

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE NEW LONDON BOARD OF EDUCATION
AT THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

PRESENT: K. Batten, M. Grossman, N. Grundy, J. Heideman, C. Martinson, H. Schweitzer, and A. Thorpe.

Absent:

I. VISITORS AND COMMUNICATION (PUBLIC FORUM)

None

II. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. by K. Batten, Vice President. The pledge of allegiance was led by K. Batten. A quorum was established.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Resignation of Personnel
- B. Approval of Employment of Personnel

Consent agenda was forwarded to closed session.

IV. New Business

- A. School District of New London Catalyst Academy Report

Informational, no motion necessary.

Emily Marcus and Kasey Kaepernick, instructors at Catalyst Academy, gave a program update to the Board of Education, sharing information about their work and updates from the 2025–2026 academic year.

- B. Review and Potential Approval of New London High School Spanish Club International Trip Destination Reconsideration

Ellen Celske, Spanish Club advisor, requested permission from the Board of Education to adjust the “Out to Country” cultural trip from Spain to Costa Rica due to increased costs and lower student interest.

Motion by M. Grossman seconded by N. Grundy to: Approve the 2027 Spanish Club foreign travel reconsideration request to the country of Costa Rica.

Passed: 7 to 0

- C. Update on Board of Education S.M.A.R.T. Goal Addressing Chronic Absenteeism

Informational, no motion necessary.

Scott Bleck provided a data report related to the Board of Education sub-goal addressing chronic absenteeism. Further discussion included individual building attendance rates, along with forward-looking observations for the upcoming months. The importance of consistent attendance was emphasized.

D. WILL School Board Summit Conference Consideration 2026

Informational, no motion necessary.

Mr. Martinson informed the Board of a professional development opportunity to attend the upcoming WILL Summer Conference. Board members were encouraged to watch for the conference agenda sessions, which will be released in the near future.

E. His Way Events Youth Rally

Informational, no motion necessary.

Mr. Martinson shared information about an upcoming community engagement event featuring motivational speaker Bob Lenz. Mr. Lenz will present to the community on Wednesday, March 18, at 6:00 p.m. at the high school. The public is welcome to attend.

V. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., the Board of Education will convene in closed session to discuss the continued employment of certified, support, and co-curricular staff members over which the Board has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility. (pp.)

Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., the Board of Education will convene in closed session to discuss the employment and compensation of certified, support and co-curricular staff members over which the Board has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility.

Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats., the Board of Education will convene in closed session for the purpose of considering personal information concerning financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons including students, except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data.

It was moved by M.Grossman and seconded by N. Grundy to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes as listed on the agenda at 6:50 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
K. Batten	x_____	_____	_____	_____
M. Grossman	x_____	_____	_____	_____
N. Grundy	x_____	_____	_____	_____
J. Heideman	_____	_____	_____	x_____
C. Martinson	x_____	_____	_____	_____
H. Schweitzer	x_____	_____	_____	_____
A. Thorpe	x_____	_____	_____	_____

Motion passed 6 to 0

V. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by N. Grundy to enter open session at 8:19 p.m.

Passed: 6 to 0

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by to approve resignation of continued employment of certified, support, and co-curricular staff members over which the Board has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility as presented.

Anna Henschel: April 30, 2026

Kyle Collins: Conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year

Jill Willner: March 27, 2026

Lexie Schutt: March 6, 2026

Laurie Laubenstein: February 16, 2026

Passed: 6 - 0

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by A. Thorpe to approve the employment and compensation of administrative, certified, support and co-curricular staff members over which the Board has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility as presented

Riley Schussler, New London High School Principal: Start date: July 1, 2026

Passed: 6 to 0

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by A. Thorpe and seconded by M. Grossman to adjourn the meeting at 8:22p.m.

Passed: 6 - 0

Holly Schweitzer, Clerk