Three Rivers Community School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Board of Education Work Session
Monday, May 4, 2026

Approved Minutes

The Work Session of the Board of Education was called to order by President Erin Nowak at 6:01 PM.

Present:	Amanda Allen, Linda Baker, Ross Daniels, Erin Nowak, Elizabeth Ogreen, Melissa Patch
Absent:	Julia Awe
Administration Present:	Nikki Nash, Justin Holbrook, Brian Leonard, Kerrie Bass, Greg Rutten
Pledge of Allegiance:	President Nowak led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of the Agenda:	Motion by Member Patch, with support from Member Daniels, to approve the agenda as presented. After a roll call vote, 6-0, President Nowak declared the motion as approved unanimously. Yea: Allen, Baker, Daniels, Nowak, Ogreen, Patch Absent: Awe
Public Comment:	Public Comment was offered.
Discussion/ Presentation:	**Suicide Prevention: TRCS Pilot Project** Ben Karle, Behavioral Health Program Coordinator, SJCISD, provided the Board with an overview of the Suicide Prevention Pilot Project which took place at TRCS. Mr. Karle presented the Board with the findings and data acquired during this pilot run. Board comments and questions were received. **2026 - 2027 Handbooks (First Read)** Superintendent Nash provided a brief overview of changes to the 2026-2027 PK-12 Student Handbook, Three Rivers Partnership Handbook and Athletics Handbook for the Board's first reading. All of the new handbooks used the annual legal template by Neola and are aligned with Board Policy. Board questions and comments followed. **St. Joseph County ISD 2026-2027 Budget** Superintendent Nash reviewed the St. Joseph County ISD 2026-2027 General Fund Budget which will need approval this evening. The Board will have the opportunity to approve or oppose the budget through a resolution which will be provided to the SJCISD. Board comments and questions were received.
Staff Leave Requests:	Motion by Member Daniels, with support from Member Patch, to approve the two (2) non-FMLA staff leave requests as presented. After a roll call vote, 6-0, President Nowak declared the motion as approved unanimously. Yea: Allen, Baker, Daniels, Nowak, Ogreen, Patch Absent: Awe
St. Joseph County ISD General Fund Budget Resolution:	Motion by Member Daniels, with support from Member Patch, to approve the Resolution in support of the St. Joseph County ISD General Fund Budget for FY 2026-2027. After a roll call vote, 6-0, President Nowak declared the motion as approved unanimously. Yea: Allen, Baker, Daniels, Nowak, Ogreen, Patch

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	Absent: Awe
Board Calendar:	President Nowak reviewed upcoming events with the Board.
Board Comment:	Board comment was offered and received.
Closed Session:	Motion by Member Patch, with support from Member Daniels, to move into Closed Session as permitted under Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings for the purpose of strategy and negotiation sessions connected with a collective bargaining agreement. After a roll call vote, 6-0, President Nowak declared the motion as approved unanimously. Yea: Allen, Baker, Daniels, Nowak, Ogreen, Patch Absent: Awe The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:41 PM and returned at 7:42 PM
Adjournment:	Motion by Member Patch, with support from Member Daniels, to adjourn the meeting. After a roll call vote, 6-0, President Nowak declared the motion as approved unanimously. Yea: Allen, Baker, Daniels, Nowak, Ogreen, Patch Absent: Awe The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Patch, Secretary Board of Education

Lorie Camino, Recording Secretary