

**ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2022 MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Kim Schubert at 7:02 p.m. in the South Campus Library.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Darrell Beneker, Tim Evers, Amy Hemmer, Chris Farris, Tim Langer, Brandon Miller, Kim Schubert

Excused: Craig Thompson, Lynn Vogeltanz

Administration present: Laura Myrah, Sue Casetta, Adam Kurth, Adam Boldt, Kevin Lipscomb, Ryan Mangan, Jeff Gross

The meeting was properly posted.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Beneker to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2022 Regular Board of Education Meeting. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Miller to approve the August 17, 2022 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to approve the June/July operating bill list and pay vouchers 622, 722, 6722, as presented in the amount of \$164,368.30. Motion Carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Myrah reviewed the preparations for the 2022-23 school year. The WINGS freshman orientation will be held from Aug. 24th - Aug. 26th. Arrowhead has oriented 10 new teachers this week and will hold teacher inservice days from Aug. 29th - Aug. 31st. Board members are invited on Monday, Aug. 29th for the welcome back session. Thursday, Sept. 1st is the first day of school. Ms. Myrah thanked all the staff for their work this summer getting the school up and running for the new year, including the facilities staff, school office and district office staff, teachers, as well as the administration.

Ms. Myrah also reminded the board and community that the 2022 On Point bulletin has been sent out and has great information including student achievements, state funding of our school and how it affects our budget, plus many more interesting facts about Arrowhead.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 13 members of the public made comments regarding a number of topics including:

- Policy 651 - Student Name and Pronoun Use Authorization and the lack of inclusivity it may cause, questions regarding the need for this policy, the legal ramifications of privileged information between students and with certain staff, the legality of the policy as a whole, as well as the discrimination this may cause against certain students.

- Policy 334 - Transparency in Curriculum community member concerns with the mistrust of our educators, comments stating that we already provide transparency in our curriculum, concerns that this is a politically motivated action, concerns of the burden this will place on staff.

- A community member raised concern about filling teacher positions especially with the relatively small pay increase and increased burden that they have been under during the past couple of years and the continued lack of trust.
- Many comments were heard regarding the many benefits of the Arrowhead swimming pool. Members expressed that the pool is a resource as much for the school as it is for the community. A proposal was made to create a committee to focus on the pool and how to generate funding. Concerns were raised about the transportation and safety of Arrowhead students if they were made to travel to another pool, as well as concerns that there is not enough water time to sustain our program. Concerns raised regarding the burden of student swimmers having to travel and how that would impact their studies and participation in other activities. Many members expressed the joy that their students receive from swimming and supported measures to repair the pool. A number of people voiced that they moved into this district for the swimming program.
- A number of community members expressed that they would like to board to focus on education.

CURRICULUM – Chairperson Hemmer gave a report from the August 11, 2022 meeting where the committee received an update on the continued exploration of an alternate schedule including the consideration of an AB block schedule and heard from guest speakers. The staff schedule exploration committee will continue to update the board, faculty, students and parents.

Ms. Casetta summarized the proposed JSA student trip to Washington DC with an estimated cost of \$741.00 per student. The Curriculum Committee had reviewed the details of this voluntary trip as well as the itinerary. The next Curriculum Committee meeting is September 22, 2022 at 6:45 a.m.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Beneker to approve the JSA's trip to Washington D.C. as presented. Motion Carried.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – No report. The next Finance and Legislation committee meeting is TBD.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Chairperson Beneker gave a report from the August 4, 2022 committee meeting. Topics discussed included a new B & G data dashboard, an update on the Solar Now program which is up and running, and a discussion of the structural assessment of the maintenance facility and cold storage barn, as well as the options related to repairing, or demolishing and rebuilding.

Administration recommends spending \$50,000 to demolish the cold storage barn plus the rental of temporary storage for the contents of the barn. Administration has also recommended spending \$48,471 for restoration work on the maintenance facility.

Moved by Evers, seconded by Langer to approve \$48,471 for the timely restoration work on the maintenance facility. Motion Carried. (6 - Yes, Miller - No)

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to approve the conceptual budget of \$50,000 to demolish the barn and incur the related cost of \$4,400 fee set forth in the memo.

Motion was withdrawn.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to approve the conceptual budget of \$50,000 to demolish the barn and incur the related cost of \$4,400 contractor fee contingent upon securing 3 bids. Motion Carried.

Mr. Beneker provided background that the \$350,000 cost is to eliminate the electrical system hazard by replacing the electrical system. There are additional problems with the pool that will cost much more than the \$350,000 including air quality ventilation, which will cost approximately \$1.2 to \$1.3 million dollars, corrosive piping and mechanical ventilation problems. To fully repair the existing undersized pool would be more than \$5 million. Board members voiced concern regarding any potential liability of the school board with the known dangers. Mr. Lipscomb assured the board that mitigation measures have been taken to create a safe working environment for staff. Students are not and have not been in any danger by being in the pool. Administration recommends working as quickly as possible to fix the electrical problem with an approximate timeline of sending out bids in December and an anticipated shut down of the pool in March for the repairs. Administration has been asked to consult with our liability insurance regarding this matter.

Moved by Farris, seconded by Evers to table the motion of adding money to the pool pending a discussion with our liability insurance as to the school boards liability.

Motion withdrawn.

Moved by Miller, seconded by Langer to approve the electrical contracting services up to \$35,000 in contracting service for project design work, as well as looking into liability and legal ramifications. Motion Carried.

The next Building and Grounds meeting is August 31, 2002 at 6:45 a.m..

PERSONNEL – No report.

The next Personnel meeting will be TBD in late September.

POLICY – Chairperson Farris gave a report from the July 29, 2022 meeting. An update on Policy 333, - Nondiscrimination in Curriculum was provided to the committee. A discussion was had regarding adding an additional newspaper, *Epoch Times*, to the library. The majority consensus of board members present was not to move forward in directing the purchase of that subscription. A sentence was added to Policy 341 Grading System to ensure academic progress is updated by teachers at least quarterly in Skyward.

Moved by Hemmer seconded by Miller to approve revised Policy 341 Grading System as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer seconded by Farris to approve revised Policy and Procedure 323 External Course Transfer Credits as presented. Motion Carried.

Chairperson Farris gave a report from the August 15, 2022 meeting. A new policy was proposed Policy 334 - Transparency in Curriculum. The committee agreed to survey the teachers regarding this proposed policy during the teacher in service and results will be available at the Sept. 7th meeting. Darrell will share the drafted survey with the entire board for any suggestions. The committee also discussed a new proposed Policy 651 - Student Name and Pronoun Use

Authorization. Changes will be made by administration to this policy and brought back to the committee for review, and then will be sent to legal counsel for review. Ms. Schubert took a moment to correct and clarify her comments from the August 15th committee meeting minutes.

The next Policy committee meeting is September 7, 2022 at 6:45 a.m.

WASB – No report

CESA #1 - No report

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Langer to approve the professional staff contracts for Emily Stewart - Family and Consumer Teacher, Jessica Thompson - Special Education Teacher, Christina Callies - Alternate Education Teacher, Melinda Belger - School Nurse, Chad Gordon - Math Teacher, the support staff letters of appointments for Kelly Litzow - Utility Custodian, Luke Crow - Special Ed Aide, Spencer Driscoll - Custodian III, Mary Sheldon - Special Ed Aide, Lynn Arminger - Printer Aide, Coleton Schwartz - Lunch & Study Hall Supervisor, Sue Ray - Aide/Student Services, Tim Lailer - Aide/Student Services, and the Co-curricular letters of appointment; Girls Golf Asst. Coaches - Dave Andrews and Nate Jansky, Boys Cross Country Coach - Matthew Gausmann, Music Theater Nights Directors - Gustavo Chaviano and Grace Bielski. Motion Carried.

Moved by Farris, seconded by Hemmer to approve the donation from Mark G. Sellers Entrepreneurial Foundation Inc, in the amount of \$20,000 to the AHS Technology and Engineering Department. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to engage with a new district law firm, Attolles Law, S.C., Attorney Jacob J. Curtis.

Motion withdrawn.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to authorize administration to retain counsel for the purpose of obtaining a second opinion in respect to the pool issue, Policy 334 Transparency in Curriculum, and Policy 651 - Student Name and Pronoun Use Authorization and to enter into a letter of engagement presented in a form that is acceptable at the discretion of administration. Motion Carried.

The letter of engagement to be signed by the board president after administrative approval.

Future agenda items

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Beneker to adjourn. Motion Carried.
The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate McGraw
Recording Secretary

Amy Hemmer, Clerk