

HAWLEY SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

February 25, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kara Brager, Jeff Lee, Emily Odland, Steve Olson, Austin Peterson, Mark Sellin and Bobbi Siegel

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Phil Jensen, Kelly Anderson, Chris Ellingson, Brett Mayer Schmit, Maria Beringer, Jordan Pangrac, Jen Miller, Wendy DeCann, Stacy Hanson, Abby Fresonke, Tim Pederson, Nick Bircherm, Lindsey Pederson, Rachel Aakre, Kim Teske, Lainie Fenske, Tara Hager, McKenzie Smith, Peter Wollin, Keith Hanson, Aaron Jones, Steve Aakre

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sellin at 7:02 p.m.

Olson/Peterson to approve the amended agenda with the removal of item 6.12 - A2Z Construction Consultant Contract.

Motion carried: 7-0

The following Committee Reports were given: Member Lee – Finance and Administrative; Member Siegel – Community Ed.

Kelly Anderson presented the High School Principal's report.

Chris Ellingson presented the Elementary Principal's report.

Brett Mayer Schmit presented the Activities Director report.

Superintendent Jensen presented the Administrative report.

Enrollment numbers for February 1, 2026 were presented – 1,078 students K-12.

Scheduled Meetings: Regular Board Meeting – Monday, March 23, 2026 @ 7 pm

Siegel/Olson to approve the consent agenda:

- 4.1 February 9, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- 4.2 1-Act Play Director – Molly Berg [3.1%-1 - \$1,617]
- 4.3 Custodian – Glenn Anderson – 8 (F) \$19.93/hr
- 4.4 Resignation – Connie Peterson – Elementary Head Cook [Effective March 13, 2026]
- 4.5 Resignation – Mitch Croaker – Building Maintenance Director [Effective May 28, 2026]
- 4.6 Resignation – Erin Bjerke – Co-Asst. Dance Coach [Effective February 25, 2026]
- 4.7 Resignation – Molly Schenck – MN Honor Society [Effective end of 25/26 school year]
- 4.8 Resignation – Steve Pasche – MN Honor Society [Effective end of 25/26 school year]
- 4.9 Resignation – Bill Esterby – Lunchroom Supervisor [Effective end of 25/26 school year]
- 4.10 Resignation – Bill Esterby – E-Sports Coach - [Effective end of 25/26 school year]
- 4.11 Non-Renewal - Varsity Asst. FB Coach - Nick Bircherm
- 4.12 Leave of Absence Request According to EM-H Master Agreement
- 4.13 Leave of Absence Request According to EM-H Master Agreement
- 4.14 Leave of Absence Request According to EM-H Master Agreement/General Leave - Katelyn Zacher
- 4.15 Approve Spring Coaches:
 - Head Softball – Jackson Lyngaas (9.5%-7) \$5,776
 - Asst. Softball – Alyson Brenna (6.9%-7) \$4,195
 - JV Softball – Drew Thompson (6.9%-6) \$4,096
 - Jr. High Softball – Maki Halvorson (5.5%-4) \$3,107
 - Softball Volunteer Coaches –Clair Anderson, Molly Grumbo, Mike Havorson, Ryan Hastings, Ella Holiman, Abby Rux
 - Head Baseball – Beau Lofgren (9.5%-9) \$6,050
 - Asst. Baseball – Nick Bircherm (6.9% -3) \$3,798
 - JH Baseball – Zach Harazin – (5.5%-2) \$2,948

Baseball Volunteer Coaches – Todd Sather, Brady Harms, Taylor Harms, Alec Hinrichs
Head Boys Track – Aaron Haugen (9.5%-5) \$5,503
Head Girls Track – Dylan Olson (9.5%-2) \$5,092
Asst. Track – Zion Smith (6.9%-5) \$3,997
Asst. Track – Abigail Syverson (6.9%-1) \$3,599
Jr. High Track – Ally Hokanson (5.5%-5) \$3,186
Track Volunteer Coaches –Mike Olson, Travis Haugen, Kelly Anderson, Elijah Morris, Shannon Olson, Kendra Kvebak
Co-Head Boys Golf – Ben Lofgren (9.5%-9)(½) \$3,025
Co-Head Boys Golf – Tim Pederson (9.5%-9)(½) \$3,025
Co-Jr. High Boys Golf – Ben Lofgren (4.1%-9)(½) \$1,305.50
Co-Jr. High Boys Golf – Tim Pederson (4.1%-9)(½) \$1,305.50
Boys Golf Volunteer Coaches – Brayden Aldinger, Blair Gilberts, Dane Hinkle
Head Girls Golf – Ben Gunkelman (9.5%-9) \$6,050
Jr. High Girls Golf – Peter Wollin (4.1%-7) \$2,493
Musical (Voice) – Jill Brenden (4.6%-2) \$2,466
Musical (Instrumental) – Erik Ault (4.6%-1) \$2,400
Musical (Producer) – Michaela Ludwig (4.6%-9) \$ 2,929
Musical Set Producer – Josh Hansen (3.1%- 3) \$1,706
Musical (Choreographer) – Jill Brenden (2%-7) \$1,216
Elementary Musical (Producer) – Olivia Sandahl (2.5%-2) \$1,340
Elementary Musical (Voice) – Tasha Meyer (2.5%-3) \$1,376
Speech Volunteer Coach – Briana Leigh

Motion carried: 7-0

Superintendent Jensen recognized the Hawley Dance Team for qualifying for the state dance competition in both jazz and high kick.

Superintendent Jensen recognized Bell Bank for their sponsorship of the double-sided billboard recognizing the back-to-back state champion volleyball team.

Siegel/Brager to approve the Ambuehl donation (\$25) for girl's golf.

Motion carried: 7-0

Siegel/Brager to approve the Kasson-Bauer donation (\$1,000) for activity registrations.

Motion carried: 7-0

Brager/Siegel to approve the Red River Communications donation (\$500) for E-sports.

Motion carried: 7-0

Siegel/Brager to approve the Hawley Nutrition donation (\$100) for the Hot Shot tournament.

Motion carried: 7-0

Brager/Siegel to approve the Hawley Diamond Club donation (\$1,200) for softball bats.

Motion carried: 7-0

February board bills and Treasurer's Report were not available.

No action was taken

Member Lee introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of Real Estate

WHEREAS, School District No. 61 of Clay County, Minnesota was the grantee in that certain Warranty Deed dated January 5, 1892, and recorded December 30, 1893, in Book 17 of Deeds, page 407, in the office of the Clay County Register of Deeds, of real property (hereafter, the "Real Property") legally described as:

One square acre in the South East corner of the South East quarter of the North West quarter (SE⁴NW⁴) of Section Twenty nine (29) in Township one hundred and thirty nine (139) North, of Range Forty four (44) West of the Fifth Principal meridian and containing one acre.

WHEREAS, as set forth in that certain Certification of Verification executed by the Minnesota Department of Education on February 10, 2026:

A. On July 14, 1953, School District No. 61 of Clay County was dissolved and was annexed to School District No. 4 of Clay County; and

B. School District No. 4 of Clay County became Independent School District No. 150 of Clay County by Order of the Minnesota Commissioner of Education on September 6, 1957; and

C. As a result of the dissolution of School District No. 61 of Clay County, and pursuant to the Order of the Minnesota Commissioner of Education on September 6, 1957, all assets of School District No. 61 of Clay County, including the Real Property described herein, became the property of the Hawley Independent School District No. 150; and

WHEREAS, Hawley Independent School District No. 150 has never occupied the Real Property nor exercised any possession or control of the Real Property, nor demanded or received any rents or other consideration for the use of the Real Property; and

WHEREAS, Steven K. Aakre, the owner of all adjoining real estate in said South East quarter of the North West quarter (SE⁴NW⁴) of Section Twenty nine (29) in Township one hundred and thirty nine (139) North, of Range Forty four (44) West, desires to obtain title to the Real Property,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Hawley Independent School District No. 150 hereby agrees to convey the Real Property by Quitclaim Deed to Steven K. Aakre as grantee for the consideration by which the grantee will pay all expenses of document preparation and recording, and hereby directs the Chairperson and the Clerk of the Board of Education to execute said deed, and directs said Clerk to certify a copy of this resolution.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Brager and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor: Brager, Lee, Oldland, Olson, Peterson, Sellin, Siegel and the following voted against the same: none whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

TIF Proposal – Discussion only, no action was taken

Siegel/Olson to approve the posting of an additional Art Teacher at the Middle School for the 26/27 school year.
Motion carried: 7-0

Facility Management Model – Discussion only, no action was taken

Lee/Olson to approve creating a Grounds/Night Lead Custodian position.
Motion carried: 7-0

Lee/Olson to approve the purchase of lawn care equipment for the grounds.
Motion carried: 6-1 (Member Peterson opposed)

Lee/Olson to approve advertising for a Middle School Administrative Assistant with a mid-July start date.
Motion carried: 7-0

Brager/Siegel to approve the BASE/FiTS program updates as presented.
Motion carried: 7-0

Brager/Siegel to approve the BASE/FiTS Handbook as presented.
Motion carried: 7-0

Brager/Siegel to approve the Community Ed Summer Rec program updates as presented.
Motion carried: 7-0

Lee/Olson to approve the superintendent contract for Jordan Spaeth effective July 1 , 2026.
Motion carried: 7-0

Lee/Siegel to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.
Motion carried: 7-0