

Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider Rescinding Policies Relating to Professional and Support Staff

MOTION: M. Van Buren, seconded by R. Lueneburg.

Recommend the Board rescind the following policies:

Policy 3419.02 - Privacy Protections of Fully Insured Group Health Plans

Policy 4419.02 - Privacy Protections of Fully Insured Group Health Plans

Motion passed with a voice vote.

Consider Revisions to Bylaw and Policies Relating to Program, Professional Staff, Support Staff, Students, Finances, Property, Operations, and Relations

MOTION: M. Van Buren, seconded by R. Lueneburg.

Recommend the Board approve the revisions to the following policies:

Bylaw 0100 - Definitions

Bylaw 0144.5 - Board Member Behavior, Communications, and Code of Conduct

Policy 1461 - Unrequested Leaves of Absence/Fitness for Duty

Policy 2416 - Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information

Policy 2440.01 - Summer or Interim School Attendance

Policy 2522 - Library Media Centers

Policy 3120.04 - Employment of Substitutes

Policy 3431 - Employee Leaves

Policy 4431 - Employee Leaves

Policy 4124 - Notice of Reasonable Assurance of Employment

Policy 4140 - Termination and Resignation

Policy 4213 - Student Supervision and Welfare

Policy 4281 - Personal Property of Staff Members

Policy 5112 - Entrance Age

Policy 5130 - Withdrawal from School

Policy 5200.01 - Full-Time Student

Policy 5410 - Promotion, Placement, and Retention

Policy 5411 - Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At-Risk Students

Policy 5464 - Early Graduation

Policy 5505 - Academic Honesty

Policy 5530 - Student Use or Possession of Intoxicants, Drugs, or Paraphernalia

Policy 6144 - Investment Income for General Fund

Policy 7450 - Property Inventory

Policy 7530.02 - Staff and School Officials Use of Personal Communication Devices

Policy 8120 - Volunteers

Policy 8420 - School Safety

Policy 8500 - Food Services

Policy 8531 - Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Policy 8540 - Vending Machines

Policy 9151 - Use of Cameras and Other Recording Devices in Locker Rooms

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 5:22 p.m.