

Unapproved Minutes  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Albany Area Schools – ISD #745  
District Office Board Room  
November 12th, 2025

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hansen at 6 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Sand, Sands, Hennkelman, Hanson, Rueter, Ronning

Late:

Absent: Dirkes

3. Public Forum

4. Agenda – Additions and Deletions

5. Approvals

5.1 Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Rueter, seconded by Sands to approve the October 8th, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes and October 22nd, 2025 work Session minutes as presented. Supported by all present.

5.2 Cash Flow Reports – June 2025

Motion by Sand, seconded by Rueter to approve the September Cash Flow Reports as presented. Supported by all present.

5.3 Acceptance of Gifts and Donations

Member Sands introduced the Resolution Accepting Donations and moved for its adoption.

The School Board of Albany Area Schools, ISD 745, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

<b><u>Donor</u></b>	<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Designated Purpose (if any)</u></b>
Albany Band Boosters	\$6,005.00	Marching Band Busses
Tom & Sue Clemen	\$500.00	25-26 BEAT Performing Art Series
Ludwig Photography	\$1,000.00	25-26 BEAT Performing Art Series
Albany Band Boosters	\$7,050.75	Tuba
Albany Dance Team Boosters	\$3,785.54	Safety vests, leos, warm ups
Al & Dana Amdahl	\$100.00	25-26 BEAT Performing Art Series
St. Rosa Jaycees	\$5,444.25	Gymnastics
Albany Dance Team Boosters	\$1,040.00	Tank Tops
Elnora Lieser	\$200.00	Baseball - In memory of Donnie Lieser
Stearns Electric	\$500.00	Robotics
Albany Lions	\$8,485.00	Vision Screener
Albany Dance Team Boosters	\$2,495.55	Backpacks
Katie Novitzki	\$500.00	Gymnastics leos
Anonymous	\$250.00	Gymnastics leos

Member Hennkelman, seconded the resolution and upon vote being taken thereon.  
The following voted in favor of: All  
And the following voted against: none  
Absent: Dirkes

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

6. Consent Agenda , Motion by Ronning, Second by Hennkelman.

The following checks were issued in paying claims: Wire transfers and checks 11137-111655

Expenditures:

01 General Fund \$1,725,872.71  
02 Food Services \$152,289.18  
04 Community Services \$56,619.54  
06 Building Construction \$7,026.06

Supported by all present.

7. Reports

7.1 Purple Pride

8. Business -

8.1 MSHSL Resolution

Motion to approve by Rueter and seconded by Ronning

8.2 High Impact field Trip Final Approval (Europe Trip)

Motion to approve by Rueter and seconded by Sands

8.3 Budget Timeline/Budget Direction

The superintendent re-capped the ongoing work that administration is doing to evaluate budget adjustment. The Board was asked to provide a formal direction on reduction during the January Board Meeting.

8.4 Employee Handbook Update - Minnesota Paid Leave items

Proposed updates were shared with the Board. The updates provide the required information regarding Minnesota Paid Leave. Administration will see formal Board approval next month.

8.5 Re-cap of closed meeting for AFT Negotiations/Superintendent evaluation

The board met in closed session for the annual performance review of the Superintendent at its regular meeting on October 8th. Following an initial discussion amongst board members, the board then met with Superintendent Okerlund. The board's evaluation highlight several strengths, including:

Keeping the board well-informed on critical aspects of school operations (safety, security, concerns from student/parents/staff, etc) and providing the board with sufficient backgrounds and context for items requiring consideration or action. The board also expressed appreciation for Mr. Okerlund's timely responses to board inquiries.

Ensuring the board is consistently informed of the financial operations and overall financial status of the district. Promoting adherence to school district policies, consistently enforces established procedures, and fosters a culture of accountability.

Fostering autonomy while actively supporting staff in their daily responsibilities, professional development, and pursuit of career advancement.

The board discussed a couple opportunities for improving the clarity and follow-through in communications with the administrative team and similarly ensuring that messaging to different audiences is clear and consistent.

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.03, the School Board of Albany Area Schools entered into a closed session to discuss labor negotiation strategies related to the ongoing and upcoming collective bargaining process with the Albany Federation of Teachers.

The closed meeting was held to review the district's current contract status, assess financial implications, and discuss potential parameters for the Board's negotiation strategy in preparation for continued bargaining sessions.

#### 8.6 Fundraiser Approvals

Motion from Ronning to approve seconded by Hennkelman

#### 8.7 Boy's soccer 2026-2027 Season Approval

Reviewed the document created to guide the process of evaluating Boy's Soccer. Under the guidance, total financial determinations for a self-funded program are typically provided by December 1st. However, the determination of the funding on the degree to which the program is district funded are due by January 1st. The superintendent advised the Board to postpone setting the estimated cost of Boy's Soccer until the December meeting where the Board can determine both the funding cost and any changes in how costs are assigned.

##### 8.7.1 Determine funding approach and set contribution

Postponed until December meeting

#### 8.8 E-Learning MOU's

Both AFT and AESP groups approved it. Motion was made to approve by Sands on AFT and seconded by Hennkelman. Motion to approve on AESP by Ronning and seconded by Henkelman.

##### 8.8.1 AFT

##### 8.8.2 AESP

#### 8.9 Private Plan - Minnesota Paid Leave Administration

The Superintendent explained the district's intent to apply for the use of a private insurer to provide Minnesota Paid Leave administration for Albany Area School.

#### 9. Committee Reports

##### 10. Superintendent Report

Mr. Okerland wanted to give a huge thank you to all staff members who have stepped up to help other staff members who were experiencing challenging medical and family situations.

##### 11. Adjournment

Agenda completed at 6:56 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Member Rueter, seconded by Member Sand. Supported by all present.

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Amy Sands, Clerk