

**Minutes of the Board of Education of the
Oelrichs School District 23-3
Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026**

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Oelrichs School District 23-3 met in regular session on May 19, 2026, in the High School. The meeting was called to order by John Cope, Board President, at 5:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Members Present: John Cope, Katie Merdanian, Dave Osmotherly, and Lance Tlustos.

Members Absent: Marty Schommer.

Administration Present: Dr. Mitchell Stone, Principal Peterson, and Business Manager Sword.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian, to approve April 21 and April 27, 2026, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**All actions recorded in these minutes were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.*

Public Participation – No participation

High School Construction: No action taken.

School Housing: Cope informed the board that the property at 211 W 8th Street was getting the roof replaced as it is still under warranty.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to have an appraiser provide the value of the property at 211 W 8th Street. Motion carried.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to have a home inspection completed on the property at 211 W 8th Street with the cost not to exceed \$2,000. Motion carried.

Board Reports: Merdanian attended the BHSSC meeting and gave the board an update. Tlustos requested the school purchase a new podium for graduation and public events. He would also like the school to purchase a Marquee.

Administrative Reports: Stone gave an overview of the end of the year activities and was pleased with the attendance for all the events. With school being out, administrators have reports and end-of-the-year work that needs to be done within the next month. Stone informed the board about a fraud issue with the First National Bank checking account. He is working with their staff to ensure the funds are secure. A new checking account will be opened.

Peterson shared that she has been contacted by families who are having consequences for truancy. Students are being held responsible and some are being mandated to attend summer school. She is hopeful this will have positive results for next year's attendance.

Financials: MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly, to accept the unaudited financial reports and pay all invoiced claims. Motion carried.

	<u>Beginning</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>Plus</u> <u>Receipts</u>	<u>transfer</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>
General Fund	161,932.23	111,615.47		237,616.78	35,930.92
Capital Outlay	287,649.45	13,195.58		6,820.47	291,024.56
Special Education	86,461.49	10,259.47		20,179.74	76,541.22

May 19, 2026

Impact Aid	10,686,879.46	28,398.11		10,715,277.57
Food Service	35,590.00	11,264.88	15,776.17	31,078.71
Custodial Balance	17,652.65		1,917.78	15,734.87

Certificate of Election: MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to accept the certificate of election, that John Cope duly nominated and having no opposition to the school board election is declared elected to the School Board of Oelrichs School District for the term of three years, beginning July 1, 2026. Motion carried.

2026-2027 Preliminary Budge:

2026-2027 School Calendar: MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to approve the 2026-2027 school calendars as presented by Peterson. Motion carried

Contracts: MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve the contract with Charlee Ebmeier to provide Technical Services for no more than 17 days at \$40 per hour. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian, to approve the contract for Occupational Therapy Services with Nicole Habbe for school year 2026-2027. Motion carried.

Personnel: MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian, to approve the contract with Mato Hinton for \$48,500, starting July 1, 2026, for school term 2026-2027. Motion carried. MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to approve the contract with Ruth Nixon, increased based on lane changes, to \$56,612, starting July 1, 2026, for school term 2026-2027. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Osmotherly to approve the following pay: Tia Catches \$17.51/hour; Les Cope 753.44 + insurance/month; Latoya Gonzalez \$17.76/hour; Russ Hines \$18.02/hour; Lee Linehan \$21.63/hour; Roy Merdanian \$23.58/hour; Ellen White \$18.29/hour; starting July 1, 2026. Merdanian abstained. Motion carried.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to pay Tracey Osmotherly \$21.50/hour starting July 1, 2026. Osmotherly abstained. Motion carried.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos to approve \$1,000 signing bonus. Certified staff to be paid in full on September 15, 2026; hourly to be paid in 2 installments of \$500 the first payment upon successful completion of their 90-day probation and the second payment 3 months after the first payment. Motion carried.

Bus Route: Discussion about running a bus route north on HWY 385. Request Roy and Les drive the area and make recommended route.

Adjournment

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian, to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 PM. Motion carried.

Attested to by CEO/Superintendent Stone.

Pursuant to SDCL 17-2-28 the approximate cost of publishing this legal notice is \$

