

ASTORIA COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

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

Members present: Adkins (via phone), Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, Stevens

Members absent: Musson

Administrators present: JH/GS Principal Dave Crouse

Supt/HS Principal Don Willett

Board Secretary Tammie McCormick

Community members present: Christy Quigley, Lindy Schenk, Jeremiah Simmons, Jennifer Wherley, Janee Seitz, Lisa Heaton, Scott Wherley, Belle Wherley, Madison Askins, Cathy Hackman.

Superintendent Willett gave an overview of the 2020-2021 budget. No changes have been made since the first reading.

Motion by Egleton, seconded by Stevens, to adjourn the budget meeting. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

#### Regular Board Meeting

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Adkins (via phone), Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, Stevens

Members absent: Musson

Administrators present: JH/GS Principal Dave Crouse

Supt/HS Principal Don Willett

Board Secretary Tammie McCormick

Community members present: Christy Quigley, Lindy Schenk, Jeremiah Simmons, Jennifer Wherley, Janee Seitz, Lisa Heaton, Scott Wherley, Belle Wherley, Madison Askins, Cathy Hackman.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Addition to the agenda: 10.5 Hosting a drive-thru vaccination clinic

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

Belle Wherley, daughter of Scott and Jennifer Wherley, was introduced as the High School Student of the Month for August and September. Belle talked about her high

school activities and her future plans to attend a four-year university for forensic psychology.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Prather, to approve the FY 2021 budget. Adkins, Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Shaw, seconded by France, to approve Press Policies 2:220; 2:220-E9; 4:180; 7:40; 7:190; 7:340; 7:345. Adkins, Egleton, France, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Musson arrived at 7:14 p.m.

Motion by Egleton, seconded by Stevens, to approve King's Financial Consulting to handle the HLS bond issue. Adkins, Egleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

The Principal report from Mr. Crouse included:

- The junior high cross-country team has participated in three meets. There are nine girls and 10 boys competing this year. Lynde France does a nice job with this group.
- Yesterday was picture day. We bussed in our elementary students who were out at the churches. It took a little extra organization, but thanks to Kathy Jones, we were able to get everyone here and their picture taken.
- D and F slips will go out this Friday, which means we have been in school for four weeks!
- I want to thank our teachers, secretaries, aides, cooks, janitors and bus drivers who have stepped up and helped in every way possible. I also want to thank the board for their support in this unusual time. It has been tough, but at the same time a great experience.
- I am excited to see how the remote learning day is going to work with our 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades on Thursday. I'm very excited to have the ability to keep our K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades with in-person learning.
- A brief look at what has been going on in each of our classrooms over the last month was shared.

The Principal/Superintendent report from Mr. Willett included:

- Total enrollment in the district is 301, down from 312 last year. We have 92 in the high school, 64 in the junior high and 145 in the elementary. Last year, we had 97 in the high school, 65 in the junior high and 150 in the elementary.
- Our website is in the middle of an update. The new platform will be much more user-friendly for cell phone users and provides a much cleaner look for users. In the coming weeks, it will be completely functional, and we hope our users are happy with the change. I appreciate Mrs. Massaglia's and Mrs. C. Wherley's efforts to update the site.
- While there has been a spirited push to start up IHSA athletics to a fuller extent, the governor has made it crystal clear that there will not be any more sports than

what is going on now. They have relaxed some of the scheduling restraints and will now allow more than two contests a week when sports do potentially start this winter. Time will tell.

- Our junior high and high school cross-country teams have been competing in the area and doing well. We have a good number of runners within the Co-op, and they are enjoying the opportunity to compete.

Demri Cameron would like to start a dance team. They would cap the roster at 16 dancers. Their goal is to have the team ready this year for basketball season in the hopes of dancing at least twice. They would volunteer their time, and there would be no expense to the Co-op.

It was decided to sell Bus 7, a 2008, 48-passenger bus. Superintendent Willett will place an ad in the paper for sealed bids.

We will have a visit from HLS on December 16.

Discussed changing the calendar to better accommodate both student and teacher needs moving forward. There will be an adjustment made and it will be communicated to parents when the decision has been made.

Discussion was held about hosting a drive-thru vaccination clinic, if we are asked.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Egleton, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:55 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

The next regular Board Meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.