

School Board Work Session
Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:30 PM

District Office Conference Room & Zoom
885 Siskiyou Blvd
Ashland, Oregon 97520

Minutes

1. Call to Order / Roll Check

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

Chair Dyson reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

2. Adoption or Adjustment of Agenda

Chair Dyson requested to add OSBA Legislative Policy Committee under item #3.

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

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson

Nay: none

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

3. Board Member Check-in

Board members shared items of interest.

Director Rooklyn is keeping track of the timeline for filing the Youth Academic and Activities Levy for the next election cycle.

Director Ruby reported that the LGBTQIA2S+ Advisory Committee he serves on will remain advisory and will not go through the process of becoming a caucus. There are funds available for OSBA to continue supporting this advisory committee.

Director Ferguson expressed gratitude for the remodeled high school courtyard and for Steve Mitzel and everyone who helped make that happen. The quad fosters a sense of belonging.

3.A. OSBA Legislative Policy Committee

Chair Dyson announced an open seat on the Southern Oregon region's OSBA Legislative Policy Committee.

❖ **Motion:** Director Ferguson moved that the Ashland School Board nominate Dan Ruby for the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee position #5. Director Rooklyn seconded the motion.

Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Dyson, Hatch

Nay: none

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

Ms. Rosser will file the materials with OSBA.

4. Lincoln School Review

Superintendent Hatrick reviewed the events since the Fire Marshal identified structural damage at Lincoln School, leading to the building's closure, and shared the district's relocation plan for the staff and programs previously located at Lincoln School.

Teachers and administrators stepped up to assist the relocation process by freeing up spaces and providing support during the move.

- Catalyst and Thoreau have been relocated to AHS ENG 1 & 2.
- Level 2 (specialized programs) has been relocated to AHS and AMS.
- Student Services staff have relocated to the IT building.

Executive Director of Operations, Steve Mitzel, and Superintendent Hattrick served as the Safety Coordinators during the relocation process. They used an entry and exit log and outlined specific moving times for staff to gather their belongings while monitoring for any changes to the building that could require immediate evacuation.

Superintendent Hattrick reminded the board that we are still in an information-gathering phase and have minimal new updates. There remains no access to Lincoln School without approval from the Superintendent or Executive Director of Operations.

Next steps include:

1. Temporary shoring for safety
2. Investigation
3. Summary of findings and reports
4. Insurance evaluation and coverage determination

This process could take a month or longer. Until we learn more about the full extent of the damage, cause, and scope of the incident, we cannot engage in problem-solving because we do not yet know which direction this might take.

Superintendent Hattrick clarified the following:

1. Although only one wing was impacted, since we don't understand the cause, it's unclear how the other parts of the building could be affected, so the entire building was shut down.
2. The damage was discovered during the annual fire inspections. These inspections are conducted every year before students arrive to ensure our facilities are ready for operation. There was no indication that this would be an issue prior to the inspection.

5. Division 22 Assurances Overview

Superintendent Hattrick provided a detailed overview of the Division 22 Standards for Public Education and the yearly review process.

The Division 22 standards are the standards that the Oregon legislature or the State Board has determined must be met in order to be a standard school district. Compliance with these rules ensures a baseline level of service across the state.

Standards are divided into these five categories:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. High-quality learning experiences | 4. Safe & inclusive schools |
| 2. Aligned & focused educational systems | 5. Committed & supported staff |
| 3. Engaged partners & communities | |

Districts must report to their local school board by Nov. 1 and make a report available on the district website by Nov. 1. Districts must submit assurances to ODE by Nov. 15. ODE reviews all submissions and follows up with districts that have self-reported as being out of compliance.

ASD reviews each standard annually to verify compliance. We cross-reference the rule or requirement with our policies and procedures to ensure we meet the requirements for the reporting year.

The school board is not required to accept or approve the district's assurances, but the board must receive the district's oral presentation at an open public meeting, allowing for public comment.

The Division 22 Assurances report will be presented in September or October.

6. Board Procedural Items

During a discussion about the process for convening an executive session, the board agreed to hold planned executive sessions at the end of regular board meetings. These sessions would be included on the regular meeting's agenda. When that agenda item is reached, the board chair would motion to go into executive session, and the public would be dismissed. After the executive session, the regular meeting would reconvene for official adjournment. If an executive session needs to be scheduled outside the dates of the regular board meetings, the board would post that meeting separately.

The board reviewed aspects of public meeting law and explored strategies for reframing challenging public conversations.

Whenever possible, the board will receive presentations before meetings, but this isn't always feasible. Board members can always table an item they need more time to review, or email Superintendent Hattrick if they want more information about a presented topic after the meeting.

The board has expressed interest in having community partners deliver more presentations during work sessions, allowing them to better understand the partnerships.

7. Other Items for Board Consideration

The board celebrated all the teachers and administrators for successfully launching the new school year.

8. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: September 11, 2025