

ASTORIA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the board.

Wednesday, March 18th, 2026

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the District library.

Members present: Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Interim Supt/HS Principal Vicki Phillips  
JH/Elementary Principal Dave Crouse  
Assistant Principal Casey Welscher  
Secretary Ashley Davis

Community members present: Libby Albers, Tripp Albers, Tiffanie Applegate, Curtis Taylor, Greenlee Workman, Braxlynn Workman, Rozlynn Lund, William Westlake, Samantha Westlake, Carri Hollenback, Kotori Nosaka, Paula Buswell, Courtney Wherley, Cooper Davis, Jasper Lyttaker, Nolan McCombs, Kohlston Clark, Bonnie Clark, Ben Belmonte, Andy Crossman, Hannah Lane, Harold Lane, Mandy Friedrich, Pamela Carlock, Monica Stutsman, Colbi Osborne, Heather Malott, Huston Malott, Clinton Belville, Katlyn Belville, Tessa Egleton, Becca Browning, Kylie Matthews.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

No additions or deletions

Motion by Skiles, seconded by Musson, to approve the consent agenda items (minutes of the previous meeting held in February, bills and payroll as presented. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens and Cameron voted aye. Motion Passed

Becca Browning, sister of, Kylie Matthews and Leif Miller was recognized as the High School Student of the Month. Becca talked about the activities she is involved in at AHS and her future plans.

Audience to visitors. Each speaker is allowed up to 5 minutes to address the Board. The following persons signed up to address the Board to speak:

Hannah Lane spoke on concerns regarding the school district needing to hire a Registered Nurse. Pamela Carlock spoke on behalf of the after-prom committee. She shared with the board what they have planned for this years after-prom.

Old Business: None

**New Business:**

Assignment of Board Member Committees.

**The Principal/Superintendent** report from Vicki Phillips included:

- Discussion of Bus bids
- Summer Maintenance/Work Plans/Health Life Safety Work
- A google live calendar will be up on the website soon that will be a one-stop shop of information for the district as a whole
- Discussion of Auditing bids
- Discussion of grounds maintenance
- Discussion of the District Office Transportation Project Grant

**The Principal report** from Mr. Crouse included:

- Tornado Drill was completed March 17<sup>th</sup>
- P/T conferences were held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. No school on March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will attend Spoon River College Reality Store on March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- PTO trivia night is Friday March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade will start IAR testing on March 30<sup>th</sup>
- Reading room will have Read the most from Coast to Coast on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Students will get a balloon to put in Mr. Crouse's office for each book they read. The office will be filled by the end of the day.

**The Assistant Principal report** from Mrs. Welscher included:

- Kate Mallory was here from the ROE. She gave a wonderful training on Trama. A lot was learned by the staff.
- Several of our High School students attended Teacher Club at WIU Mrs. Dean.
- We've started interviews for our teacher opening for the 2026-27 school year.

The Motion by Prather seconded by Skiles, to go into closed session at 8:11 p.m. for the following purposes: Appointments, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees.

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

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Musson, to adjourn the closed session at 9:18 p.m Skiles Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

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

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Easley, to hire Vicki Phillips as the FY 27 Superintendent of Astoria CUSD #1 for 120 days as allowed by TRS. Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron seconded by Prather to hire Adelle Ogden as FY 27 Elementary Teacher. Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson and Stevens voted aye.

Motion by France, seconded by Stevens, to hire Courtney Wherley as FY 27 Director of Technology. Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Prather, Stevens voted aye. Musson voted present, Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Prather to hire Josh Kendrick as part time janitor. Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Easley, seconded by Skiles to approve employment in 2026-2027 second year non-tenured licensed staff as listed: Devin Boehme Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Prather, to approve employment in 2026-2027 third year non-tenured licensed staff: Briana Havens and Ty Otto France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Cameron, to approve Brayden Wherley in 2026-2027 fourth year non-tenured staff. Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Stevens voted aye. Musson -present.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Skiles, to approve Michele Koopman in 2026-2027 fourth year non-tenured staff. Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, voted aye. Stevens-nay. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Musson to approve Eric Hannaman in 2026-2027 fourth year non-tenured staff. Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Skiles seconded by Stevens, to approve the employment in 2026-2027 of Wes Carithers, Ag Teacher & FFA Advisor, and Stephanie Carithers, Academic Advisor, Student Health & testing Coordinators. Prather, Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Stevens voted aye. Musson -Present.

Motion by Easley seconded by Prather, to approve Monica Stutsman for JH/HS Principal for 2026-2027 school year. Skiles, Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by Skiles, to accept resignation of Carri Bridges. Cameron, Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Skiles, seconded by Easley, to accept resignation of Lisa Heaton. Easley, France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed

Motion by Musson, seconded by Skiles to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:45 p.m. France, Musson, Prather, Skiles, Stevens, and Cameron voted aye. Motion passed.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> , at 7 p.m.