

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST DE PERE**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**West De Pere Middle School Library**  
**1177 S. Ninth Street**  
**February 10, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**

- I. Call meeting to order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Consider approval of the agenda
- IV. Recognition of District Students and Staff
- V. Open meeting to floor for fifteen minutes to enable district residents to bring items of general concern to the attention of the Board
- VI. Consider approval of the minutes of the January 13, 2025 Regular Meeting
- VII. Consider approval of the Treasurer's Report
- VIII. Consider previously paid bills as presented for payment approval
- IX. New Business
  - A. Finance Committee Report
  - B. AI Update
  - C. Consider Agreement with the City of De Pere for School Resource Officers
  - D. Consider Agreement with Hobart/Lawrence Police Department for Hemlock Creek School Resource Officer
  - E. Consider Staffing Items
  - F. Calendar
  - G. Referendum Update
- X. Reports and Communication
- XI. Consider adjourning into closed session as provided under Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of personnel issues. Further take notice that pursuant to Section 19.85(2) the Board may reconvene in regular session to consider matters discussed in closed session and other matters on the agenda.
- XII. Reconvene into open session
- XIII. Consider matters discussed in closed session
- XIV. Adjourn meeting

NOTICE

The School District of West De Pere Board meeting will be available in person and via Zoom.  
If you have any need for special accommodations related to accessing the meeting, please contact Stacy Schaetz at 920-337-1393 x8025.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99737514757?pwd=bsi8irse0UeJnmu7alYva2HYRHR0mp.1>

By Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting Id: 99737514757

Passcode: 064188

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST DE PERE  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HEMLOCK CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
January 13, 2025  
5:30 PM**

Board members present: Fuss, Borley, Van Den Heuvel, Dorn, Van Deurzen  
Board members excused: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Board President Fuss followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President Fuss stated that the area news media had been notified of the meeting as required by open meeting law and state statutes.

It was moved by Barbara Van Deurzen and seconded by Ryan Van Den Heuvel to accept the agenda. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

The board recognized High School students, Kate Schmoll, Kara Schmoll, and Kayla Jacquette, who competed at State for swimming and their Coach Melissa Wolf. The Board congratulated the team/coach on a great season and making WDP proud.

The meeting was opened to the floor to enable district residents to bring items of general concern to the attention of the Board. No concerns were presented.

It was moved by Scott Borley and seconded by Ryan Van Den Heuvel that the December 11, 2024 regular meeting minutes be approved as presented. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Scott Borley and seconded by Ryan Van Den Heuvel that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Barbara Van Deurzen and seconded by Scott Borley that previously paid bills to Vos Electric, VDH Electric, and Best Built be approved. Motion carried. Voting Yes: 4 Voting No: 0 Ryan Van Den Heuvel abstained. Motion carried.

It was moved by Scott Borley and seconded by Barbara Van Deurzen that previously paid bills be approved excluding bills from Vos Electric, VDH Electric, and Best Built. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

Old Business

It was moved by Ryan Van Den Heuvel and seconded by Barbara Van Deurzen to adopt the following policies as previously presented:

- 4219.2 Custodial Staff
- 4219.3 Electrician Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

Committee Chair, Scott Borley gave a verbal update regarding the Finance Committee Meeting.

Committee Chair, Barbara Van Deurzen reviewed the January 9, 2025 Curriculum and Policy Committee report.

The auditor's report was reviewed by Amber Drewieske from CLA with the Board. The Board thanked her for the update.

It was moved by Ryan Van Den Heuvel and seconded by Scott Borley that by considering class size limits, student-teacher ratios, and enrollment projections for the purpose of open enrollment space determination as criteria, there are no spaces available, per grade, for the 2025-2026 open enrollment applications in grades 4K-12 unless guaranteed according to board policy. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Barbara Van Deurzen and seconded by Ryan Van Den Heuvel to approve the High School Unified Physical Education Course as presented. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Ryan Van Den Heuvel and seconded by Scott Borley to approve the memo regarding Intermediate School Teacher's pay for covering another Teacher's Classroom as presented. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Barbara Van Deurzen and seconded by Ryan Van Den Heuvel to give Jenni Fuss discretionary latitude to our delegate to vote on amendments and resolutions at the upcoming WASB State Education Convention. Motion carried. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

It was moved by Scott Borley and seconded by Barbara Van Deurzen to approve all staffing items as presented. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried.

The Board was presented with various reports and communications: such as updates, various thank you's, invitations, and calendar items. Discussion Followed.

It was moved by Scott Borley and seconded by Barbara Van Deurzen at 6:07 PM that the meeting be adjourned. Voting Yes: 5 Voting No: 0 Motion carried

Barbara Van Deurzen  
Clerk



To discover more inspiring stories of students embracing opportunities to learn valuable skills and contribute to their local economy, visit the District website.

School District of West De Pere  
400 Reid Street, Suite W  
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[www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com)

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in skilled trades is expected to grow significantly, with **millions of job openings** projected each year due to industry growth and workforce retirements. This highlights a **strong demand for local skilled workers** across trades such as welding, plumbing, and construction.



On April 1, members of the School District of West De Pere community will be asked to vote on a referendum question that will shape the future of education and career readiness for our students.



**Hunter**, a senior at West De Pere High School, is gaining direct experience through the Youth Apprenticeship Program with Truck Equipment Inc. With a passion for building, he spends each day sharpening his skills alongside experienced professionals who support him every step of the way. Hunter values the opportunity to contribute to real projects and be part of a successful team. This apprenticeship allows him to turn his interest in hands-on work into a promising future in the trades.

## HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION

**Call:** Jason Lau, Superintendent, at 920-337-1393 x8028 or Russ Gerke, HS Principal, at 920-338-5200 x4205

**Email:** Jason Lau at [jlau@wdpsd.com](mailto:jlau@wdpsd.com) or Russ Gerke at [rgerke@wdpsd.com](mailto:rgerke@wdpsd.com)

**Visit:** the District website at [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com)

**Follow on Facebook:** SchoolDistrictofWestDePere



Scan to visit the District website



## ATTEND A REFERENDUM OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, March 12 and Thursday, March 20**  
**5:30 PM to 7:00 PM**

This is an Open House event, so feel free to stop by at your convenience. Parking is available in the back of the High School building, near the Tech Ed area. Attendees should enter through Door 16.

## THIS REFERENDUM WILL...

- **Expand and renovate** Technical Education (Tech Ed) spaces to accommodate a **40% increase in class enrollment since 2018**, addressing growing student interest in hands-on, career-focused learning opportunities.
- **Strengthen partnerships** with local industrial and manufacturing businesses, helping to address local workforce demands while providing students with real-world, career-ready skills and pathways.
- **Invest** in our aging Tech Ed facilities, which have not seen significant improvements since they were originally built more than 50 years ago.
- Make these improvements **without increasing** the School District's mill rate, maintaining fiscal responsibility while investing in our students' future.

## REFERENDUM QUESTION

Shall the School District of West De Pere, Brown and Outagamie Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,925,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: construction of an addition for technical education space, renovations and site improvements at the High School; district-wide capital maintenance and building infrastructure improvements; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**VOTE APRIL 1, 2025**

**VOTE APRIL 1, 2025**

## REFERENDUM INFORMATION



With limited indoor space, students take their carpentry and masonry skills outside to the parking lot. The current space constraints only allow this class to be held during the first and third trimesters.

### WHAT'S THE PLAN?

The proposed plan will more than **double the existing Tech Ed space**, creating flexible, modern workspaces and providing students with firsthand learning opportunities directly connected to today's workforce demands.



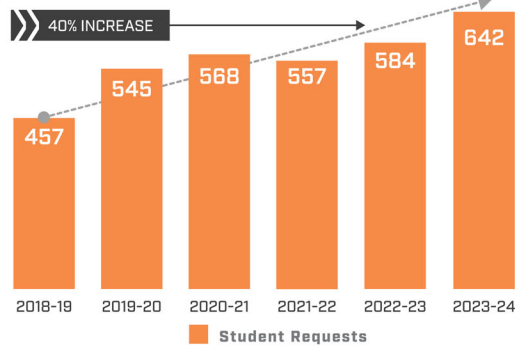
**Ethan**, a senior at West De Pere High School, is taking advantage of an excellent opportunity through the Youth Apprenticeship Program with Monroe Truck Equipment. Splitting his time between high school classes and working as a welder at Monroe, Ethan is gaining valuable experience and developing his skills. With a strong commitment to hands-on learning, he is preparing for a successful and rewarding career in the welding industry.

### GROWING DEMAND

We are proud that our West De Pere students are taking advantage of hands-on learning opportunities to prepare for future careers. Tech Ed classes are fundamental in building the skills necessary to transition into apprenticeships that strengthen and support our local workforce. Our youth apprenticeship program has **grown by more than 60 students** in the last three years.

General enrollment in our Tech Ed courses has increased by 185 students since 2018. With increasing student interest in these courses, our current space no longer meets the demand.

#### TECH ED CLASS REQUESTS BY YEAR



### WEST DE PERE High School Addition

- 1 Career and Technical Education (CTE) renovation including: updated Metals, Wood Shop, Works Labs, Design and Fabrication Lab.
- 2 Addition of an Auto Lab and classroom.
- 3 Repurposing of locker rooms to accommodate additional CTE space.
- 4 Reconfiguring of driveways and parking.

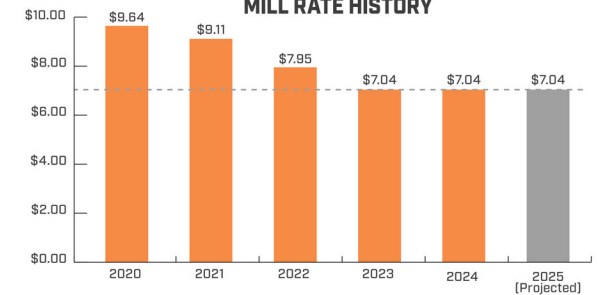
Existing  
Renovation  
New Construction



### HOW MUCH?

**Maintaining the Mill Rate:** The District will make the final payment on a portion of the 2018 referendum debt, creating an opportunity to invest \$9.925 million **without increasing the mill rate** above \$7.04, remaining consistent with the rate from the past two years.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST DE PERE MILL RATE HISTORY



**\$0**  
**ZERO IMPACT**  
TO THE CURRENT MILL RATE.



# School District of West De Pere

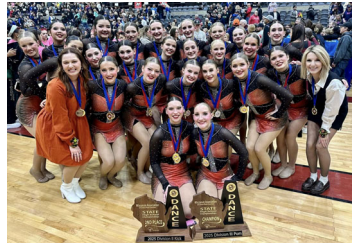
## Board Update

*A Vision of Pride and Excellence*

February 2025

### HS Dance Team

Congratulations to our Pom and Dance team who are D3 Pom State Champions and D2 Kick State runner up. Also, congratulations Lauren Axford and Anna Firman - D3 All State Team. Great job



### Spelling Bee

The Middle School hosted the district spelling bee. Participants from Westwood, Hemlock Creek, Intermediate, and the Middle School. Congratulations to all our participants, and Anthony who was our 2025 WDP Spelling Bee champion!



### MS Choir

Four Middle School students were selected to be a part of the middle level honor choir at the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association conference. They performed at the Lawrence Memorial Chapel. Seth was selected to be one of the soloists (out of 140 students) for the final song! Congratulations Lilly, Elle, Eli, and Seth!



### HC Family Night

Hemlock Creek hosted a "Camp Read-a-Lot" family literacy night.



### HS DECA

High School DECA hosted the second Ties and Tiara, an event for little girls and their Fathers. DECA members decorated, ran the DJ Booth, concessions, and took photos.



### MS Students Give Back

Students in Ms. De Villers' 8th grade Family and Consumer Science classes made 220 bird feeders for the nonprofit organization, *Fighting Cancer with Grace*. Country Visions donated bird seed and staff gave ribbon and trim. The gifts were given to those receiving cancer treatments.



### HC Gives Back

Hemlock Creek student council kids made blankets and dog toys. They donated them to Lucky 7 Dog Rescue.



### WW Insect Unit

Two UWGB students joined the 2nd graders to help kick off the insect unit! Students looked at Wisconsin insect specimens and had the opportunity to hold a real live Madagascar Hissing Cockroach!



### Upcoming Events

- Feb. 20, 21, 27 & March 1st- HS Theatre Program will perform *The Addams Family Musical* in the HS Auditorium
- Tech Ed Referendum Open Houses in the Tech Ed Department  
March 12 5:30-7pm  
March 20 5:30-7pm

