

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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

## Swanville School Board Minutes, District #486 January 22, 2025

The regular meeting of the Swanville School Board was called to order in the Swanville School Library at 7pm on January 22, 2025 by President Chris Kircher. Members present were Molly Gerads, Billy Johnson, Luke Peterson, Kyle Thieschafer and Chris Gilyard. Also present was Superintendent Travis Hensch and Principal Sheryl Johnson.

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

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to approve the School Board Minutes from the December 18, 2024 regular meeting and January 14, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Molly Gerads made a motion to accept the Resignation of Betsy Giese- dishwasher and Lane Change for Jason Lee from BA+45 to MA, Nicollet Gammon-Deering BA to BA+15 and Tamie Wimmer BA+15 to BA+30. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### BILLS TO BE ALLOWED

Bill Johnson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$239,557.06. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson made a motion to approve the Electronic transfers of \$60,056.23 on December 20, 2024 and \$81,033.51 on January 5, 2025. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers was held.

Chair - Luke Peterson Nominated Chris Kircher. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Vice Chair - Molly Gerads Nominated Chris Gilyard. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Clerk - Luke Peterson Nominated Molly Gerads. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Treasurer - Kyle Thieschafer Nominated Luke Peterson. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Molly Gerads made a motion to set the School Board Meetings to the 3rd Wednesday of the Month with the 4th Wednesday as the backup day, at 7pm. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to keep Board Compensation as Chair \$150, Vice-Chairperson \$50 (\$20 extra when presiding), Clerk \$250, Treasure \$10 and each meeting \$50. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried .

Molly Gerads made a motion to approve the Membership into Region III, CMERDC & MSBA for 2025. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote 6-0, motion carried.



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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

Luke Peterson made a motion to designate The Long Prairie Leader and Morrison County Record as the official Newspapers for the Swanville School District. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson made a Motion to designate Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney as the official Swanville School District Attorney for 2025. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to designate First State Bank of Swanville and MN School District Liquid Asset Fund as the official Swanville School District Depositories for 2025. Seconded by Bill Johnson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Bill Johnson made a motion to approve the below Appointments to the following Committees and their compensation. Seconded by Molly Gerads. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Mid-State Education District - Chris Kircher - Compensation \$50

MSHSL - Chris Kircher - Compensation \$20

Community Education - Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Meet and Confer - Luke Peterson, Kyle Thieschafer, Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Staff Development- Chris Kircher - Compensation \$20

Legislative Liaison - Chris Kircher - Compensation \$20

Perkins/CTE - Kyle Thieschafer, Chris Gilyard, Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Harassment/Bullying - Molly Gerads, Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Finance - Molly Gerads, Chris Gilyard, Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Teacher/Principal Evaluation - Molly Gerads, Chris Kircher - Compensation \$20

Paired Sports - Molly Gerads, Luke Peterson - Compensation \$20

Technology - Kyle Thieschafer - Compensation \$20

Safety - Kyle Thieschafer - Compensation \$20

Innovative Schools Project - Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Response Team - Chris Kircher, Molly Gerads - Compensation \$20

Calendar - Molly Gerads, Chris Gilyard - Compensation \$20

Negotiations - Chris Kircher, Molly Gerads, Bill Johnson - Compensation \$20

Interviews - Any Board Member - Compensation \$20

Student Council - Luke Peterson - Compensation \$20



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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

Letter Club - Molly Gerads - Compensation \$20

Referendum/Construction Committee - Molly Gerads, Bill Johnson, Luke Peterson - Compensation \$20

Luke Peterson made a motion to approve Office Manager Deb Sieben as the person responsible for making electronic transfers for 2025 and Authorize Travis Hensch as the backup. Seconded by Bill Johnson . Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Bill Johnson introduced the Resolution directing the Administration to make recommendations for reduction in programs and positions. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Roll Call Vote: 6-0 with all in favor, motion carried. The Resolution was adopted.

## REPORTS

Sheryl Johnson presented the Principal Report. Enrollment increased 3 students from December 2024.

### School Wide Celebrations:

- Jack Peterson and Tara Ramsdell were selected as our Teachers of Excellence. Danielle Schultz and Margaret Muhlenkamp were selected as our Pillars of Excellence. The awards ceremony is May 7th.

### High School Celebrations

- Students of the month for December are Brody Kircher and Morgan VanHeel
- ASVAB testing occurred January 14, as well as the DFS kick-off
- FAFSA night was January 15, they helped six families
- CLC Career Exploration Day March 7, sophomores will be going this year
- LaKiesha Kuhl and Ingrid Meza were selected as our Students of Character. The banquet is April 23rd
- 12 8th grade students are participating in Fluid Power Competition

### Elementary Celebrations

- Consideration of elementary concerts and space - review for spring concert
- 5th grade is going to Upsala Assisted Living to meet their Pen Pals
- February 19th is Kindergarten Round Up. We have 26 potential students



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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

## Elementary Students of the Month

	December
K	Jaxon Poegel
	1 Emma Block
	2 Evie LeNore
3A	Emilee Toney
3S	Luke Vanheel
	4 Kaprice Karst
5S	Edison Edwards
5W	Miles Peterson
	Hailey 6 Skillings
STEM K-3	Dawson deFoe
STEM 4-6	Clara Johnson
PE K-3	Landon Notsch
PE 4-6	Thunder Jones
Art K-3	Ruby Schultz
Art 4-6	Myla Miller
Music K-3	Archer Dickinson
Music 4-6	Eva Yorek

## Activities Director Report:

### **January Athletes of the Month:**

#### Boys Basketball:

V: Head Coach Derek Pfeiffer, "Caden Beseman is the V January Athlete of the Month for Boys Basketball. Caden is a very talented individual who seems to always come up clutch when we need him. He sees the floor really well and is a tenacious defender. Congratulations Caden!"



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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

JV: Assistant Coach Brandon Moore, “Milo Hutchins is the JV January Athlete of the Month for Boys Basketball. Milo has gone above and beyond expectations for this year already. He is averaging 12 points per game! He has worked his way into a starting role on the JV team. His dedication and work ethic is incredible. It’s been a pleasure coaching him so far this year! Congratulations Milo!”

JH: Head Coach Barney VanHavermaet, “Brannon Karjala is the JH January Athlete of the Month for Boys Basketball. Brannon has become a leader both on and off the court. He is always willing to help out wherever is needed. Keep working hard Brannon! Congratulations!”

Girls Basketball:

V: Head Coach Chad Brever, “Avery Douglas is the January Athlete of the Month for Girls Basketball. Over the course of the last month, Avery has led our team in points, steals, assists, shooting percentage, free throw percentage, plus or minus category, and deflections. Avery has improved her rebounding and now is our 2nd leading rebounder for this month. With Avery's experience she is developing into a great leader on the court. Congratulations Avery for earning January's player of the month!”

JV: Assistant Coach Luke Peterson, “Morgan VanHeel is the JV January Athlete of the Month for Girls Basketball. Morgan has done a great job stepping into the starting lineup and contributing in a variety of ways. She works hard in every practice and game, and can be counted on to be a leader to the whole team. Congratulations Morgan!”

## **Special Recognition/Consideration:**

- We have a new interactive touchscreen located in the commons. This will be linked from our school webpage as well. It is a work in progress, but each sport will have its own page for trophies and awards. We will have a separate link for State Tournament participants also. Eventually, we would like to get all yearbooks scanned in as well. All of the class photos as another category is a potential idea.
- Motivational/Leadership Speaker Scott Welle was here on Sunday, January 12th and spoke with around 75 students and parents. He gave some really good input to students on leadership and being motivated.
- We will take around 18 students on Thursday, January 30th to Osakis for a Leadership training for students that were nominated by their coaches. We are looking to take some 9th - 11th grade students. This is being put on by the MSHSL.

## **Current Coaching Openings:**

Track - Head Coach and Assistant

Baseball - Varsity Assistant and JV Coach

School Board Committee Updates: Calendar Committee will meet Tuesday January 28th at 3:20pm.



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

Travis Hensch - Superintendent  
Sheryl Johnson - Principal

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

## Superintendent Announcements:

Travis Hensch reported there was a good turnout at both Open House sessions for the upcoming February 11th Referendum vote. He will be talking on the Long Prairie and Little Falls radio stations soon. He is working on finance options to keep Lacey Zupko, the Behavioral Interventionist on staff for 2025-2026 year as the grant funding has ended. Travis is working with the early childhood program staff on the program specifics for the 2025-2026 school year. The Swanville Dollars for Scholars organization will be rewarding its 1 Millionth scholarship dollar this year at graduation. All past, present and future DFS members are encouraged to join the Graduation ceremony. Date, time and location (considering the gym) to be announced. Travis also reported on his attendance at the MSBA Conference.

## OLD BUSINESS

Kyle Thieschafer made a motion to adopt the Cell Phone Policy for K-12. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Molly Gerads made a motion to adopt the ITV Policy. Seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Chris Kircher reported that Superintendent Travis Hensch review rating is Developing. The review has been finalized, signed and placed in his file.

Molly Gerads made a motion to accept the Quit Claims Deed approval for the sale of the school land that was approved in 2024. Seconded by Kyle Thieschafer. Vote: 6-0, motion carried.

Luke Peterson reported that the Swanville Athletic Boosters (SAB) will be starting to build a Concession stand at the ballpark complex after final discussion at their February 2nd meeting.

The next Swanville School District Board meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2025 at 7pm in the High School Library.

Bill Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm, seconded by Luke Peterson. Vote: 6-0, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Molly Gerads  
Swanville School Board Clerk

