

April 15, 2026
Dike, Iowa

The Dike-New Hartford Board of Education met on this date at 5:00 p.m. for the Budget Adoption Hearing with Lotts, presiding and members Badker, Horner, McCarter and Petersen. Also present was administrator Stockdale.

Visitors present included Brian Petullo, Tom Textor, Chad Bixby, Waylon Bern, Cody Eichmeier, Suzanne Mohlis, Abby Banwarth, Eric Banwarth, Rhandi Oelmann, Diane Eilderts, Reegan Zinkula, Darlys Wiese, Gerald Kinney, Brett Lyon, Adeline Ryan, Jaden Zedeker, Emery Feckers, Chloe Gorby, Clayton Hines, and Ellisa Russ-Poggemiller.

The agenda was approved on motion of Horner and second of Badker. Vote all aye.

On motion of Badker and second of McCarter, the 2026-27 proposed budget as per publication in the Grundy Register on April 2, 2023 was adopted and certified for a total budget of \$24,047,785. Total property tax asks are \$5,019,241 which is a total tax rate of \$14.33161 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation and an income surtax of 8%. Roll call: McCarter - aye, Petersen - aye, Badker - aye, Horner - aye, Lotts - aye.

Being no further business, the public hearing adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

The Dike-New Hartford Board of Education met on this date at 5:04 p.m. for the regular monthly meeting with Lotts presiding and members Badker, Horner, McCarter and Petersen. Also present was administrator Stockdale.

Visitors present included Brian Petullo, Tom Textor, Chad Bixby, Waylon Bern, Cody Eichmeier, Suzanne Mohlis, Abby Banwarth, Eric Banwarth, Rhandi Oelman, Diane Eilderts, Leah Johnson, and Reegan Zinkula.

The regular meeting agenda was approved on motion of Petersen and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

The consent agenda was approved on the motion of McCarter and second of Badker. Vote all aye. The consent agenda includes the following: March 25, 2026 meeting minutes; Principal, Technology, Building & Grounds, and Athletic Reports; March 2026 Financial Reports; Contracts for Scott Connolly as the junior high assistant baseball coach, Abby Banwarth as the New Hartford preschool teacher and academic interventionist, and Courtney Jorgensen as the New Hartford Kindergarten teacher.

Focus on Learning - The Dike-New Hartford FFA Chapter held a parliamentary procedure demonstration for the school board. The FFA Parliamentary Procedure is a National FFA Organization Career Development Event (CDE) where student teams demonstrate the proper, orderly way to conduct business meetings based on Robert's Rules of Order. It teaches leadership, decision-making, and communication skills, focusing on democratic principles, such as allowing one item of business to be handled at a time, protecting minority rights, and following fair, efficient procedures.

The 5-year facility plan was reviewed with the board to discuss both current and future projects for the district. Brett Lyon, a Daktronics representative, was also in attendance to discuss the Dike-New Hartford high school football and track scoreboard and the options for upgrading the current system.

The student teaching agreement with Wartburg College was approved on motion of McCarter and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

The website development proposal from Neapolitan Labs was tabled until the May meeting so the board can look at other examples in more detail.

The candidates for graduation for the class of 2026 was approved on motion of Petersen and second of Badker. Vote all aye.

The 2026-2027 school fees were approved as presented on motion of Horner and second of Petersen. Vote all aye. The school fees are as follows: PK-12 Daily Milk - \$0.55, K-5 Daily Lunch - \$2.90, 6-12 Daily Lunch - \$3.05, Adult/Guest Lunch - \$5.00, MOW Lunch - \$5.00, K-12 Breakfast - Free, Adult/Guest Breakfast - \$5.00, K-4 Annual Milk Fee (Optional) - \$60.00, K-6 Curriculum/Software - \$100.00, 7-12

Curriculum/Software - \$135.00, 9-12 Band/Vocal (Combined) - \$20.00, 7-8 Band/Vocal (Combined) - \$10.00, Summer Band Lessons - \$60.00, Instrumental Rent (5-12) \$50.00 per trimester for non-percussion and \$15.00 per trimester for percussion, Driver's Ed - \$400.00 (in district), Preschool Registration - \$10.00 for 3 year olds, \$100.00 for 4 and 5 year olds, Preschool Tuition - \$110.00 for 3 year olds, Student Activity Passes - \$25.00, Adult Activity Passes - \$35.00.

The athletic training agreement with Athletico was approved on motion of Petersen and second of Horner. Vote all aye. The new agreement will run through the 2030-2031 school year.

On the motion of Horner and second of Badker the Dike-New Hartford Early Childhood Programs Extended Day Pre-K program at Dike Elementary was approved. All aye.

The tennis court resurfacing project on the New Hartford campus was approved on motion of Badker and second of Petersen. Vote all aye.

The second reading of policies 102, 102.E1, 102.E2, 102.E3, 102.E4, 102.E5, 102.E6, 102.R1, 710.1E1, 710.1E2, 710.1R1 was approved on motion of McCarter and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

Other items of discussion with no action taken included a legislative session update, an update on the last day of school being May 27 for students and May 28 for staff, as well as choosing the board representatives at Commencement in May. Being no further business, the board transitioned into the closed session at 7:03 p.m.

Motion by Badker, second by Horner to enter into closed session at 7:23 p.m. pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to the individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session (Superintendent Quarterly Review).

Motion by Horner, second by McCarter to adjourn the closed session. The closed session adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Following the closed session, the board held an exempt session for negotiations. The exempt session adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Christa Lotts, President Kayla Sabbah, Secretary