

ASTORIA COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

The Tuition Waiver Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the District Library.

Members present: Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, Stevens

Members absent: Adkins, Musson

Administrators present: JH/GS Principal Dave Crouse

Supt/HS Principal Don Willett

Board Secretary Tammie McCormick

Community members present: Jennifer Wherley

Superintendent Willett presented and had public testimony regarding tuition waivers for employees. Discussion was held.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Egleton, to adjourn the hearing at 7:04 p.m. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in the District Library.

Members present: Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, Stevens

Members absent: Adkins, Musson

Administrators present: JH/GS Principal Dave Crouse

Supt/HS Principal Don Willett

Board Secretary Tammie McCormick

Community members present: Jennifer Wherley

Musson arrived at 7:13 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Addition to the agenda: 10.5 IHSA/IESA activities

Motion by France, seconded by Prather, to approve the consent agenda items (minutes, bills, payroll) as presented. Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

High School Student of the Month, Kaitlynn Cleavinger, was not able to attend.

Motion by Egleton, seconded by Stevens, to approve Press Policies: 3:40; 3:40-E; 4:80; 4:90; 4:150; 5:270; 6:20; 6:300; 6:310; 6:320; 6:340; 7:100; 7:140; 7:300. Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Shaw, to approve renewal of the tuition waiver for employees of the district to allow their custodial children to attend Astoria Schools tuition free. Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

The Principal report from Mr. Crouse included:

- We are on day 91. We are very happy with our accomplishments. The students are happy to be back.

The Principal/Superintendent report from Mr. Willett included:

- As a guideline, each month is worth 8.33% of the total budget. At six months into our fiscal year, our guideline is 49.98%. As of December 31, our Ed Fund is 42.19%; Building Fund is 54.28%; and Transportation Fund is 37.27%. Our overall budget is at 44.39%. As a reference, 1% of our total budget is nearly \$49,000.
- The Feds have allotted another round of stimulus funds for schools. It appears that the Astoria School District will get in excess of \$330,000 in this disbursement. Up to this point, we do not have a great deal of guidance as to what the funds can be spent on. Generally speaking, areas of expenditure due to the pandemic can be covered by these funds. We are waiting to see if the Feds provide some specific guidance in the near future.
- The vaccination process for school district employees will begin on Saturday, February 6 or Saturday, February 13. Vaccinations will be administered for all Fulton County school employees at Alice Ingersoll Gym in Canton. School employees will have to go to a portal to schedule their specific time on one of these dates. All members of our staff who work with students will be able to receive the vaccination. This includes substitute teachers and student teachers. We hope to have the ability to sign up for the vaccination by the end of the week.
- We are still waiting on the completion of our audit. It is my hope that it will be completed by the end of the month.
- With the loosening of mitigations throughout the area, we will be able to start some athletic practices. If contests begin, we will likely recommend not having crowds at the events. Unfortunately, this will be some of the fallout of the transition back to some normalcy in everyday life.

The Board was given the Superintendent's evaluation. Superintendent Willett would like it returned by the February board meeting.

The water heaters have been installed.

The junior high exterior doors have been installed.

The pre-bid meeting for the roof project will be January 27, 2021. The bid opening will be February 3, 2021.

Discussion was held on the latest IHSA/IESA recommendations for sports. Junior high volleyball may have some games, but there probably won't be a crowd. We will look into live streaming games.

It was decided to wait another year before replacing the lawn mower.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Shaw, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned.

The next regular Board Meeting will be Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.