

An equal opportunity affirmative action employer

Swanville Public Schools No. 486

602 DeGraff Avenue, Box 98 Swanville, MN 56382

Phone (320) 547-5100 Fax (320) 547-2576

Christopher Kircher - Chairperson
Chris Gilyard - Vice-Chair
Molly Gerads - Clerk

Todd Lee - Superintendent
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

Luke Peterson - Treasurer
Kyle Thieschafer, Jr. - Director
Bill Johnson - Director

Swanville School Board Minutes, District #486 September 17, 2025

The regular meeting of the Swanville School Board was called to order in the Swanville School Library at 7pm on September 17, 2025 by President Chris Kircher. Members present were Molly Gerads, Luke Peterson, Chris Gilyard, Bill Johnson & Kyle Thieschafer. Also present was Superintendent Todd Lee, Principal Sheryl Johnson. No guests to be added to the agenda.

Molly Gerads made a motion to amend the Agenda for the meeting to add 9.6 Bank Signers and 9.7 Storage Shed bids. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote 6-0, motion carried.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to approve the School Board Minutes from the August 28, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Luke Peterson made a motion to accept the hirings of Chantelle Frie for the Fall Play & lane changes for Karlee Peterson from MA to MA+15, Tamie Wimmer from BA+30 to BA+45 and Jack Peterson from BA to BA+15. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

BILLS TO BE ALLOWED

Bill Johnson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$236,573.37. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson made a motion to approve the electronic transfers of \$51,910.91 on August 20, 2025 and \$119,830 on September 5, 2025. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Luke Peterson made the motion to Approve the Maximum preliminary Levy for taxes payable in 2026. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Chris Gilyard made a motion to approve MOU between SEA and ISD# 486: One-time exception to combine classes per section 12.1 of Master Agreement. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to approve MOU between SEA and ISD# 486: Adopt ElevatePD agreement for 2025-2026. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote 6-0, motion carried.

Bill Johnson made a motion to approve MOU between SEA and ISD# 486: Science & Reading. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.



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Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to change the Bank Signers at First State Bank Swanville to Todd Lee, Debra Sieben, Christine Sales, Christopher Kircher and Molly Gerads as signers for the bank accounts. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Molly Gerads made a motion to award the sole bid from Bill Johnson for the maintenance shed. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

REPORTS

PRINCIPAL REPORT

K-12 Principal Sheryl Johnson presented the Principal's Report.

- Enrollment:

360 total K-12 (as of 9/17/25)
405 PK-12
214 K-6
146 7-12
Ended last spring at 347

- An anonymous donor reached out, they would like to purchase t-shirts promoting kindness for all staff and students-working together on a design.
- Pawzitive Patrol will be meeting with Jostens on Oct. 10th to go over survey results. We have activities planned for a couple of events.
- College Fair Monday Sept 22nd for grades 10-12 at SCSU. Also that day is an event that Joel is taking a number of his students to in Plymouth. It is a Manufacturing Education Student & Career Day.
- 6th grade is attending a Water Festival in Long Prairie. We are trying the Todd county one this year, we have previously done the one at Camp Ripley.
- Coronation is Sunday September 28 at 7 p.m.
- Mentors are being assigned to new staff and those in year 2.
- Oct. 1st we have a meeting for seniors and parents to learn about SchoolLinks and accessing college applications and scholarships.
- Volleyball Photos from Gina Christopherson turned out great!



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ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR REPORT

AD Aaron Gapinskin reported:

September Athletes of the Month:

Volleyball: JH: Tjade Miller and Guadalupe Lopez-Ojeda - JH Coach Nicollet Gammon-Deering, "7th Grader Tjade Miller is chosen as one of the Junior High Volleyball Athletes of the Month. Tjade has been a positive and exciting part of our JH team for 3 years now, starting as a manager in the 5th grade. She is consistent, reliable, determined, understanding and overall a great athlete/teammate to have as a part of our program. 8th Grader Guadalupe Lopez-Ojeda is chosen as the other Junior High Volleyball Athlete of the Month. Lupe goes above and beyond to show up each day with a positive attitude and outlook. Lupe encourages, listens, and helps others while being humble and driven in the sport of volleyball! Congratulations Tjade and Lupe!" JV: Ava Beto - Head Coach Luke Peterson, "Junior Ava Beto has been chosen as our JV Volleyball Athlete of the Month. Ava has stepped into the JV setter role and leads by example. Her hustle and positivity bring energy to the court. We are excited to have her part of our team! Congratulations Ava!!" V: Reese Jackson - Head Coach Luke Peterson, "Senior Reese Jackson is chosen as the Volleyball Athlete of the Month. Reese is a steady leader for our team. She plays all 6 rotations and has a 98% serve rating. She also leads the team in aces and hitting percentage. Congratulations Reese!"

Football: JH: Mack Kottschade and Brady Lindemann - JH Coaches Chris Kircher and Brandon Moore, "USA Patriots Junior High Athletes of the Month for September are Mack Kottschade and Brady Lindemann. 7th grader Mack has been put in a rough spot having to play up with the 8th graders because of low numbers. He has never complained and works hard every day to get better on both offense and defense. 8th grader Brady has to play multiple positions due to injuries and gives 110% effort wherever he is asked to play. Both men are true team players and play the Patriot Way! Congratulations Mack and Brady!" JV: Milo Hutchins - Head Coach Jay Loven, "Sophomore Milo Hutchins is the Patriots JV Athlete of the Month for September. Milo is playing very well on both sides of the ball. His play at the defensive end position has earned him playing time on the varsity team. Milo also is doing very well playing on the offensive line, after playing wide receiver last season. He works very hard on and off of the field, which is why he is getting playing time with the varsity team. He is what we are looking for as coaches... coachability and hard work. Congratulations Milo!" V: Brody Kircher - Head Coach Jay Loven, "USA football would like to congratulate Brody Kircher, September Athlete of the Month. Brody is a captain for the Patriots and has had a great start to his senior season. Brody has 11 catches for 241 yards and 2 TD. In addition, Brody returned 2 punts for touchdowns against Benson on September 5. Brody is also a 3 year starter at defensive back, where he usually lines up across from the other teams best wide receiver. Congratulations Brody!"

Athletic seasons are off to an excellent start. Theater will begin as well at the end of September with the fall play scheduled for November 14th and 15th. Fall Coaches to hire: Chantelle Frie - Theater

Special Recognition/Consideration:

-Thank you to all the volunteers that spent countless hours this summer again improving our facilities. A special recognition to Chris Gilyard for his efforts on our projects.



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-Baseball field update: Jennie-O is not looking at closing the turkey barn anytime soon, so we will need to explore other options.

Discussion ensued on possible options for the baseball field, we will discuss further next meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Todd Lee shared an update on the SiteLogiQ project. We are scheduled for several meetings in the next couple of weeks to finalize plans and prepare for bid. We are on track for bidding to open in October.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

Chris Gilyard (Vice Chair) called for meeting closure. Luke Peterson made a motion to close the meeting at 7:49pm. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried, meeting closed. Chris Gilyard made a motion to reopen the meeting at 8:16pm. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

EXTRA MOTIONS:

Molly Gerads made a motion to have October 3, 2025 as a half day school to allow students to go to the homecoming game in Upsala at 2. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

The next Swanville School District Board meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2025 at 7pm in the High School Library.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Vote: 6-0, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Molly Gerads - Swanville School Board Clerk

