

Minutes

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

Chair Dyson called the meeting to order. Roll check confirmed that the following members were present: Vice Chair Hatch, Director Rooklyn, Chair Dyson, Director Ferguson, and Director Ruby.

2. **Land Acknowledgment**

Student Board Rep, Milo Leiserson, read the Land Acknowledgment aloud.

3. **Adoption of Agenda**

Chair Dyson requested to Table items 12 B and 12 C.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Ruby moved, and Director Rooklyn seconded adoption of the agenda as amended.

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson, Hatch

Nay: none

Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

4. **Consent Agenda**

4.A. Approval of Minutes

4.B. Personnel Report for September 2025

4.C. Enrollment Report as of September 3, 2025

4.D. Finance Report

4.D.1) Finance Report for the period ending August 31, 2025- See attached report from Director Ely. Highlighted report notes:

- Revenues are on track
- ADM higher than estimated
- Lincoln property financial obligation is unknown at this point

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Rooklyn moved, and Vice Chair Hatch seconded approval of the consent agenda items as presented.

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson, Hatch

Nay: none

Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

5. **Bond Report**

5.A. Monthly Bond Report

Executive Director of Operations, Steve Mitzel, announced that the six-year bond project is 96% complete. In the coming weeks, HMK, the bond oversight committee, and the ASD financial department will work together to close out the bond and finalize HMK's work. The maintenance department will handle final tasks.

HMK Project Director, Josh Whitaker, said that the modernization project is nearing completion and that the remaining seismic work is occurring behind the scenes, as all spaces are now functional and

being used by staff and students. The remaining quad features will arrive in mid-October. The warranty period begins once the project is deemed complete. Final reconciliation is expected by December.

Once the project is finished, the Bond Oversight Committee will provide a report to the board.

6. AHS Alumni Association

Ashland High School Alumni Association President Carol Christlieb Jensen, along with Alumni Association members Priscilla Reynolds Saul and Sharon Morris Laskos, gave a presentation about the AHS Alumni non-profit organization, which has been active since 1894! The AHS Alumni Association's mission is to:

- Foster a lifelong connection between alumni and AHS
- Fund scholarships for deserving students
- Support class reunions and other fun alumni activities
- Build community through networking
- Provide alumni and student career mentoring

More information can be found at www.ashlandhighalumni.com. Membership is free. The alumni meet annually on the first Saturday in August for Coffee Hour at the Old Ashland Armory, a campus tour, and a catered Grizz Fest in the evening.

Their goal is to raise \$50,000 to start an endowment.

Anyone can apply for a scholarship. Grants are awarded based on need, academics, and community work.

7. Ashland Schools Foundation

ASF Executive Director Erica Thompson stated that ASF has 15 members who meet once a month. She mentioned that most of ASF's grants are in response to teacher requests. Teachers submit applications that are reviewed by a committee using a rubric. ASF tries to respond to as many requests as possible.

There are three grant application periods each year; details are available at ashlandschoolsfoundation.org. Last year, ASF awarded \$125,000 in grants to teachers.

ASF's main fundraisers are:

- Monster Dash (coming up on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025)
- Spring Fund Drive

8. Recurring Reports

8.A. OSEA Report

OSEA Representative James Johnson said that the Facilities & Maintenance and Information & Technology departments have been working very hard since teachers returned.

8.B. AEA Report

AEA Representative Kelly Martin provided updates on activities across all school sites. The report conveyed a general sense of enthusiasm among staff at each school while also acknowledging the increased challenges and burdens due to fewer resources. Teachers at all locations have been working hard to learn and implement the new ELA curriculum. All sites have been busy setting up new systems, returning teachers to their permanent rooms, and preparing for back-to-school events, spring sports, and planning for theater and musical performances.

8.C. Student Board Representative Report

Student Board Representatives Alice Carnahan & Milo Leiserson highlighted the following beginning of school activities:

- 50 leadership students attended the first day back at AHS to help the freshmen navigate campus
- DECA students have launched a student store as a fundraiser for their organization
- Club Fair – 9/16 & 9/18
- Rotary Exchange Info Session – 9/18

- AHS Open House – 9/17
- Homecoming – 10/25
- College Pathways Info Session – 9/11
- Students say they love the quad and the addition of greenery
- XC participated in Invationals at the Jackson Co. Expo with 800 runners
- AHS Theater will be producing *The Wizard of Oz*

9. Board Reports

Director Ruby attended the TRAILS River Crossing ceremony. He appreciated the new streamlined volunteer process.

Director Ferguson attended the first home football game of the season and sees a lot of potential in the team, praising Coach White. She is looking forward to attending the girl's varsity home game next Thursday.

Director Rooklyn continues to monitor the YAAL process. She enjoyed hearing fans cheer at the football game from her house.

Vice Chair Hatch really enjoyed serving breakfast at the staff welcome back event. He attended the OSBA policy update webinar and the Willow Wind barn coffee event for new and returning families. He has felt a positive vibe on campus and gave a shout-out to the AMS XC coach for inspiring his son to run.

Chair Dyson also mentioned enjoying serving breakfast at the staff welcome back event.

10. Hear Public Comments (*The Ashland School District Board of Directors reserves this time for individuals to relay comments in writing to the Board regarding topics, not on the printed agenda.*)

Diane Bertrand is a mother of three ASD students in 5th, 6th, and 8th grades. She spoke to the board about the AMS beginning band program. While she appreciates the effort to expand the program to include more students, she is concerned that having one large section instead of the previous model with two manageable sections might compromise the quality of instruction for some students, potentially hindering further participation. She advocates for the program to revert to two sections and is willing to help lead that effort if asked.

11. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Hattrick began by announcing that he will hold his first District Equity Committee (DEC) meeting on Monday, Sept. 15. He attended the home football game last Friday and enjoyed the spirit. He announced that ASD is presenting at the upcoming Oregon Equity Summit in Salem. He invited everyone to attend the Southern Oregon Pride Parade on Saturday, Oct. 4.

After the announcements, Dr. Hattrick shared a presentation that started with pictures he had just taken from the National September 11 Memorial in NYC and asked for a moment of silence as we remembered that day.

Following the moment of silence, Dr. Hattrick reminded the board that a year earlier, the district had just learned they would receive an \$890,000 anonymous donation to help with a budget shortfall. That generous gift sparked a wave of gratitude throughout the district and beyond, catching the attention of Kelly Clarkson all the way in NYC. For a year, The Kelly Clarkson Show expressed interest in interviewing Superintendent Hattrick to learn more about this incredible act of kindness within our community. Dr. Hattrick was excited to share that he and Ericka Thompson, ASF Executive Director, had just returned from NYC that day. On Sept. 10, 2025, Dr. Hattrick and Ms. Thompson, in person, along with AHS teacher Paul Huard and two students, Grace Snyder and Soren Vaughn-Brown, via Zoom, were

interviewed in front of a live studio audience on NBC's Kelly Clarkson Show. Dr. Hatrick invited Grace and Soren to share their experience. They said it was fun to spread news of good things happening and that it was great to meet new people and express gratitude. The most touching part of the story is the impact the donation created on students and the community. Dr. Hatrick thanked the tech team that set up the filming on site and the staff who helped behind the scenes. The show is scheduled to air on Oct. 16, 2025. Dr. Hatrick emphasized how important it is for us to honor the past while embracing the future.

12. Unfinished Business

12.A. Integrated Guidance 2024-25 Quarter 3 & 4 Report

Ericka Beck-Brattin reported that the district made progress toward fostering a safe, inclusive environment. Behavioral Health and Child Development Specialists at each elementary school, authentic student relationships, and the Wayfinder TSEL curriculum supported student well-being. Parent Nights and leadership opportunities for older students enhanced family engagement. Financial challenges were met with strategic use of the Integrated Program Plan (IPP), guiding spending to support high-leverage practices and graduation-focused outcomes. Collaborative leadership and the ORIS Needs Assessment helped identify strengths and growth areas. Attendance improvement was a district-wide priority. Staff presence, increased counselor access, listening sessions, and community partnerships led to measurable gains. All Students' attendance rose to 72.6% (target: 71.8%), and Focal Groups reached 66.9% (target: 57.6%). All funds were strategically used to support district priorities and student outcomes.

The district will continue expanding successful strategies focused on student well-being, family engagement, and data-driven improvement. Unified leadership and community collaboration remain central to sustaining momentum.

12.B. Cell Phone Policy Update- Tabled

12.C. AI Policy Update- Tabled

13. New Business

13.A. Report: Division 22 Assurances on Compliance with Public School Standards: 2024-25

Background: Each year, Oregon's school districts are required to review the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR), located in Chapter 581, Division 22, related to Oregon's standards for public schools. Each district must assess whether the district is "in compliance" with those standards for the prior school year. On or before November 1st of each school year, school district superintendents are to provide a Community Report to their local school board regarding the district's standing with respect to all Standards for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools as set forth in Oregon Administrative Rules 581-022-2305. Districts are required to post the report on their district website by November 1, 2025. Districts then complete and submit the annual Elementary and Secondary Schools Assurance Form by November 15, 2025, to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).

Superintendent Hatrick presented the ASD Division 22 Assurances Report for the 2024-25 school year. After cross-referencing each standard with our policies and procedures, Dr. Hatrick was pleased to announce that ASD is "in compliance" with all standards except one. We are "implementing approved correction action" for standard 581-022-2355, Instructional Materials Adoption, as we continue to get on track with ODE's curriculum adoption cycle. As part of our corrective action plan, we will be requesting a one-year postponement of the Social Sciences Curriculum Adoption as the following item of business. Looking ahead, ASD is on track to meet all the new rules and requirements for implementation in the 2025-26 school year.

13.B. ACTION: Social Sciences Curriculum Adoption Postponement

As outlined in the approved Division 22 ASD Instructional Materials Corrective Action Plan, the board is asked to approve a one-year postponement of the Social Sciences Curriculum Adoption.

- ❖ **Motion:** Vice Chair Hatch moved, and Director Rooklyn seconded a one-year postponement of the Social Sciences Curriculum Adoption.

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson, Hatch

Nay: none

Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

13.C. ACTION: Initiate Science & Health Curriculum Adoption Process

As part of our compliance with Division 22 Standards, Assistant Superintendent Cuddeback asked the board to approve initiating the process for Science and Health Curriculum materials and to define the desired outcomes. The goal is to adopt a single K-5 core curriculum with an aligned 6-12 curriculum. Once the board approves to initiate the process, curriculum review will begin, community input will be gathered in April, and final proposals will be presented to the board in May. Ms. Cuddeback explained that adoption doesn't always mean purchasing; we might review and decide to keep what we have, develop our own curriculum, or choose to buy new materials.

Superintendent Hattrick appointed Ms. Cuddeback as the process facilitator. Ms. Cuddeback has assigned Rebecca Gyarmathy as the science curriculum lead and Becca Laroi as the health curriculum lead.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Rooklyn moved, and Director Ruby seconded to initiate the curriculum adoption process as outlined with the following outcomes: single K-5 core curriculum with the aligned 6-12 curriculum.

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson, Hatch

Nay: none

Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members.

14. **Announcements and Appointments**

Chair Dyson read the following announcements:

14.A. The next Regular Session meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2025, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, 1175 E. Main St., Ashland.

14.B. The board will hold a work session on Thursday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

15. **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: October 9, 2025