

ASTORIA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the board.

Wednesday, December 17th, 2025

The regular board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the District library.

Members present:	Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens
Members absent:	Cameron
Administrators present:	Supt/HS Principal Dr. Tori Lindeman JH/Elementary Principal Dave Crouse Assistant Principal Casey Welscher Secretary Ashley Davis
Community members present:	Courtney Wherley, Mandy Friedrich, Deavan Malott, Curtis Dean.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Prather, seconded by Musson, to approve the consent agenda items (minutes of the previous meeting held in October and November, bills and payroll as presented, destruction of all audio recordings and minutes of closed session meetings prior to 3/31/2024-Board Policy 2:220) except for the treasurer's report. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Board Member Cameron joined at 6:32 p.m.

Cooper Davis, son of Matt and Adrienne Davis, was recognized as the High School Student of the Month. Cooper talked about the activities he has been involved in and his future plans.

Old Business:

An Auditor RFP has been posted and the deadline to submit is January 20th, 2026.

New Business:

Motion by Skiles, seconded by Prather, to approve the fund balance report as required by Section 17-1.3 of the Illinois School code. France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Easley, to approve the High School Graduation date for Saturday May 16th, 2026 at 2:00p.m.. Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Prather, to approve the 2026-27 Tax Levy as presented. Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Skiles, to approve the South Fulton Fishing Team. Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by France, to approve the PRESS policy updates Issue 120: (exhibit 1). Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

The Principal/Superintendent report from Dr. Lindeman included:

- Completed the purchase of a new CTE Digital Graphics Machine. Possible course offering next school year.
- Talked regarding current and future weather cancellations and changes.
- Bus bidding for a new school bus will begin in January, the RFP will be published at the start of the year for delivery by the end of the school year.
- Spoon River CEP Program and presentation by Jacob Green and Ryan Baker.
- The high school students had a hands-on activity with a professional engineer to learn more about the diverse field.
- All 16 Paraprofessionals will be attending a full day of training on January 5th, 2026 at the ROE in Macomb. The training will cover the following topics regarding classroom and behavior management: Prevention strategies (forming relationships with students, offering choices, communicating with students, brain breaks, equity), the “why” behind behaviors, how to address behaviors based on the “why” (exploring specific strategies), and role-playing.
- On January 5th, the certified staff will join VIT staff at VIT for a collaboration of training. The presenter is Susan Nichols, and the topic is Staff & social media the do’s & don’ts. If time allows, we will also have a PowerPoint from the TRS team providing some updates and information.
- Matt Seaton, head of financials at ISBE has provided his projections for Reimbursements for FY 26. Transportation at 75%, Special Education at 60%, Private facilities at 64% and ILL Free breakfast and lunch at 34%.
- The Christmas Program will be held on December 19th and kicks off the holiday break. Staff will return January 5th and students will return January 6th.

The Principal report from Mr. Crouse included:

- Map testing concludes tomorrow. We are looking forward to seeing the improvement our students have made from the beginning of the school year.
- The Junior High Boys Basketball 7th graders are 3-12, while the 8th graders are 3-10
- Junior High Volleyball has stated practice and will have home games the 3rd week in January.
- Christmas Concert is scheduled for 1:15 on Friday December 19th.

The Assistant Principal report from Mrs. Welscher included:

- I attended IASB conference and the RSAC conferences. I learned a lot of useful information from both.
- Map testing is this week for the Elementary and Junior High. High School will complete their testing after Christmas break.
- Continued work on the school improvement plan.
- Rural teaching Education Pathways is a grant funded program that will provide dual credit opportunities for those interested in going into teaching as a career.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Cameron, to go into closed session at 6:59 p.m. for the following purposes:

- Appointments, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees
- Purchase or lease of real property.
- Setting of price for sale of lease of property.
- Student disciplinary cases
- Special education placement and other matters relating to individual students
- Pending, probable or imminent litigation

Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Musson, to adjourn the closed session at 7:32 p.m. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Easley, to approve the minutes of the closed session. France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, Cameron, and Easley voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Stevens, to approve Amanda Klaska as the JR High Track Coach. Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Cameron, to approve Melissa Gorsuch as the High School Assistant Track Coach. Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Stevens, to accept the Laverdiere Construction proposal for the Astoria AG Shop door at the bid of \$22,514.00. Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Prather to accept, with regrets, the retirement of bus driver Kathy Jones. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Skiles, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:44 p.m. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, January 21st, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.