

ASTORIA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

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

Members present:	Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Stevens
Members absent:	Shaw
Administrators present:	Supt/HS Principal Don Willett Special Ed Coordinator/Dean of Students Casey Welscher Secretary Tammie McCormick
Community members present:	Courtney Wherley, Casey Welscher, Wes Carithers, Emily Clemens, Bryan Parker, Evan Miller, Jaxson Batterton, Kiki Kapraun, Haley Van Dyke, Elizabeth Albers, Ashley Cox

Shaw came in at 7:01.

Superintendent Willett presented the FY25 budget. He discussed a couple of changes that had been made.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Musson, to adjourn the Budget Hearing. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the District Library.

Members present:	Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, Stevens
Members absent:	None
Administrators present:	Supt/HS Principal Don Willett Special Ed Coordinator/Dean of Students Casey Welscher Secretary Tammie McCormick
Community members present:	Courtney Wherley, Casey Welscher, Wes Carithers, Emily Clemens, Bryan Parker, Evan Miller, Jaxson Batterton, Kiki Kapraun, Haley Van Dyke, Elizabeth Albers, Ashley Cox

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Addition to the agenda: 11.4 Recommend accepting retirement letter from Max Hopping

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

Wes Carithers and the FFA members requested permission to attend the National FFA convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 23-24.

Carina Kapraun and members of the Pirate Ship and Hornet's Nest addressed the board on their intent to combine programs and is requesting support from the South Fulton Coop in providing some help with transportation, scheduling games, and referees for the 2025-26 season.

Casey Welscher gave an update on the new math curriculum, IAR scores, MAP testing, climb time, and future workshops.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Shaw, to approve the FY25 budget. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Prather, to allow FFA to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 23-24. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

The first reading of the following Press Policies was held: 2:260; 2:265; 5:100; 7:20; 7:185.

Approving support for the Pirate Ship and Hornet's Nest combining programs was tabled until the co-op meeting in November.

The Principal Report from Mr. Crouse included:

- The law enforcement drill went well on September 4.
- We had 32 kids visit the Miles of Smiles dental program on Tuesday, September 23.
- On Wednesday, October 2, eighth graders will go to Career Spark at the Peoria Civic Center.
- The Book Fair will be Monday, October 7, through Thursday, October 10. It will be open during our Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10.
- There will be no school on Friday, October 11, and Monday, October 14.

The Principal/Superintendent Report from Mr. Willett included:

- This year we have had our law enforcement drill, one fire drill, and our bus evacuation drill. We still have two more fire drills and a severe weather drill to conduct.
- Total enrollment in the district is 278, up from 271 last year. We have 87 in the high school, 46 in the junior high, and 145 in the elementary.
- Our ESSER III funds have all been allotted as we approach the September 30 closing date to spend the funds. We have used the funds to purchase textbooks, curriculum, technology, summer school supplies and salaries, STEM supplies and salary, social worker salary and benefits, health care coordinator salary and benefits, locker room equipment for remodel, new lunch tables, a shed for pre-k storage, classroom desks, tables, chairs, sanitation supplies, and HVAC filters. The funds have been used to help our students become more successful, support our teachers, and keep our school building clean.
- The end of our first quarter is on October 9. Our Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, October 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be no school on Friday, October 11.

- The Astoria Chapter of the National Honor Society will be holding their fall blood drive on Monday, October 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the high school gym. The public is welcome to give blood.
- The next board meeting is Wednesday, October 16, at 7:00 p.m.
- The Co-op board meeting will be held at VIT at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13.

The window and siding project has been completed.

An update was given on the refrigeration and freezer project.

Construction of the dugouts has been delayed due to the weather.

We received a good report from our Health/Life/Safety inspection.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Musson, to go into closed session at 7:47 p.m. for the following purpose:

- Appointments, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees.

Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Prather, seconded by Musson, to convene into closed session at 7:47 p.m. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Shaw, seconded by Stevens, to adjourn the closed session at 8:13 p.m. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

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

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Musson, to hire Monica Stutsman as a Title I teacher. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Stevens, seconded by Prather, to hire Libby Albers as high school secretary. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Stevens, to hire Ashley Yazvec as junior high girls' basketball coach. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Musson, seconded by France, to accept retirement letter, with regrets, from Max Hopping from his paraprofessional position effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year. Cameron, Eggleton, France, Musson, Prather, Shaw, and Stevens voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Shaw, seconded by Stevens, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:18 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.