



AGENDA

Business Services Committee

John Benbow, Jr., Chairperson
Christopher Inda, Member
Jaime Sparkes, Member
John A. Krings, President

February 2, 2026

LOCATION: Board of Education Office, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Conference Room C

TIME: Immediately following the Educational Services Committee Meeting, but not before 6:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Public Comment

Persons who wish to address members of the Committee may make a statement pertaining to a specific agenda item. The Committee Chair will establish limits for speakers due to time constraints. Comments made by the public shall be civil in content and tone. Speakers bear the personal risk if comments made are defamatory, slanderous, or otherwise harmful to another individual. Please remember that this is a Committee meeting of the Board open to the public, and not a public hearing.

III. Actionable Items

- A. eRate - Wide Area Network (WAN) Contract - Approval
- B. Wax Supply Quote - Approval

IV. Updates and Reports

- A. Purchases - Update
- B. Donations - Update
- C. First Bank OPEB Investment Report - Update
- D. School Finances vs Inflation - Update

V. Agenda Items

VI. Future Agenda Items

The Wisconsin open meetings law requires that the Board, or Board Committee, only take action on subject matter that is noticed on their respective agendas. Persons wishing to place items on the agenda should contact the District Office at 715-424-6701, at least seven working days prior to the meeting date for the item to be considered. The item may be referred to the appropriate committee or placed on the Board agenda as determined by the Superintendent and/or Board president.

With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities by providing a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aids, by calling 715-424-6701.

School Board members may attend the above Committee meeting(s) for information gathering purposes. If a quorum of Board members should appear at any of the Committee meetings, a regular School Board meeting may take place for purposes of gathering information on an item listed on one of the Committee agendas. If such a meeting should occur, the date, time, and location of the Board meeting will be that of the particular Committee as listed on the Committee agenda **however, no deliberation or action will be taken by other Committees or the full Board of Education.**



BACKGROUND

Business Services Committee

John Benbow, Jr., Chairperson
Christopher Inda, Member
Jaime Sparkes, Member
John A. Krings, President

February 2, 2026

LOCATION: Board of Education Office, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Conference Room C

TIME: Immediately following the Educational Services Committee Meeting, but not before 6:15 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Actionable Items
 - A. eRate - Wide Area Network (WAN) Contract - Approval

The District is currently in the last year of our Wide Area Network (WAN) contract with Solarus. As part of the Federal eRate program, WAN connections are part of Category 1 funding and are not subject to a per pupil allocation. As part of the eRate program, we have put our WAN requirements out to bid. Our current WAN provider, Solarus, was the only company to provide us with a bid. The bid provided by Solarus is for a 3-year contract with an option to extend the contract in years 4 and 5. The bid covers all our schools and buildings (see attachment A).

The administration recommends entering a new 3-year contract with Solarus to provide Wide Area Network services to the District at a monthly cost of \$11,460.00 to be funded 80% by the Federal eRate program and 20% to be funded from the annual Technology Budget.

- B. Wax Supply Quote - Approval

Staff from Central Storage have submitted bids for custodial wax supplies for the summer of 2026. This bid was sent to four vendors, and pricing was received from all four vendors. Quotes were only accepted for exact products; substitute items were not accepted (see Attachment B).

The Administration recommends accepting proposals for floor finishes from Nassco, Inc. for \$18,356.71, Schilling for \$4,570.17, and Hillyard Floor Care Supply for \$3,499.70, for a total cost of \$26,426.58 to be paid from the 2025-26 Buildings and Grounds budget.

IV. Updates and Reports

A. Purchases - Update

Copies of the following invoices, bid specs, and purchase orders will be reviewed:

- AccuTrain - \$13,900.00 - Mental Health & Title II - PD Trainer-Speaker
- Arbiter - \$12,000.00 - LHS Athletic Budget - Official Payments
- Automated Energy Solutions - \$16,500.00 - B&G Budget - Service Agreement
- Building Blocks - \$63,112.50 - 4K Budget - 4K Contracted Service
- Fundamental - \$36,225.00 - Spec Ed Budget - School Day Programming
- Head Start - \$44,550.00 - 4K Budget - 4K Contracted Service
- Kurita America - \$16,346.73 - B&G Budget - EJH Boiler Services
- Neuman Pools - \$10,032.98 - Pool & Community Service Budget - Service & Maintenance Contract
- PDS - \$144,600.00 - Technology Referendum Budget – Chromebooks
- Pinnacle - \$21,250.00 - Special Ed Budget - PT Services
- SWC YMCA - \$35,887.50 - 4K Budget - 4K Contracted Service
- Systems Technologies - \$30,000.00 - Community Service Budget - SWC Access Controls
- Tweet Garot - \$12,913.16 - Buildings & Grounds Budget - LHS Chiller Maintenance

B. Donations - Update

- James & Kelly Gildenzoph - \$100.00 - Angel Fund
- Charles Sulzer - \$200.00 - Angel Fund
- Timothy & Dawn Desorcy - \$100.00 - Angel Fund
- Engel Fellowship Lodge # 1 - \$250.00 - Caring Closet
- Paul & Julianne Stoltz - \$200.00 - Woodside Playground
- Judith Huber - \$350.00 - Angel Fund
- Greg & Nancy Fanning - \$100.00 - Angel Fund
- Renaissance - \$3,000.00 - General Donation
- Karen McCarragher - \$100.00 - Angel Fund
- David & Sally Smith - \$500.00 - Angel Fund
- Ridges Gold Course - \$770.00 - Angel Fund
- Creepers Car Club - \$200.00 - Angel Fund
- Nathalie Noonan - \$100.00 - Angel Fund

C. First Bank OPEB Investment Report - Update

Aaron Nelson, Director of Business Services, will briefly review the 2025 OPEB financial review provided to the district by Robert Valentine, Vice President of First Bank Investment Management Group. Overall, the District's combined portfolio returned 12.7%, net of fees.

D. School Finances vs Inflation - Update

The Legislative Fiscal Bureau has highlighted that cumulative annual adjustments in general school district revenues per pupil have lagged inflation by \$3,571.00 since 2009. The total cost impact for the WRPS school district for the 2025-26 school year is \$16,672,229.00. This discrepancy indicates that revenue limits for school districts, which are intended to keep pace with inflation, have not been sufficient to meet rising costs. As a result, schools have faced financial challenges, impacting their ability to hire staff, maintain facilities, and provide essential educational resources. The findings emphasize the need for policymakers to consider reforms in school funding mechanisms to ensure adequate resources for schools. Addressing these funding gaps is crucial for maintaining the quality of education and ensuring that all students receive the support they need to succeed (see attachment C).

V. Agenda Items

Committee members will be asked to indicate which agenda items from the Committee meeting will be included on the consent agenda for the regular Board of Education meeting.

VI. Future Agenda Items



Wide Area Network Service Agreement (2026 thru 2029)- Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Agreement

The following Agreement between Wood County Telephone Company, a corporation organized under Wisconsin law, d/b/a Solarus located at P.O. Box 8045, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 (hereafter referred to as "we", "us" and "our") and its customer, (hereafter collectively referred to as "you" and "your") describes the mutual agreement under which we provide services as described in this Agreement to you. You and we are each a "Party" and collectively referred to as "Parties." This Agreement together with all other referenced documents and exhibits constitutes our entire agreement and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous discussions and understandings, written or verbal.

You and we agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including the [End User Master Service Agreement \(MSA\)](#), [Terms & Conditions](#), [Privacy Policy](#) and [Open Internet Policy](#) which are posted on the Solarus website at <https://www.solarus.net> and incorporated into this Agreement by reference, which you acknowledge and agree that you have read. This Agreement constitutes an Exhibit to the MSA.

Service Effective Date, Contract Term and Early Termination

Service effective date will be July 1, 2026. It is agreed that the term of this contract will be for three (3) years from the service effective date, based on the option chosen. Customer can choose to extend the contract at the same terms, for an additional one or two years. It is understood that if this agreement is terminated before the expiration of the original 3 year contract period, a termination charge will be paid by Customer to Central Wisconsin Communications LLC., dba Solarus, for the unexpired portion of the contract period. The termination charge will be the total monthly rate for the services multiplied by the number of months remaining in the unexpired portion of the contract period.

Wide Area Network Service - See Network Diagram

Service provides data connectivity (separate circuits) between two or more customer locations. Service can be fiber or copper based. Customer is responsible for providing rack space, and required electricity for any Solarus or Partner provided edge equipment, in an environmentally controlled room.

 WRPS WAN 12-22-25

FROM

Wendy Hack

Solarus

440 East Grand Avenue
P.O. Box 8045
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
www.solarus.net

PHONE

715-421-8111

FOR

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

TO

Phil Bickelhaupt

QUOTE NUMBER
5817

DATE

December 22, 2025

EXPIRY DATE

January 18, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Managed Service

Solarus offers Managed Service for the Equipment listed above. Managed Service includes:

- 24x7 Technical Assistance Center via email, phone, and real time web support
- Tier 2 or greater support response time
- Equipment reconfiguration support
- MOS monitoring (VoIP only)
- Free software updates
- Hardware replacement response time
- On-site corrective maintenance
- Remote preventative maintenance
- Remote alarm monitoring
- Remote performance monitoring
- Preventative network updates (security patch)

If Managed Service is requested outside of normal business hours, including holidays, customer will be invoiced additional hourly labor charges to reflect over time rates.

See Managed Service Attachment for further details of Parties' responsibilities.

 [Managed Service Attachment](#)

Renew Wide Area Network Circuit - 10 Gbps Circuit For Lincoln High School 715-150-0344) and THINK/Rudolph Elementary School (715-450-8045).	2,120.00 x 2 4,240.00 per month (for 36 months)
Renew Wide Area Network Circuit - 5 Gbps Circuit For WRAMS (715-150-0166).	1,620.00 x 1 1,620.00 per month (for 36 months)
Upgrade Wide Area Network Circuits - 1 Gbps Circuits For Central Office (715-150-0374), River Cities High School (715-150-0012), Grant Elementary School (715-150-0178), Grove Elementary School (715-150-0228), Howe School (715-150-0049), Mead Elementary School (715-150-0075), Washington School (715-150-0337), Woodside School (715-150-0496), Central Storage (715-150-0471) & Pitsch (715-150-0160).	560.00 x 10 5,600.00 per month (for 36 months)

Installation Fee - Waived

Subtotal	11,460.00
Total	\$11,460.00
	per month
	(for 36 months)



Custodial Supply Bid - Wax Supplies 2025-2026

Cumulative annual adjustments in general school district revenues per pupil lag inflation by nearly \$3,600 since 2009

