

## **Minutes**

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

Chair Dyson called the meeting to order, and a roll check confirmed that all members were present: Chair Dyson, Vice Chair Franko, Director Ruby, Director Skuratowicz, and Director Hatch.

### **2. Land Acknowledgment**

Vice Chair Jill Franko read the Land Acknowledgment.

### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

- a. Secondary Curriculum Review was tabled
- b. Finance Report was moved up from item 14 to item 9

❖ **Motion:** Director Skuratowicz moved, and Vice Chair Franko seconded the adoption of the agenda as amended. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

### **3. Consent Agenda** *(All items may be adopted by a single motion unless pulled for special consideration.)*

To improve clarity in policy AC Nondiscrimination and Civil Rights, Director Skuratowicz requested the addition of the word “regarding” to the first line in the 4th paragraph so that it now reads, “The superintendent shall appoint individuals to contact *regarding* issues concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act and...”

❖ **Motion:** Vice Chair Franko moved, and Director Hatch seconded approval of the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

#### **4.A. Approval of Minutes**

#### **4.B. Board Policy Updates**

##### **4.B.1) First Read Policies**

##### **4.B.2) Second Read Policies**

#### **4.C. Personnel Report May 2025**

#### **4.D. Enrollment Report May 2025**

### **5. School Presentation: Helman Elementary School**

Helman Teachers, Kelly Martin, Ashley Schwedes, Anne Cologne, and Tia McLean, along with Helman Dragons Logan, Zoe, Cash, Montgomery, Raelin, and Jojo presented to the board.

First-grade teacher Ashley Schwedes, introduced her students, who shared how many books they’d read as part of the 100 Book Club that all students are doing. Many of them have read over 100 books!

Fourth graders highlighted their BIPOC Notable Humans projects. Anne Cologne’s student, Montgomery, shared her PowerPoint presentation on Shirley Chisholm. Students then read aloud their appreciation and love for their teacher, Anne.

Kindergarten teacher, Tia McLean, played an all-inclusive Helman School gratitude video, made by Teacher, Trish Dorr.

**6. ACTION ITEM: 2025-26 Student Board Representative Recommendations** Superintendent Hattrick received the recommended 2025-26 Student Board Representative nominees. He turned it over to outgoing Student Board Reps, Taylor Own and Azaleah Davis Powell, to introduce the nominees.

The Student Board Representative Nominees introduced themselves.

- Alice Carnahan is a 17-year-old junior involved in a leadership class. She enjoys engaging with the community on a larger scale.
- Milo Leiserson (submitted by video) is a 16-year-old junior involved in leadership class and sports. He is interested in representing his peers during school board meetings next year.

The Alternate Student Board Representative Nominees introduced themselves.

- Kaya Lutz is a 16-year-old junior and a Helman Dragon alumni. She is excited for the opportunity to advocate for and support younger students. Kaya wants to study public policy and government.
- Toby Pew - honored to serve as an alternative representative for the second consecutive year. He has experience in leadership class and is excited to support the board representatives and serve the school board as needed.

AHS Principal Ben Bell shared the process for selecting the nominees.

- Applications were open to the entire student body for two weeks.
- Announcements about the application process were made during the daily morning announcements, and current board representatives contacted all student-based affinity groups.
- Nine applications were submitted, and seven students were interviewed.
- The students who had demonstrated a history of participation in improving school culture were recommended.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Hatch moved, and Director Skuratowicz seconded to accept the candidates as recommended - Milo Leiserson and Alice Carnahan as the 2025-26 Student Board Representatives and Amara Lowe and Toby Pew as the 2025-26 Alternates. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

## 7. Bond Report

### 7.A. Monthly Report April 2025

HMK Project Manager Josh Whitaker shared the monthly bond report for activities in April.

Completion of the modernization project for the Science and Humanities building is scheduled for July or August.

The seismic project is progressing well. Mr. Whitaker expressed appreciation to the district for the accommodations provided to the contractors, which have enabled them to make significant progress in preparation for the summer work. When completed, the grade on the quad will meet ADA requirements. Mr. Mitzel reported that the district is obtaining quotes to repair, pave, and seal all the parking lots this summer.

## 8. School Resource Office Report

Officer Mike Bates gave his ASD SRO Report 2024-25 school year. He has been working as the district's SRO full-time for the past nine months and celebrated his 10<sup>th</sup> year as a police officer in October.

Officer Bates highlighted the following activities and accomplishments this year:

- Multiple Safety & Security Trainings
- Enforcement & Education
- Collaboration with others/ finding resources
- Engagement and building relationships with staff, students, families, and the community
- Collaboration with local emergency management for school drills
- Classroom presentations
- Participation in extracurricular activities

Successes of the SRO Program

- Direct access to many resources for students and families
- Efficiencies to complete mandated reports
- Consistency in processes

- A familiar face for students' lessons trauma

#### Program Goals

- Data tracking
- Earn Invitations to classrooms, clubs, and affinity groups
- Obtain age-appropriate curriculum to enhance classroom visits

### 9. Finance Report

#### 9.A. Financial Data Ending April 30, 2025

Director of Business Services Sherry Ely presented the financial data for the period ending April 30, 2025. She reported that on the revenue side, there was an increase in State School Fund revenue. This increase is attributed to the 2023-24 property tax reconciliation, the 2023-24 transportation expense reconciliation, and a minor adjustment for teacher experience, which was lower in 2023-24. Included in the May 2023-24 reconciliation payment is \$80,193.60 for High Cost Disability.

In 2025-26, we are expecting an increase in State School Funding of \$239,973 due to ODE adjusting our Property Tax collections for 2024-25. This is particularly beneficial for us as it provides a cash flow boost for this year, especially since our Property Taxes are coming in lower than we estimated in December of 2023. This brings the projected negative fund balance to (\$812,438).

On the expenses side, Director Ely noted a continuing positive trend in which projected expenditures are lower than budgeted by \$1.967 million. Ms. Ely has diligently tracked the district's spending trends. She has adjusted encumbrances to align with the reduction measures implemented by Dr. Hattrick and the Lead Team in December. This year's staff reductions and furlough day savings are included.

Director Ely explained the meticulous process of rebuilding past budgets within the iVisions. This practice is essential for fine-tuning budgeting projections. The district will need to hold in a special session to review loan options. Board members expressed their gratitude for having Director Ely on the team.

### 10. Recurring Reports

#### 10.A. AHS Student Report

AHS Co-Presidents Owen Taylor and Azaleah Davis-Powell shared a list of end-of-year activities and updates from the high school. Highlights included a positive turnout for Clash on the Quad, a four-way race for next year's class president, AP testing is happening, strong turnout for the blood drive, spring sports in full swing, and high school graduation on June 6.

#### 10.B. OSEA Report

OSEA Board Member James Johnson expressed gratitude for the high school lunch staff who have been managing all the field trip lunches. The Helman staff has been supporting each other during these challenging times of losing long-term classified staff members. A shout-out to Bridgette Carnes, an EA at AMS, who jumps in when needed, and to the fearless crew that runs the SBS classroom. A shout-out for Teacher Appreciation Week goes to AMS band teacher, Jen Carstensen, who led a seamless field trip to CA and organized multiple fundraisers.

#### 10.C. AEA Report

AEA Board Representative Alan Parowski shared positive highlights from all the school sites during Teacher Appreciation Week.

- Ashland Connect - Seeing an increased interest in the program is promising for its growth. Love the signs and affirmations of support during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- AHS Prom was fantastic, AP testing is in full swing, and teachers are enjoying breakfast, lunches, and neck massages during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- AMS: Teacher Appreciation Potluck, orchestra concert on May 20, band concert and student art show on May 22, play on May 16/17, Farewell Luau for 8th graders on June 5.

- Bellview- Ending the year with field trips, PTO hosted a memorable Teacher Appreciation Week event, uniting together to keep spirits high for next year.
- Helman- Thanks to their community partners for a delicious and delightful Teacher Appreciation Week.
- TRAILS - 8th graders preparing for their 40-mile, 5-day rite of passage trip, students participating in service-learning projects at Lithia Park and EarthTeach, getting kids outside and deepening their connection to nature, and a spring concert on May 20.
- Walker- 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the first annual Walker Egg Drop, grateful for all the words, flowers, treats, and cards for Teacher Appreciation Week, 1<sup>st</sup> graders Ashland Reads field trip, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders practicing for the district-wide track meet.
- WW- 8th graders performed a maypole dance on May Day, followed by a fun run, crafts, and games organized by parent volunteers. A rummage sale on May 17 and a Bike-a-thon on June 2 are two fundraisers that will help support various campus projects. WW teachers would like to express their appreciation to their team of EAs.

## 11. Board Reports

Director Hatch reported that he enjoyed attending the school board forum. He took a tour of the Little League fields at Hunter Park, which was organized to promote collaboration in finding solutions. He traveled to Salem for OSBA Advocacy Day, where he advocated for our schools. The kinders working in the woodshop were a special sight to see.

Vice Chair Franko noted that it was ASF month and that she had attended the donor appreciation event and participated in an ASF call night. She expressed her gratitude for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Director Skuratowicz expressed her appreciation for Alan Parowski, with whom she has “shared a microphone” since Cal Berkeley. She noted that student board representative Azaleah Davis Powell was awarded a Soroptimist scholarship for college. She continues to advocate for education and collaborate with others as we face the significant challenges ahead.

Director Ruby has been busy attending field trips and parent events, including a camping trip with TRAILS, prom, and tennis matches. He mentioned that he has been researching various topics and invites anyone who wishes to view his findings to reach out to him directly. His research topics include the impact of vaccination rates on the district, debunking the myth that there are 500 children in Ashland not attending Ashland schools (the actual number is closer to 300), and a study that shows declining enrollment does not correlate with a decline in academics.

Chair Rebecca Dyson has been actively campaigning for reelection. She took part in the candidate forum. She thanked the community for their support in the previous election and expressed gratitude to the board members for electing her as Board Chair. She hopes to continue her work for another four years.

## 12. 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.*)

- a) Alan Parowski spoke in favor of keeping the high school Alt Ed programs at Lincoln.
- b) Reed Sorensen requested continued funding for the Alt Ed programs and read a student testimony.
- c) Dani West asked the board to protect what has been built and maintain the Alt Ed Programs at Lincoln School.

## 13. Student Board Representative Report

Student Board Reps Owen Taylor and Azaleah Davis Powell thanked the board for allowing them to serve as their student board reps. It is technically their last meeting since they will be graduating on June 6. They are welcome to attend the June meeting if they are available.

## 14. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Hattrick began by introducing the Rotary Student of the Month, Nolan Hartt, a 12th grader from Ashland High School. Nolan demonstrated perseverance and camaraderie as a dedicated member of both

the Brain Bowl team and the Cross-Country team. He is described as a natural leader with an “enlightened, positive presence.” He uplifts those around him and is someone who will help guide our society into the future. Congratulations, Nolan.

#### 14.A. Out of State Field Trip Notifications

Per policy IICA, Supt. Hatrick informed the board about the following out-of-state field trips:

- May 16-18 – AHS National Art Honors Society, San Francisco, CA
- May 22 – Bellview 5<sup>th</sup> grade class to Irongate Dam Removal, Hornbrook, CA
- May 30 – Helman 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes to Irongate Dam Removal, Hornbrook, CA

Dr. Hatrick announced all the celebrations for school employees that had taken place since the last meeting, including Teacher Appreciation Week, School Bus Driver Appreciation, Principal Appreciation, and School Lunch Hero Day. He expressed his gratitude for our community partners, the Superintendent Advisory Council, and the support of the Ashland Schools Foundation. He was captivated watching the kinders build planter boxes with Mr. Miller’s wood shop students, amazed by the community engagement during Rotary’s Ashland Reads event for our first graders. He thanked Owen, Azaleah, Max, and Toby for their service on the board and for welcoming him to the district.

#### 15. **New Business**

##### 15.A. Secondary ELA Curriculum Review – TABLED

##### 15.B. ACTION ITEM: IXL Assessment Adoption

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Cuddeback reviewed the need, vetting process, and cost of the IXL Real Time Diagnostic program. The review committee used a research-based rubric to evaluate the following assessment programs: IXL, STAR, NWEA MAP Growth, and compared them to i-Ready, the current assessment program. After narrowing their choice to IXL, they conducted a pilot of IXL in several classrooms and age groups this school year. They appreciated the program's flexibility and adaptability. The diagnostic tool provides a personalized learning path, and the reports and data are user-friendly. Normed metrics offer statewide comparisons. The quote for IXL is \$11,497 over three years with delayed payment options, which is less expensive than the \$77,249 per year for i-Ready. Ms. Cuddeback and the rest of the review committee recommend that the board adopt IXL as the district's assessment program.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Skuratowicz moved, and Director Hatch seconded to approve IXL as the assessment program for ASD. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

#### 16. **Announcements and Appointments**

**Presenter:** Board Chair Rebecca Dyson

16.A. The Budget Committee will convene on **Wednesday, May 21, 2025 and Wednesday, May 28, 2025** at 7:00 PM in the District Office Conference Room, 885 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR.

16.B. The Board will convene a Work Session on **Thursday, May 22, 2025**, at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

16.C. A Budget Hearing to adopt the budget as approved by the Budget Committee will take place on **Thursday, June 12, 2025**, at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chamber, 1175 E. Main Street, Ashland, OR.

16.D. Directly following the 7:00 PM Budget Hearing, the Board will hold its Regular Session Meeting on **Thursday, June 12, 2025**, in the City Council Chamber, 1175 E. Main Street, Ashland, OR.

#### 17. **Adjourn – 9:34**

There being no further discussion, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 9:34 PM.