

Earlham Community School Board Report - March 2026

Vendor Name	Amount
Akins, Marissa	120.00
APPLE, INC	690.00
C H MCGUINNESS CO INC	1,556.00
CAPITAL SANITARY SUPPLY	1,633.14
Carey, Emilie	425.00
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY	254.32
CDW GOVERNMENT, INC	271.38
CENTURYLINK	1,060.40
CENTURYLINK	75.80
Ceramic Shop, The	99.92
DEMCO	68.94
DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4,943.00
E O JOHNSON BUSINESS TECH	234.66
EARLHAM BUILDING CENTER	402.81
EARLHAM ECHO	312.66
EARLHAM, CITY OF	2,747.68
EICHNER-BROWN, JILL	37.49
EOCENE	150.00
FREDERICKSEN, MEGAN	31.80
IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK	16.66
J W PEPPER	339.68
KARL CHEVROLET	170.00
KASTER, STEVE	181.79
LASHIER GRAPHICS & SIGNS	350.00
LILLIE PLUMBING & ELECTRIC	926.13
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE	1,113.36
MARQUIS INVESTMENTS	16.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	6,239.57
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS. LLC	205.53
RIEMAN MUSIC	21.00
ROUW, EMILIE	100.00
SCHOOL BUS SALES	518.97
TERWILLIGER, TRACI	149.96
TRANE US INC,	4,643.00
Truck Center Companies	84.12
UNITED PARCEL SERVICE	7.97
Absolute Science	850.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	974.96
DELTA DENTAL	4,025.76
DELTA VISION	616.14
HEALTH PARTNERS	80,730.83
U.S. BANK VOYAGER FLEET	3,670.09
ADAMS SNOW REMOVAL	480.00
AHLERS LAW FIRM	821.00
BEAR CREEK HARDWOODS	249.94
C H MCGUINNESS CO INC	1,339.95
CAPITAL SANITARY SUPPLY	2,727.69
CENTURYLINK	77.54
CLAYTON RIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	3,603.92
CUSTOMLANYARD.NET	350.00
DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	100.00
DIAM PEST CONTROL	50.00
Donovan Group School Communications	300.00
E O JOHNSON BUSINESS TECH	150.00
EARLHAM BUILDING CENTER	737.30
HEARTLAND EDUCATION AGENCY	15,741.10
HOMETOWN MARKET	288.44
IOWA SCHOOL FINANCE INFORMATION SERVICES	300.00
JOSTENS	356.35
KASTER, STEVE	148.00
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE	1,113.98
MEDIACOM	625.00
PANORAMA HIGH SCHOOL	279.58
PAPER CORPORATION	1,404.00
QCI	875.00
QUAVERED	1,800.00
SCOTT'S AUTO GLASS	700.00
SMITH'S SEWER SERVICE	294.50
SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION	630.50
TROPHIES PLUS	25.00
Truck Center Companies	2,934.00
U.S. CELLULAR	99.58
UNITED PARCEL SERVICE	74.93
URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	12,619.80
VENTRIS LEARNING	230.00
WALLACE AUTO SUPPLY CO	202.57
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	172,796.19
SPECIALTY UNDERWRITERS INC	35,535.25
MANAGEMENT LEVY FUND TOTAL	35,535.25
GTG CONSTRUCTION	3,750.00
LILLIE PLUMBING & ELECTRIC	225.00
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND TOTAL	3,975.00
E O JOHNSON BUSINESS TECH	1,411.32
RAPTOR TECHNOLOGIES	729.75
AMERICAN TIME	149.95
PPEL FUND TOTAL	2,291.02
ACGC Schools	160.00
BSN SPORTS, LLC	4,649.81
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH ASSN	13.00
IOWA SPORTS SUPPLY	2,518.45
JONES CREEK APPAREL	420.00
MF ATHLETIC/PERFORM BETTER	366.00
NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION	452.80
SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL	125.00
Broadway Licensing Group	300.00
Broadway Licensing Group	254.85
College of Saint Mary	150.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	792.15
Andy Mark	205.52
Bambulab.com	159.94
Home Depot	862.94
PiShop Inc.	140.91
Top Golf	300.00
BAREFOOT	520.00
GAME ONE	1,596.20
HOMETOWN MARKET	460.33
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION	270.00
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH ASSN	221.00
MEDCO SUPPLY COMPANY	506.00
SIMON WELDING, INC	273.76
TROPHIES PLUS	1,747.46
STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND TOTAL	17,466.12
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY	548.90
ATLANTIC COCA-COLA	251.60
CAPITAL SANITARY SUPPLY	78.53
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY	2,392.88
ATLANTIC COCA-COLA	248.70
CAPITAL SANITARY SUPPLY	105.37
MARTIN BROS DISTRIBUTING	15,807.51
MARTIN BROS DISTRIBUTING	4,524.09
SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND TOTAL	23,957.58

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed EARLHAM School Budget Summary
Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

Location of Public Hearing: Earlham Schools Library		Date of Hearing: 04/15/2026	Time of Hearing: 05:30 PM		
		Budget 2027	Re-est. 2026	Actual 2025	Avg % 25-27
Taxes Levied on Property	1	3,113,227	3,150,453	3,086,219	% 0.4
Utility Replacement Excise Tax	2	145,502	144,249	129,549	% 6.0
Income Surtaxes	3	0	0	0	
Tuition/Transportation Received	4	987,750	985,000	965,882	
Earnings on Investments	5	58,725	56,350	52,263	
Nutrition Program Sales	6	450,000	204,150	203,544	
Student Activities and Sales	7	260,250	258,500	255,765	
Other Revenues from Local Sources	8	84,365	82,752	78,801	
Revenue from Intermediary Sources	9	0	0	0	
State Foundation Aid	10	4,921,715	4,778,584	4,655,046	
Instructional Support State Aid	11	17,074	0	0	
Other State Sources	12	1,053,300	953,625	946,665	
Two Tier Assessment Limitation Replacement	13	36,417	36,417	18,362	
Title I Grants	14	43,150	42,000	39,911	
IDEA and Other Federal Sources	15	351,550	348,000	341,848	
Total Revenues	16	11,523,025	11,040,080	10,773,855	
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	17	0	0	0	
Transfers In	18	388,150	382,000	377,726	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions	19	14,890	14,500	12,373	
Special Items/Upward Adjustments	20	10,175	9,900	9,727	
Total Revenues & Other Sources	21	11,936,240	11,446,480	11,173,681	
Beginning Fund Balance	22	3,360,408	3,268,894	3,525,875	
Total Resources	23	15,296,648	14,715,374	14,699,556	
*Instruction	24	7,370,000	6,516,750	6,333,537	% 7.9
Student Support Services	25	221,500	180,000	166,793	
Instructional Staff Support Services	26	267,000	262,900	249,532	
General Administration	27	286,500	286,500	276,607	
School Administration	28	415,000	408,000	402,370	
Business & Central Administration	29	619,825	512,150	503,883	
Plant Operation and Maintenance	30	2,560,425	1,306,345	1,288,302	
Student Transportation	31	311,000	268,000	261,498	
*Total Support Services (lines 25-31)	31A	4,681,250	3,223,895	3,148,985	% 21.9
*Noninstructional Programs	32	650,000	380,000	378,320	% 31.1
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	33	1,190,000	309,000	606,761	
Debt Service (Principal, interest, fiscal charges)	34	362,880	364,000	362,290	
AEA Support - Direct to AEA	35	207,265	176,546	220,889	
*Total Other Expenditures (lines 33-35)	35A	1,760,145	849,546	1,189,940	% 21.6
Total Expenditures	36	14,461,395	10,970,191	11,050,782	
Transfers Out	37	387,975	382,500	377,726	
Other Uses	38	2,350	2,275	2,154	
Total Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Uses	39	14,851,720	11,354,966	11,430,662	
Ending Fund Balance	40	444,928	3,360,408	3,268,894	
Total Requirements	41	15,296,648	14,715,374	14,699,556	
Proposed Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 taxable valuation)		12.36887			

Earlham March Board Meeting Minutes
Tax Notice Hearing for 26-27 Budget
March 25, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Board President Kasey Henke, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Board members—Erin Christensen, Kasey Henke, Charlie Lenze, and Greg Opseth—were present. Board member, Jess Tiemeyer was attending via Zoom. Additional attendees included Jake Lord, Kristin Sheffield, two representatives from STEM, one in-person visitor, and two additional viewers via Zoom.

Erin Christensen moved to approve the agenda. Greg Opseth seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Erin Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting. Charlie seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm

Earlham March Board Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2026

Erin Christensen moved to approve the agenda with two amendments: the addition of Alex Teig under resignations and the inclusion of dance fundraisers under new business. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen moved to approve the consent agenda. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motioned carried unanimously.

The board reviewed financial statements, prior meeting minutes, and heard communications from the public.

Two presentations were given. Representatives from the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory shared information about the upcoming STEM BEST Symposium scheduled for June 14-16 in Earlham. The event will highlight successful STEM programs across the state and provide educators with ideas to implement in their own districts. Steve Kaster also presented an overview of the proposed 2026-2027 budget; no board action was required at this time.

Erin Christensen moved to approve the personnel report as amended. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Lenze motioned to approve setting the second budget hearing for April 15, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the library. Erin Christensen seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Lenze motioned to approve the annual AEA purchasing agreement. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Lenze motioned to approve the renewed participation in the Natural Gas Risk Pool to help stabilize utility costs. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen motioned to approve updating Board Policy 501.9 regarding chronic absenteeism per the desk audit recommendation. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen motioned to approve a temporary waiver of Board Policy 905.03, which restricts look-alike weapons, to allow their use during the school play Clue for dress rehearsal on March 27th and scheduled performances on March 28th and 29th. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Lenze motioned to approve overnight trip requests for robotics and the All-State Speech Festival. Erin Christensen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Greg Opseth motioned to approve a compensation package for classified staff and administrators for the 2026-2027 school year, totaling approximately \$75,000 in increases across about 40 employees. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Lenz motioned to approve a proposal from RJ Lawn & Landscape for maintenance of the high school softball and baseball fields. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion around baseball and softball field improvements and raised concerns about long-term durability and investment, Charlie Lenze motioned to table further action until a work session can be held with city representatives. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen motioned to approve approximately \$18,900 in immediate roof repairs as recommended by Wood Roofing. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Greg Opseth motioned to approve moving forward with a first-floor renovation project not to exceed \$396,000. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen motioned to approve the purchase of a new HVAC controller not to exceed \$61,825. Greg Opseth seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Erin Christensen motioned to approve two fundraising efforts for the dance program: a spring pansy sale and a summer partnership with Music in the Park. These efforts will help fund choreography, music, and uniforms. Charlie Lenze seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

In the Superintendent's report, updates were provided on the upcoming budget hearing, ISAP testing, legislative matters, and positive community feedback on a recent district mailer. The district is exploring expanded use of Zoom for streaming meetings and is considering sending mailers twice per year.

The Business Manager reported that contracts are being prepared for completion by April 6 and that the district is currently testing Simbli software for managing future board meetings.

Erin Christensen motion to adjourn. Charlie Lenze seconded, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM. The next scheduled meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

Watch for 'copypasta'



In an age where social media feeds overflow with warnings and quick fixes, a familiar nuisance continues to clog Facebook: those ubiquitous posts urging users to "copy and paste this into your status—don't share!" Whether claiming to reset the algorithm for more friends and fewer ads, protect your photos from Meta's grasp, or safeguard privacy with a pseudo-legal disclaimer, these messages have circulated for over a decade and show no signs of fading in 2026.

Experts and fact-checkers agree: they do nothing. The posts instruct users to copy blocks of text verbatim rather than hit the share button. The reason is simple trickery. Sharing allows Facebook's systems to detect and throttle identical low-quality content or hoaxes quickly. A fresh, copied version from each user appears as an original post, slipping past filters and spreading organically through personal networks.

Common variants promise to "fix" your feed, block data usage, or test true friendships. Some even tie into recent fears, like fake claims about new Meta policies on photos or AI. None alter account settings, algorithms, or terms of ser-

vice, which users already accepted upon signing up. Fact-checking sites have debunked these repeatedly, noting they are classic "copypasta"—recycled chain-letter spam.

Worse, engaging can backfire. Security experts warn that such posts help scammers identify gullible users for follow-up phishing or malware attempts. They also clutter feeds and erode trust in genuine content.

Meta has long down-ranked obvious engagement bait, yet the hoaxes persist by exploiting emotions like fear, guilt, and FOMO. Local news outlets and tech commentators continue issuing warnings, with recent reports highlighting fresh waves in early 2026.

Advice from the experts: Ignore them, or gently inform the poster it's a known hoax. For real control over your Facebook experience, tweak settings directly in the app—adjust News Feed preferences, privacy options, and ad controls. No magic text required.

As one tech analyst put it: "If it says 'copy and paste,' it's probably not helping—it's just more digital clutter." In the battle against online misinformation, a little skepticism goes a long way.

"Keep The Echo coming!
Check the number next to your name on your mailing label. That's the month your subscription is due. Then, send a check to P.O. Box 372, or use PayPal (earlhamecho@gmail.com) or Venmo (@Todd-Weber-55). Thanks!"

