

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

Director Skuratowicz read the Land Acknowledgment.

3. Adoption of Agenda *(At this time Board members are provided the opportunity to amend the Regular Session agenda.)*

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Hatch moved, and Director Skuratowicz seconded the adoption of the agenda as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

4. Convene Budget Hearing

Chair Dyson called the Budget Hearing to order and asked for public comment on the Ashland School District budget for 2025-2026, as approved by the Budget Committee. No public comment was offered, and the hearing was adjourned.

5. ACTION ITEM: Resolution No. 2024-25 B-3 Adopting the 2025-2026 Budget

Director Ely announced that a clerical error had been corrected, which was reflected in the presented Resolution.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Ruby moved, and Director Hatch seconded to approve Resolution No. 2024.2025 B-3 to adopt the 2025-26 Budget as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

5 in Favor: Ruby, Skuratowicz, Franko, Hatch, Dyson

0 Opposed

The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

6. Honoring Outgoing Board Members

The current board, along with many former members, took time to honor two retiring board members: Eva Skuratowicz, who served for 16 years, and Jill Franko, who served for 4 years.

Helman students Scarlet, Nora, Aidan, Wesley, and Aleena performed two gratitude songs to honor outgoing Directors Skuratowicz and Franko.

Former board members, Victor Chang, Sabrina Prud'Homme, Carol Davis, and Jim Westrick shared words of admiration for Ms. Franko and Dr. Skuratowicz. Denise Zeeve and Eric Strong were also in attendance.

- Ms. Franko was described as a go-getter, fierce, digging in, curious, giving, and passionate.
- Dr. Skuratowicz was described as legendary, compassionate, a role model, a walking encyclopedia, an unshakable moral compass, prepared, responsible, and courageous.

Eva expressed how much she has learned over the past 16 years from teachers, students, administrators, and her board colleagues. She truly believes that “when education is done right, it is our society’s most important mechanism for creating social justice and equity.” She is honored to have been a part of K-12 education in Ashland, OR.

Jill shared her gratitude for her time on the board and in service to Ashland. She thanked the community and board for allowing her to serve.

Dr. Hattrick expressed words of gratitude to Dr. Skuratowicz and Ms. Franko, honoring each of them with a beautiful wooden plaque crafted in the AHS woodshop.

Chair Dyson called for a short recess to enjoy cupcakes made by Jolene's Sweets.

7. ACTION ITEM: Superintendent Contract Extension

Consider extending the Superintendent's contract by one year, as presented in the addendum.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Hatch moved, and Director Ruby seconded to extend the Superintendent's Contract through 2028. The motion carried by a unanimous vote of the five members present.

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

Chair Dyson requested that Item 8.F. YMCA MOUs be pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to a future meeting.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Ruby moved, and Director Skuratowicz seconded approval of the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

8.A. Approval of Minutes

8.B. Enrollment Report for June 2025

8.C. Personnel Report for June 2025

8.D. OSEA Salary 25-26 MOU

8.E. AEA Choir and 5th Grade Strings MOA

8.G. Policy Updates

9. Bond Report

9.A. Monthly Report May 2025

HMK Project Manager Josh Whitaker shared the monthly bond report for activities in May and reported that the Adroit team will resolve the issues on the AMS roof before staff returns in August.

Mr. Whitaker reported that they are wrapping up the modernization project, which includes replacing the electrical component for the chiller unit in the gym. Testing and demonstration training for high school staff will follow.

The science building and the quad are in full construction mode. The seismic upgrades to the Science building are scheduled to be completed by the end of July. Quad improvements include raised lawn areas, lighting, irrigation, low-voltage wiring for cameras, and pavers.

10. Recurring Reports

10.A. OSEA Report

OSEA Board Member James Johnson shared that the members were strongly in favor of the Membership MOU regarding the salary schedule.

10.B. AEA Report

None

11. Board Reports

Director Dan Ruby reported that he enjoyed graduation, supports the climate curriculum bill HB3365 that passed the House and will move on to the Senate next week, and that he, as a school board member, takes

the mission to protect the success and safety of all students, including LGBTQ2A+ students, very seriously. He hopes to make student belonging in vulnerable groups a district priority.

Director Eva Skuratowicz enjoyed graduation and has been working with rural communities to collect input for the Oregon Health Authority student survey.

Director Russell Hatch attended several end-of-year events. He highlighted the Willow Wind bike-a-thon, graduation, and a meeting with ASF Executive Director to stay connected and aligned.

Vice Chair Jill Franko participated in the budget committee meetings, attended the ASF board meeting as the board rep, met with an incoming board member, and the biweekly meetings with Dr. Hattrick.

Chair Rebecca Dyson attended many end-of-year musical performances and had a great time judging the AHS Milli Vanilli contest.

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.*)

Submitted comment (email) from Alan DeBoer- Re: Agenda item 16. B. ENA and Public Access Agreement. Mr. DeBoer urged the board to allow more time for the public to read the agreements before voting on them.

Rebecca Dyson moved from the dais to the presenter's podium to deliver a public statement in support of vaccinations. ASD has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the state: 80% at the high school level and even lower in our elementary and choice schools. To achieve community immunity, we need to reach a 95% vaccination rate.

13. Student Board Representative Report

Graduate Student Board Rep Owen Taylor expressed that it has been an honor serving with the board. He has full confidence in Alice and Milo taking over. He reported that Senior All Night was a blast.

14. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Joseph Hattrick shared an end-of-year report, celebrating his one-year anniversary as an Ashlander. He claims this has been his best year as an administrator, describing it as the most rewarding due to understanding, support, and community. Dr. Hattrick went on to share a long list of accomplishments, notably fixing a defunct budget and enhancing transparency at every level of the district. Although there are more challenges, he is not discouraged but rather energized by moving forward side by side with the community. He will continue to communicate with families over the summer, including updates on the progress of finding a replacement for Principal Bell at the high school.

15. Finance Report

15.A. Finance Data Ending May 31, 2025

Director of Business Services Sherry Ely reported that revenues are staying on track with what we have been seeing since February, including local revenue coming in lower than budgeted and state revenue coming in higher. The financial report includes the \$5.2 million loan that now clears the negative General Fund (GF) balance. Savings on expenditure have exceeded \$2.2 million. Our projected ending fund balance is now at a positive \$1,287,610, and this could show higher on the July report.

16. Unfinished Business

16.A. Youth Truth Survey Results

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Cuddeback presented the results from the 2024-25 Youth Truth Survey, showing high-level trends using percent positive data. After staff have reviewed the data, principals will analyze the details and use the information to establish goals for the upcoming year.

Highlights include:

- Impressive response rate from families, students, and staff
- Survey trends

- Engagement metrics- questions around perseverance
- Relationship Quality- questions about trust, respect, fairness
- School Culture- questions about experience and behavior
- Academic Experience- questions about challenge, belonging, instructional methods
- School Safety Perceptions- questions for families
- Staff Professional Support- questions for staff
- Key Insights and Action Areas
 - 20% increase in high school family engagement
 - Decrease in professional development across all levels
 - 11% increase in family perception of middle school safety
 - 91% engagement across all levels of elementary engagement

The board requested a deeper dive into the questions and results during the summer board retreat.

16.B. ACTION ITEM: Exclusive Negotiating Agreement and Property Access Agreement

Superintendent Hattrick introduced the Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) between Ashland School District (the “School District”) and Edlen & Co. Development, LLC, an Oregon limited liability company (the “Developer”). To review, this initiative is part of the Ashland Attainable Housing Project. To explore options for building affordable housing on a property owned by the School District, ASD began working with a nonprofit organization called Sunstone. ASD and Sunstone created a Master Services Agreement to facilitate developing a Request for Proposal (RFP). Through the RFP process, Sunstone selected Edlen & Co. as the project's developer. For Edlen & Co. to conduct their due diligence, they need an agreement for exclusivity while they perform samples and tests. ASD is not financially responsible during the time set for the ENA.

The ENA outlines a plan for “Good Faith Negotiations” over a six-month period (with a 3 month extension). During this period, the parties shall use good faith efforts to accomplish the following tasks: (outlined in Article 2).

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overview of the timeframe ● Financial analysis ● Schematic and Master Plans ● Planning approvals with the City of Ashland and other governmental agencies ● Detailed schedule of performance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct due diligence activities ● Physical adequacy determination ● Access to site (see Property of Access Agreement) ● Title adequacy determination ● Utility review |
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The agreement does not obligate the school district or the developer to enter into a Developmental Design Agreement (DDA) or any other agreement regarding the site. The execution of this agreement by the school district and developer represents an agreement to engage in a period of exclusive negotiations in accordance with the terms.

The Property Access Agreement is made between Ashland School District and Edlen & Co (the “Developer”) to facilitate sampling, testing, surveys, and inspections of the site during the negotiation period. The Developer will be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred. Additionally, the Developer will restore the site to its original condition or better upon completion of any investigative activities.

Board members were encouraged by this agreement and reminded the community that these steps are necessary to define all the details that people have questions about. There will be plenty of chances to review the data and get questions answered.

Director Ruby stated that there is no conflict of interest and that he intends to vote on this matter.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Franko moved, and Director Skuratowicz seconded approval of the six-month exclusive negotiating agreement (ENA) and Property Access Agreement between Edlen & Co. and Ashland School District as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

17. New Business

17.A. ACTION ITEM: Secondary ELA Curriculum Adoption

Superintendent Michelle Cuddeback presented the curriculum review process and proposal for adoption. The objective was for the committee to find free or low-cost sources of ELA curriculum. The committee took an inventory of core novel texts, teaching materials, resources, and assessment tools at AMS and AHS. They used an evaluation tool for independent adoption that had to meet 100% of the non-negotiable criteria and 66% of the alignment criteria.

The recommendation is as follows:

- a) 6th-8th – continue with teacher-created units of study (independent adoption) – no change from what they are currently using
- b) 9th-12th - part independent adoption and part units from state-approved Odell Education and Newsela
- c) At all schools, sustain district-wide PLCs to continue to explore open-source materials
- d) Professional development (including using responsible AI resources)
- e) Target 2027-28 for material review and curriculum adoption (part of ODE adoption cycle)

There was an opportunity for public review and feedback on the plan to use open-source and independent teacher-created units of study. Feedback included concerns that the materials did not represent a broad enough range, but they didn't see the full list.

The board requested to see the curriculum book lists at Willow Wind and TRAILS as well.

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Skuratowicz moved, and Director Hatch seconded to approve the adoption of the Secondary ELA curriculum as recommended by the Curriculum Adoption Committee. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the five members present.

18. **Announcements and Appointments**

18.A. There are no scheduled work sessions in June or July. The board will meet for a 2-day board retreat on July 28th and 29th, 2025, in the District Office, 885 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland, OR.

18.B. The Board will hold its next Regular Session on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chamber, 1175 E. Main Street, Ashland, OR.

18.C. A big THANK YOU to our outgoing board members.

19. **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: July 10, 2025