School Board Work Session
Thursday, August 27, 2026 6:30 PM

District Office 885 Siskiyou Blvd
Ashland, Oregon 97520

Minutes

1. **Call to Order / Roll Check**

Chair Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being recorded and would become part of the public record. All five members were present: Directors Dyson, Ruby, Ferguson, Rooklyn, and Hatch.

2. **Adoption or Adjustment of Agenda**

❖ **Motion:** Director Rooklyn moved, and Director Ruby seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented.
Aye: Dyson, Ferguson, Hatch, Rooklyn, Ruby
Nay: none
Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

3. **Consent Agenda**

Board members reviewed the consent agenda materials prior to the meeting and were provided the opportunity to remove any item for separate discussion and consideration before approval.

❖ **Motion:** Director Ferguson moved, and Director Ruby seconded, to accept the consent agenda as included in the meeting materials.
Aye: Dyson, Ferguson, Hatch, Rooklyn, Ruby
Nay: none
Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

- 3.A. Personnel Report for August
- 3.B. Policy Review (First Read)
  - 3.B.1) Policy KNA Immigration Enforcement on District Property
    - 3.B.1)a. Policy KNA-AR(1) Interactions with Immigration Enforcement
    - 3.B.1)b. Policy KNA-AR(2) Federal Immigration Enforcement Request Log
- 3.C. Policy Review (Second Read/Adoption)
  - 3.C.1) Policy BBAA - Board Member's Authority & Responsibility
  - 3.C.2) Policy BD - Board Meetings, Notices and Communications
  - 3.C.3) Policy BDC - Executive Sessions
  - 3.C.4) Policy BDDC - Board Meeting Agenda
  - 3.C.5) Policy BDDG - Recordings & Minutes of Board Meetings
  - 3.C.6) Policy DBEA - Budget Committee
  - 3.C.7) Policy KL & KL-AR - Public Complaints

4. **Integrated Guidance Report**

Ericka Beck-Brattin presented the 2025–26 Integrated Guidance Application Annual Report, highlighting district investments in academic support, attendance and family engagement, student wellness, and postsecondary readiness. She reported that 97.5% of ninth-grade students were on track to graduate and highlighted high-dosage tutoring and literacy supports, expanded counseling and student support systems, dual credit and CTE pathways, and college and career advising. FAFSA completion reached 91%. The report also noted increased access to mental health services, strengthened family engagement, improved communication with multilingual families, and expanded opportunities for student voice and leadership.

Attendance remains a district priority, with a focus on early identification, coordinated response, and targeted interventions. Board discussion included the value of better understanding structural and motivational barriers to attendance and using data to inform interventions.

Priorities for 2026–27 include strengthening attendance systems and consistency in data review and progress monitoring across schools; expanding capacity for tutoring and targeted interventions; providing professional learning in mathematics, literacy, intervention services, and data analysis; dedicating staff collaboration time to attendance planning and intervention monitoring; aligning intervention and attendance supports districtwide; and continuing investments in instructional coaching, intervention resources, and family engagement.

5. **Finance Report**

5.A. <u>Finance Report for the period ending July 31, 2026</u>

Director of Business Services Sherry Ely provided an update on district revenue, expenditures, cash flow, and the projected Ending Fund Balance. The second ODE State School Fund estimate for 2026–27 was approximately $225,000 lower than the estimate used in developing the budget, with additional estimates and fluctuations expected throughout the year. Some special revenue sources came in above budgeted amounts, including SIA, Early Literacy, and High School Success funding.

Expenditures in the 600 object category are currently higher than projected, primarily due to increases in property, liability, and other insurance premiums. The District will continue monitoring insurance costs and claims as it transitions to OEBB, as well as workers' compensation claims, which affect the District's experience rating and premiums. Financial projections will become clearer following September payroll, the District's largest expenditure area.

The Ending Fund Balance is currently projected at approximately $2.956 million, or 7.38%**,** compared with the budgeted Ending Fund Balance of $2.24 million. Cash flow remains stable, with no significant concerns identified at this time.

6. **Grizzly Online Program Review**

AHS Principal Francisco Atanes and Assistant Principal Becca Laroi presented data and rationale for piloting Edmentum as the platform for the Grizz Online program, replacing Edgenuity, which the District has used for seven years. Staff identified challenges with Edgenuity related to usability, support coordination, accessibility and flexibility for diverse learners, and the amount of staff time required to assist students and families with the platform.

Grizz Online serves approximately 40–50 students over the course of a year. In 2025–26, the program had a 74% course achievement rate, with 26% of courses resulting in failed, dropped, or incomplete credits. The achievement rate for the IDEA focal group was 67%. Staff emphasized the need to improve online student success and graduation outcomes and reduce achievement gaps for students receiving special education services. Edmentum was recommended because it better aligns with the District's credit-recovery system and on-campus course offerings, supports semester-based scheduling, and provides more varied and flexible learning formats, including reading, video, interactive materials, and projects. The Board also discussed the potential for a stronger online program to retain or attract students who need an alternative to in-person instruction while allowing them continued access to AHS classes, extracurricular activities, counseling, and other district supports.

AHS will pilot Edmentum for one year and report back on student outcomes at the end of the year. If the new platform does not better meet student needs, a full curriculum review and adoption process will be considered.

7. **Board Reports**

Board members reported on recent district and community activities, including the Board retreat, back-to-school welcome breakfast, OSBA PRIDE Advisory Committee, Transformation Subcommittee meetings, Rotary student exchanges, and the Summer Learning Showcase. Members shared positive feedback about summer learning programs and expressed enthusiasm for the start of the school year and upcoming fall activities and athletics.

Board members also reflected on opportunities to connect with staff, students, and the broader Ashland community and emphasized the importance of remaining informed about student programs, services, and experiences throughout the schools.

8. **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Hattrick reflected positively on the Board retreat, staff welcome-back event, and summer learning program. He also reported on participation in the OSBA PRIDE Advisory Committee, Oregon Association of School Executives (OASE) meeting, Rotary exchange student presentation, and Ashland Schools Foundation meeting.

Superintendent Hattrick reported that the District finalized its longitudinal growth performance targets in collaboration with ODE and will submit them to the state. He also shared that a district newsletter is being prepared to communicate the District's vision and priorities, including accountability and student outcomes, leadership updates, attendance, immigration policy, and a message emphasizing dignity, belonging, and that all are welcome in Ashland schools.

8.A. ASD Transformation Update

Superintendent Hattrick reported that transformation planning continues. The Lead Team is reviewing data and input from the Transformation Steering Committee and using that information to develop potential scenarios. The Lead Team will continue this work during an additional three-hour planning session in preparation for the September 2 Transformation Steering Committee meeting.

Board Retreat Follow-up

Board members reflected positively on the recent retreat and expressed appreciation to staff for making time for the Board to engage in focused work together.

9. Announcements

9.A. The next Regular Session meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2026, in the City Council Chamber, 1175 E. Main St., Ashland.

10. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Chair Hatch adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: September 10, 2026