

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 October 20, 2025

The regular meeting of the Swanville School Board was called to order in the Swanville School Library at 7:02pm on October 20, 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.

Luke Peterson made a motion to approve the Agenda for the meeting. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote 6-0, motion carried.

Chris Gilyard made a motion to approve the School Board Minutes from the September 17, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Chris Gilyard made a motion to accept the hirings of Ann Koetter, Parent Educator, Coaches: Girls Basketball - Chris Kircher - Head Coach, Tamie Wimmer - Assistant Coach, Brandon Moore - Junior High. Boys Basketball: Aaron Gapinski - Head Coach, Luke Peterson - Assistant Coach, Barney VanHavermaet - Volunteer Assistant Coach. Robotics: Jason Lee - Head Coach, Kris Bellefeuille - Assistant Coach. Theater: Chantelle Frie. Lane Changes - Carly Andres BA+30 to BA+45. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### **BILLS TO BE ALLOWED**

Bill Johnson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$850,625.14. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Chris Gilyard made a motion to approve the electronic transfers of \$66,545.53 on September 20, 2025 and \$67,279.83 on October 5, 2025. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill Johnson made the motion to Approve the calling for Snow Removal bids. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Molly Gerads made a motion to approve the Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places for Certain Multiple Precincts and Designating Voting Hours for School District Elections not held on the day of Statewide Election - Swanville Fire Hall. Seconded by Chris Gilyard. Roll call Vote, 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson made a motion to approve the Auditor Contract. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote 6-0, motion carried.

Bill Johnson made a motion to approve the SEA Master Contract for 2025-2027. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.



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## **REPORTS**

### **PRINCIPAL REPORT**

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

- Enrollment has stayed the same since September.
- Picture Day with Josten's went smoothly
- The committee has been working on what it means to be a bulldog with Josten's and will be meeting with Josten's for next steps on October 21st.
- The school wide pep fest for Homecoming was a success.
- Elementary Students of the Month: Kindergarten: Lukas Vanderpoel, Beau Flahave. First Grade: Scarlett Pitschka. Second Grade: Emma Block, Kiara Harden. Third Grade: Alanna Tucker, Isaac Martinez Cruz. Fourth Grade: Harry Sibul, Dawson DeFoe. Fifth Grade: Bennett Larson, Burke Rocheleau. Sixth Grade: Emma Ritter. PE K-3: Sophia Weeres. PE 4-6: Kyja Harden. Art K-3: Lincoln Janey. Art 4-6: Heston Gerads. Music K-3: Kylie Gilyard. Music 4-6: Evangeline Yorek.

### **High School Celebrations**

- Congratulations to Reese Jackson and Ellen Hutchins, the September Students of the Month
- Congratulations to our Athletic teams on highly successful seasons and good luck heading into play-offs.
- Successful Homecoming
- Ag Centric Trailer was here, well attended by students, good feedback on experience
- Moving forward with re-establishing our own FFA chapter, many benefits to doing so
- Notification that we are receiving a \$12,000 grant from the Gene Haas foundation for Super Mileage, congratulations to Joel Rieffer on this accomplishment and for his hard work on this program

### **Technology Updates**

- New switches being installed after school tonight and tomorrow night. Much of this was affected by the summer storms and insurance is paying out for this.
- 1 to 1 devices are all out, getting much use. I am seeing more and more staff incorporating this into daily work.

### **ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR REPORT**

October Athletes of the Month:

#### **Volleyball:**

- JH: 7th Grade Mabel Hollermann and 8th Grader Aubree Schaffer - JH Coach Nicolle Gammon-Deering, "Mabel Hollermann and Aubree Schaffer have been named the Athletes of the Month for Junior High Volleyball. Mabel always shows up with a positive attitude and willingness to work each day. She is focused and driven to improve her volleyball skills whether it is at practice or at home! Aubree is a positive and encouraging teammate. She is a



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role model and team leader for our JH players and younger. She shows up to every practice or game and plays to the best of her abilities. Aubree is dedicated to volleyball whether it be in season practice, summer practice or practicing skills at home. Congratulations Mabel and Aubree!!!

- JV: Ayla Sandelin - Head Coach Luke Peterson, "Ayla Sandelin has been named the Athlete of the Month for JV Volleyball. Ayla is a calm, steady player for our volleyball team. She keeps the ball in play as a hitter. She is also a steady defender and passer. Congratulations Ayla!!!"
- V: Avery Douglas - Head Coach Luke Peterson, "Avery Douglas has been named Athlete of the Month for Volleyball. Avery is a lock down defender on the court. She can shut down opposing hitters. She also makes great passes to get the offense started! Congratulations Avery!!!"

## Football:

- JH: 7th Grader Gabe Silgjord and 8th Grader Hunter Miller - JH Coaches Chris Kircher and Brandon Moore, "Gabe Silgjord and Hunter Miller are our choices for junior high Athletes of the Month. Gabe has been a constant performer working hard everyday to be better on offense and defense and it has shown. Hunter does whatever is asked of him and never complains. He has worked so hard on a shorthanded team to become a better running back. Both men are true team players and play the **Patriot Way!!** Congratulations Gabe and Hunter!"
- JV: Ryan Veldkamp - Head Coach Jay Loven, "The Patriot JV Athlete of the Month is Ryan Veldkamp. Ryan is one of the JV running backs and defensive backs. He has played well this season. Ryan is smaller in stature, but big in fearlessness. There has not been a situation that Ryan has backed away from this season. Congratulations Ryan!!!"
- V: Frankie Meagher - Head Coach Jay Loven, "Senior Frankie Meagher has been named Athlete of the Month for the Patriots. Frankie is a senior captain this year for the Patriots. Frankie is following up a great season last year with another great season this year. He has thrown for 811 yards in 7 games and has a completion percentage of 65%. We are very lucky to have Frankie running our offense. Congratulations Frankie!!!"

## Special Consideration/Recognition:

- Avery Douglas reached a milestone in volleyball within the last couple weeks, 2000 career digs!
- Reese Jackson reached a milestone in volleyball within the last week, 1000 career digs! Congratulations Reese!
- Congratulations to our volleyball team for winning the Prairie Conference Title with an undefeated conference record! We have won the conference in back to back years now. We finished the regular season with a 21-2 record!
- The football team won the Sub-District title in back to back years. We finished with a 7-1 record this year!
- Do we have any issues with coaches starting a social media page to promote their sport? Is this something we want to consider school wide? A committee will be formed to work through this.
- HUDL is recommending that schools charge for the live-streaming services. We currently run the live streams through our YouTube page. Most schools have switched to HUDL TV.

## Volleyball Playoff Dates:

10/22 - subsection quarters - #1 Swanville vs #8 McGregor in Swanville at 7:00



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10/24/2025 - subsection semi-finals - high seed  
10/28/2025 - subsection finals - Crosby-Ironton  
10/30/2025 - section finals - Crosby Ironton

## **Football Playoff Dates:**

10/21/2025 - 1 and 2 seeds get a bye  
10/25 - section semi-finals - #1 Upsala Swanville Area will host in Swanville 2:00  
10/31/2025 - section finals - FargoDome 10:00 AM

**Coach Openings:** Junior High Boys Basketball & Sound & Light Technician for Theater

## **SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Todd Lee shared an update on the SiteLogiQ project. The public contractor walk through will be November 6th at 10am, contractors meet at the West School entrance to sign in and obtain a badge. Public bid opening ceremony will be November 20th, 2pm. The annual District Audit was completed October 13th-15th.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

The large maintenance shed was sold and will be relocated and the small shed is in the works of being cleaned out to relocate that on school property. Both of these relocations are in preparation for the building addition.

President Chris Kircher shared the Open Meeting Law allows a meeting to be closed based upon the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b). The School Board needs to meet with its attorney in a confidential setting to obtain advice regarding its legal positions and strategies. Pursuant to the law cited, Chris Kircher entertained a motion that this meeting now be closed for this purpose.

Bill Johnson made a motion to close the meeting at 8:10pm. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried, meeting adjourned into closed session.

Chris Kircher advised that the board had concluded its confidential discussion. Molly Gerads made a motion to adjourn the closed session at 8:35pm. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson made a motion to reopen the public meeting at 8:35pm. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote 6-0, motion carried, meeting reopened to the public.

## **EXTRA MOTIONS/ITEMS:**

The School Board has before it a proposed Settlement Agreement and Release and Waiver of All Claims with the former



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employees and the School Board members have had an opportunity to review.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to approve the Settlement Agreement and authorized the Board Chair and Clerk to sign the Agreement and for administration and legal counsel to take all other actions to implement its terms. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

**The next Swanville School District Board meeting is scheduled for November 19th, 2025 at 7pm in the High School Library. The public bid opening meeting is November 20, 2025 at 2pm in the Auditorium.**

Chris Gilyard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Molly Gerads - Swanville School Board Clerk

