

SOT Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 18, 2025

Members in attendance:

Darla Richards (Principal)

Roseanne Sinclair (parent)

Jessica Perkins (support staff)

Lisa Hadley (parent)

Jennifer Sakmar (teacher)

Stephanie Orr (teacher)

Members not in attendance:

Drew White (parent)

Crystal Sullivan (parent)

*Minutes for the August 15, 2025, meeting were reviewed and approved. The motion was made by Stephanie and seconded by Lisa.

Update on school budget for the 2025-2026 school year:

Ms. Richards presented the budget for the 2025-2026 school year. Due to a decrease in enrollment as well as a decrease in per pupil funding, there is a budget shortfall of \$275,000 for Estes McDoniel.

The Clark County School District reduced the per pupil funding from \$6,102, to \$6,035. The state funds the Clark County School District \$10,000 per student, but only gives schools \$6,035, to educate students. In addition, CCSD pulled back funds for current students enrolled at McDoniel in addition to the projected number of students who never enrolled. In other words, we were charged for students who were never enrolled at our school. Estes McDoniel was projected to have 344 students enrolled for the 2025-2026 school year. Currently, 313 students are enrolled.

As a result of our budget shortfall, two teacher positions have been cut. The Estes McDoniel Marine Lab will be closing and an aide position will be eliminated.

Our school counselor is moving to Kindergarten to relieve the large class sizes in that grade level.

Our school strategist will be serving as our school counselor for one hour per day.

Ms. Richards is planning to file an appeal in hopes of reclaiming some of our lost funding. SOT members reluctantly approved the new budget, and cuts, for the 2025-2026 school year.

*The meeting was called to adjourn by Stephanie and seconded by Lisa.

