



**Discovery Woods - District # 4198
Board of Directors Board Meeting
604 N 7th Street, Brainerd, MN 56401
Date: April 16th, 2026
Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.**

Mission: To provide Brainerd Lakes Area families a choice for quality elementary education centered around the individual needs of the child, with a focus on the environment.

Board of Directors' Purpose

To provide leadership, set policy, and develop accountability practices that will ensure high student achievement.

Board Members:

- Emma Needham, President
- Dawn Snook, Vice President
- Ashley Gangestad, Secretary
- Rebekah Kent-Ehlebracht, Treasurer
- Matt Hastert, Member
- Chasidi Grant, Member
- Denise Belden, Member
- Kara DeVriendt, Ex-Officio

Called to order at by

Present:

Absent:

Ex-Officio:

Guests:

1. Board Training - Scott Brown, CPA, EdFin, to discuss school finances.
2. Community Forum - (3 minutes)-
3. Charter School Finance Committee Report
 - i. March [Financials](#) and [Supplement](#)
 - ii. April Financial Committee [Mtg. Minutes](#)
4. Minutes from Prior Meeting: [March 19, 2026](#)
5. Election Results
6. Old and/or Unfinished Business:
 - a. Director Survey/Self-Assessment
 - b. Board Self-Assessment Results
 - i. Board Training Needs
7. School Director's report:
 - a. May's regular board meeting date change?
 - b. Summary of Financial Performance ([DW 25-26 Compliance Spreadsheet tab](#))
 - c. Personnel:

- i. Hires -
 - 1. Brittany Ladouceur - afternoon sub and early shift aftercare
- ii. Separations -
 - 1. Kaylyn Thompson - Behavior Interventionist
 - a. Position will not be replaced now or for next year
 - 2. Brittany Thurstin, EA

d. Enrollment:

Year End 2024-25	Current for 2025-26	2026-27 Preliminary
PK 19	PK 20	PK 12
K 8	K 12	K 7
1 11	1 8	1 13
2 12	2 8	2 8
3 17	3 9	3 6
4 10	4 10	4 8
5 11	5 10	5 10
6 12	6 5	6 10
Total = 100 K-6 = 81 PK = 19	Total = 82 K-6 = 62 PK = 20	Total = 74 K-6 = 62 PK = 12

8. Review board goals and Calendar

- a. Board Goals 2025-2026
- b. Board Calendar:

Uncompleted Tasks from previous months:

MARCH

- Select auditor
- Review employee survey
- Policy review
- Review co-curricular and extracurricular activities
- Review board member terms (anyone's seats up?)

Current Month:

APRIL

- Elect new board members
- Review and approve preliminary enrollment and budget assumptions for next year
 - Move to May
- Review preliminary budget for next year
- Review progress against contractual academic/environmental goals and outstanding obligations
 - Move to May/June
- Policy review

Next Month:

MAY

- Approve the annual budget for next year
- Review board's progress against annual goals
- Training and review of bylaws
- Policy review
- Conduct Director evaluation (close board session)

Next Board Meeting:
 Next Board Work Meeting:
 Meeting adjourned by at . M/S
 Board minutes submitted by