

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 891
CANBY SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2026 - 5:30 PM - DISTRICT OFFICE**

1. Regular Order of Business

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Roll Call: Present: Pesek, Leppke, Fairchild, Bueltel, Thorpe, Kockelman

1.3. Welcome Visitors

1.4. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Thorpe, second Kockelman, to approve the agenda, motion carried 6-0.

1.5. Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bueltel, second Fairchild, to approve minutes from Organizational Board Meeting 1-5-2026, motion carried 6-0.

1.6. Donations: Motion by Kockelman, second Fairchild, to approve donation from Borch's United Way, motion carried 6-0.

1.7. Payment of Bills: Motion by Bueltel, second Fairchild, to approve the bills as presented, motion carried 6-0.

Bills Dated 1-9-26 through 1-20-26

General: 01	\$	131,931.81
Food Service: 02	\$	42,499.08
Transportation: 03	\$	62,759.93
LTF & HS: 05	\$	5,187.52
Bldg. Fund: 06	\$	99,239.56
Debt Redemption: 07	\$	955,810.00
Student Activity: 21	\$	4,164.17
Total:	\$	1,301,592.07

2. New Business / Board Discussion

2.1. Legislative Update

2.1.1. The upcoming legislative session is approaching, and initial conversations are beginning. While we are not anticipating significant new revenue, it will be important to monitor how the session unfolds.

2.2. Governor's Proclamation for Paraprofessional Week Jan. 19-23

2.2.1. Thank you to all our paraprofessionals for all they do each and every day!

2.3. Administrative Reports

2.3.1. Elementary Principal Arndt shared that the Spelling Bee was last week with 15 participants. Lindsey Reppe will represent Canby in Marshall at the regional level. Testing schedules will be set soon. Paraprofessionals will get lunch at PKs tomorrow as a Thank You from the staff. Deana Moeller and Mr. Arndt have new VPK training this week to prepare for next year.

2.3.2. Superintendent Nielsen shared that he and several board members attended the MSBA Conference last week. The Sioux Falls career fair is in February planning to attend to assist with teacher recruitment. Lorie Hoffman's retirement party will be held next week. Congratulations to the wrestling team on winning the Conference Tournament last weekend. The building project is continuing, with only minor details remaining to be completed. Lessons were learned on communication after an incident that occurred at a youth basketball practice last week. There is a need for improved coordination and communication between law enforcement and the school. The district will learn from this experience and reevaluate procedures to better align communication moving forward.

2.4. Preliminary 2026-2027 Calendar Discussion

2.4.1. Next year Labor Day is late (September 7). Discussion on how we want to proceed with the idea of starting before labor day and movement of certain dates. The preliminary calendar outlines our typical calendar starting after Labor Day ending before Memorial Day.

3. Board Action

3.1. Resolution for Principal Contract.

The motion to introduce the resolution to ratify the master agreement was introduced by Director Thorpe, and duly seconded by Kockelman. On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Thorpe, Pesek, Kockelman, Bueltel, Fairchild, Leppke.

And the following voted against: none.

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

3.2. Business Manager Contract.

Motion by Thorpe, second Bueltel, to approve Business Managers contract, motion carried 6-0.

3.3. Personnel

3.3.1. Retirement: Motion by Kockelman, second Fairchild, to approve the resignation/retirement of Dr. Robert Slaba, motion carried 6-0. Thank you Dr. Slaba for 30 years!

3.3.2. Hiring: Motion by Thorpe, second Fairchild, to approve Bryan Kraft as our new Finance/Admin Assistant in the Canby Schools District Office, motion carried 6-0.

3.4. Seniority List: Motion by Kockelman, second Thorpe, to approve Teacher Seniority Lists, motion carried 6-0.

4. Communication

4.1. Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting: Thorpe, Fairchild, Pesek - January 26 at 4 p.m.

4.2. Next Board Meeting: February 17, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

5. Adjournment: Time 6:07 p.m. Motion by Fairchild, second Bueltel, to adjourn the meeting, motion carried 6-0.