

BlueSky Charter School
2001 Killebrew Drive, Suite 460
Bloomington, MN 55425
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 25, 2026
2:00 pm

BlueSky School Board commits to Student Centered Decision making and improving the culture of the district by focusing on the following goals; finance, strategic planning, internal Board operations, and district planning.

BlueSky Vision: *BlueSky is defining education for the 21st century by creating an individualized, dynamic education for all students. We are committed to empowering our community by facilitating relevant learning, skills, hopes and relationships.*

BlueSky Mission: *Bringing quality online education and diverse learners together.*

Public can watch/listen to the meeting by joining:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/632473021>

Password: **flexible**

Meeting ID: 632 473 021

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,632473021# US (New York)

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1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Allen Charles, Seat A: Community Member 2025-2027 present at 2:20pm

Matthew Schempp, Seat B: Vice Chair, Teacher Member 2025-2027 present

Kelsey Waits, Seat C: Required Parent Member 2024-2026 absent

Heidi Kelbel, Seat D: Teacher Member 2024-2026 present

Judy Pekarek, Treasurer, Seat E: Community member 2025-2027 present

Julie Johnson, Secretary, Seat F: Required Teacher member 2024-2026 present virtually

Jim Stocco, Chair Seat G: Required Community Member 2024-2026 present virtually

3. Notice of Any Conflict of Interest

None

4. Approval of Agenda

Pekarek/Kelbel motion to approve

Matthew Schempp - aye

Heidi Kelbel- aye

Judy Pekarek- aye

Julie Johnson- aye

Jim Stocco- aye

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5-0 motion passes

5. Approval of Previous Board Minutes

5.1 Action - Approve [board meeting minutes, January 28, 2026](#)

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

5-0 motion passes

6. [Filing of Finance Claims](#) - EdFin, Scott Brown

Income Statement: The focus of the School's income statement is to monitor the ongoing revenues and expenses of the various programs. Monthly review of the actual spent versus budget, considering the percentage of the fiscal year completed, is imperative.

Highlights from the income statement:

Percent of fiscal year completed: 58%

Year-to-date (YTD) revenue as a percent of budget: 50%, based on an estimated enrollment of 590 ADM

YTD expenses as a percent of budget: 56%, compared to the prior month of 48%

Highlights from the balance sheet:

Cash and Investments: \$1.47m, \$2.7m, respectively - high point of school year

Estimated due from MDE: \$420k- primarily current year

Estimated fund balance: \$4.3m beginning, ending projected overstated at this point until salaries start.

Other Items:

HoldBack Essentially all payments received, ~60k left through end of year

Enrollment: Budgeted at 590 ADM for adopted and revised.

Schempp/Kelbel motion to approve
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

5-0 motion passes

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7. Reports

7.1 Information- [Finance Committee](#) – Pekarek

BlueSky discussed the new coffee machine lease, which costs approximately \$100 monthly plus supply costs, with an initial setup payment of around \$1,000. Judy proposed to keep track of coffee machine costs over 6 months to monitor expenses.

7.2 Information- [Curriculum Committee](#) – Kelbel

The Curriculum Committee reviewed the semester one end-of-course survey results (48% response rate) and discussed revisions to open-ended questions for semester two. They also adopted new curriculum and library materials review process, with plans to review their effectiveness after implementation.

Allen Charles joined meeting in person at 2:20pm

7.3 Information- [HR Committee](#) – Egner

Leslie discussed a potential change to the current time-off plan, moving from separate sick and vacation time to a discretionary time-off system. The committee considered simplifying the system and increasing employee flexibility, with a cap on hours and potential payouts for staff who exceed the limit. Leslie and colleagues will develop three scenarios for the committee to review in March, with further steps including finance review and staff communication about the transition timeline. Scott, Amy, and Leslie: Meet next week to develop 3 different scenarios for transitioning to a discretionary time off plan. Scott, Amy, and Leslie: Bring the 3 time off plan scenarios to the HR committee in March for feedback.

7.4 Information- [Director's Report](#) – Larsen

Strong enrollment numbers with potential for a lottery due to high new enrollments for next year, and 30 fall graduates with approximately 125 potential spring graduates. Marketing efforts are ongoing with blog posts, website updates, and video content, though there were some technical issues with autoplay that have been addressed. The eSports coach discussed updating student activity expectations and fees, with plans to implement a formal process similar to NHS or student laptop forms, and noted that while students sign forms, parents are not currently involved in the process, though this could be improved. Amy needs to gather and submit required documentation (reports, inspection reports, pictures of plans) to update the lease aid application. Updated language to the board election policy is included in this month's agenda using feedback from IQS review. IQS mid-year review has also been shared and is positive. Jim and BlueSky clarified the dates for various training sessions, including an IQS Spring School Meeting on April 23rd.

7.5 Information- [Student Activity/Updates](#) – Miner

Sarah provided updates on student activities, noting the conclusion of the winter esports season and plans for spring recruitment, as well as upcoming events like a rock climbing trip and a potential service project called "Games with a Grandparent."

7.6 Information- Assessment Updates/ [IQS Goal Progress](#) - Ondich

BlueSky reported on IQS goal progress, highlighting improvements in equity and achievement, challenges with 21st-century skills participation, and efforts to increase college and career readiness. The overall school attendance reached 90%, a significant achievement. Progress on the technology strategic plan was reviewed, noting completion of most goals with ongoing work on device management and a new student device adoption due to performance issues. They discussed a major communications project using Bright Arrow, which will consolidate staff communication workflows previously spread across multiple systems. The team is also developing a tiered documentation approach aligned with MTSS, incorporating automation for chat, email, and phone communications to make meeting documentation requirements more efficient for staff.

7.7 Information - [Student Services Report](#) - Kasowicz/Parker

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Kasowicz reviewed student service statistics, noting consistent percentages of 26% for special education and 10% for 504 students. Parker reported on the PSEO program, which has about 50 students total, and discussed registration activities including an 8th grade parent night that drew 15-20 parents. Student participation rates with the direct admissions program was discussed. Only 12 students have taken advantage of the program this year. We did not receive data from last year as this program is overseen by the MN Office of Higher Education.

Schempp/Pekarek motion to approve

Allen Charles -aye

Matthew Schempp - aye

Heidi Kelbel- aye

Judy Pekarek- aye

Julie Johnson- aye

Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passes

8. Consent Items

8.1 Action - Approve resignation of 1.0 SPED Teacher - [Paul DesCombaz](#)

8.2 Action - Approve reviewed [Policy 4.1.2 At-Will Employment](#)

Schempp/Kelbel motion to approve

Allen Charles -aye

Matthew Schempp - aye

Heidi Kelbel- aye

Judy Pekarek- aye

Julie Johnson- aye

Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passes

9. Unfinished Business

None

10. New Business

10.1 Action - Approve revised [Policy 3.3 Personal Electronic Device Use for School Business](#)

The meeting focused on a new policy regarding the use of personal electronic devices for school business. The policy aims to transition staff to using BlueSky-issued devices, with exceptions for extenuating circumstances. It was agreed that the policy would take effect in August or September next year, with a grace period for staff to adjust. The motion to approve the policy was made and seconded, with two amendments: referencing Section E in Section A, and specifying the policy's effective date.

Schempp/Pekarek motion to approve with the exception to Part 3 Section A to call out Section E and to have the first day of policy implementation be the start of 26/27 school year

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Allen Charles -aye
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passes

10.2 Action - Approve revised [Policy 2.1 Board Election Process](#)
Kelbel/Charles motion to approve
Allen Charles -aye
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passes

10.3 Action - Approve revised [Policy 4.1.1 Equal Employment Opportunity](#)
Pekarek/Schempp motion to approve
Allen Charles -aye
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passes

10.4 Action - Nominate Board Development Committee members
Committee Members are Judy, Matthew and Allen

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve
Allen Charles -aye
Matthew Schempp - aye
Heidi Kelbel- aye
Judy Pekarek- aye
Julie Johnson- aye
Jim Stocco- aye

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6-0 motion passes

11. Public Input

Q: Darren's question is asking about increasing staff and growing HS numbers or staying where we're at?

A: The board discussed but did not resolve the question of whether to increase staff and high school numbers if the waitlist grows, noting that this would be addressed during future budget discussions and strategic planning in June.

12. Adjourn at 3:47pm on February 26, 2026

Schempp/Charles motion to approve

Allen Charles -aye

Matthew Schempp - aye

Heidi Kelbel- aye

Judy Pekarek- aye

Julie Johnson- aye

Jim Stocco- aye

6-0 motion passe

Future Meetings/Events Below:

March 25, 2026

April 29, 2026

May 27, 2026

June 24, 2026

Other: Next Board Election: May 2026

Alternate Meeting Locations:

In addition to 2001 Killebrew Drive, Suite 460, Board members may be joining virtually.