STERLING BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda of the Regular Meeting
October 21, 2026 • Community Room • 6:00 p.m.
"EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS"

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

IV. Reports and Communications

A. **Correspondence**

- EASTCONN Board of Directors - Invitation
- Thank you note

B. **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of Special Meeting September 16, 2026
2. Minutes of Meeting September 16, 2026
2. Superintendent's Report
3. Special Education Director's Report
4. Principal's Report
5. Clinical Supervisor's Report
6. Monthly Check Register

C. **Budget and Expense Report**

D. **Plainfield Board of Education Liaison**

E. **Personnel - Resignation/Retirement/New Hire**
Paraeducator - Terminated - did not complete 90 days.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Update on Culligan installation of 2 water filtration units in the kitchen and 4 water bottle/drinking stations.

VI. New Business

A. Presentation of the Academic Assessment Scores by Heather Nickerson, Principal.

B. Review, discussion, and possible approval of an **Immutable Backup Solution**.

We are requesting $5,899.07 to purchase a new backup server for the school. Our current backup solution, while still working, does not support a feature which we feel is vital towards securing our data from ransomware. The backup server will provide us with the capability of storing **Immutable Backups**, which prevents anyone from deleting data before it reaches the specified retention period. Modern ransomware not only targets your devices, but also targets any available backup target(s) and/or connected drives, including flash drives or portable hard drives. This will provide us with assurance in the event of a ransomware attack, that our data cannot be tampered with or destroyed.

Option 1: $5,899.07
Option 2: $7,441.34

C. Review, discussion, and possible approval of **E-mail Security**.

There has been a significant uptick in the number of malicious e-mails sent to Staff & Faculty in the district in the past couple of years. While we have been extremely proactive with MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication) and implementing other safeguards for e-mail protection, we are reaching a point where we are receiving reports of several malicious emails reaching the mailboxes of our Staff & Faculty per week. In the past 3 years, we have had two instances of an account compromise, though one of these was prevented due to us using MFA. These solutions provide additional security and detections, above and beyond what our current email provider (Google) can filter, and prevent these messages from landing in our users inbox entirely. We are recommending ProofPoint, as it has the best pricing and is widely adopted in the Edu/Gov sector.

Sophos: $10,835.43
KnowBe4: $6,061.61
ProofPoint: $4,858.77

VII. Review, discussion, and possible appointment of a representative and an alternate to the EASTCONN Board of Directors.

VIII. Committee Updates

A. Policy
B. Budget
C. Negotiations

IX. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

X. Public Comment

XI. Executive Session

XII. Adjournment