

Emergency School Board Meeting
Thursday, August 21, 2025, 6:00 PM
District Office Conference Room
885 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland, OR 97520

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Check

Chair Dyson called the meeting to order. Roll check confirmed that Directors Rooklyn, Ferguson, and Dyson were present in person, Director Ruby attended via Zoom, and Vice Chair Hatch joined in person 15 minutes later.

Statement for Emergency Board Meeting:

An emergency meeting of the Board of Education has been called to address the urgent condition of Lincoln School. This matter requires immediate discussion and action to ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff, and the community.

2. Lincoln School

The Ashland School Board convened an emergency meeting to address the urgent condition of Lincoln School. During a routine fire inspection earlier that day, structural issues were found, prompting the immediate evacuation of the building. Fire Marshal Mark Shay, Architect Chris Brown, along with a structural engineer, identified a significant deformation in a wall, posing a risk of catastrophic failure.

The school will remain closed, impacting approximately 70 students and 15 staff members. Plans are being made to relocate affected programs and staff. Students and parents affected by the closure will be contacted personally.

The district will develop a plan to allow a limited number of staff to enter the building and safely retrieve essential teaching materials.

The district will continue working closely with the insurance company to determine coverage and next steps. Superintendent Hattrick is working with local agencies to discuss mitigation strategies and find temporary spaces for the displaced programs.

In the coming weeks and months, the board will discuss short-, mid-, and long-term plans for Lincoln School.

Thanks were expressed for the quick safety response and for keeping the community informed about the situation.

2. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: September 11, 2025