

# **BOARD MINUTES**

**February 12, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, February 12, 2025 in the Board Room of the New Addition. Vice Chair, Julie Hinkle, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Jeff Branson, Shane Flowers, Julie Hinkle, Justin Peterson, Shane Rekdal, and Shayne Vandivort.

Members excused: Carl Openshaw

Superintendent – Drea O’Donnell, Clerk – Kinsey Szillat, Elementary Principal – Autumn Arlian, Middle School Principal – Rich Hash, High School Principal – KJ Poepping, AD – Tina Downing, and Transportation Director – Bobby Trotter were present for the entire meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve the Elementary business claims and accounts, to include January claims 133799 – 133870.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include January claims 133799 – 133870, and the approval of the January regular meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

None.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The administrators recapped their reports. During Mrs. Arlian’s Elementary report 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students presented their work on the Elementary newspaper, the Shepherd Gazette.

## **INFORMATIONAL**

1. Building Use Request
2. Water Report
3. Nurse’s Report

4. Resignations:  
Michael Bondurant – Middle School Teacher  
Amber Desmarais – High School English Teacher  
Amber Desmarais – High School Cheerleading Coach  
Jodi Gorham – Middle School Paraprofessional
5. Missing Children
6. Spring ANB Count
7. Wrestling Building Update:  
Luke Knaff provided an update to the AAU wrestling program building. Mr. Knaff has asked if the District would be willing to sell the land to the AAU program. This would mean the building would be completely owned and full responsibility of the AAU program. Next month's meeting will include an agenda item to vote on whether or not to begin the process of selling the land to the AAU program.
8. Beefing Up Shepherd School Food Services:  
Chaley Harney presented an opportunity to the Board to bring locally sourced beef into the school's lunch program.
9. Bus Inspections
10. Shepherd Budget Information
11. Milligan School Data

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Graduate Profile**

Shepherd Schools Graduate Profile is a set of attributes each student should have upon graduating from Shepherd Public Schools.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the graduate profile and the work toward these characteristics and skills in each building at Shepherd Schools.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Second and Final Reading of Policy 4330F**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Rekdal, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve 4330F for the second and final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Human Resources**

#### **Athletics**

Carolyn Bilden – Volunteer Cheer Coach \*Pending background check

Sean Keever – Assistant High School Track and Field Coach \*Pending background check

Elementary

Amanda Ralston – Paraprofessional

Middle School

Grace Reynolds – Paraprofessional

Kitchen

Amy Paige Atkinson – Kitchen helper

District

Craig McKinney – PowerSchool/Infinite Campus/NWEA MAPs/AR Specialist

A High School/Joint motion was made by Jeff Branson, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve hiring the employees and substitutes as listed.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Out of District Students**

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Jeff Branson, to approve the out of district students for the 2024-2025 school year as listed.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Infinite Campus Information**

The District would like to move our Student Information System (SIS) from PowerSchool to Infinite Campus. Quotes from Infinite Campus and a cost comparison were presented.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Jeff Branson, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve moving to Infinite Campus as our Student Information System.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Boilers**

There have been issues with one of the new boilers. Kevin Cumber was present to discuss warranty options and how to move forward.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve changing one heat exchanger and reviewing the warranty through Star Service Inc.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **High School Girl's Flag Football**

Tina Downing, Activities Director, was joined by student Madi Flowers and Larry Schmitt, MOA for girls flag football, to discuss adding High School girls flag football. The first three years would be funded by a grant from the Atlanta Falcons football team, with \$20,000.00 being received the first year. Uniforms would be provided for the first year for free from Nike. The season would last for six weeks with a State Championship taking place in Billings on the Outlaws field.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Jeff Branson, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve adding Girl's Flag Football to the High School as a sport starting in the Fall of 2025.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Shepherd Assessment Plan**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Jeff Branson, to approve the Shepherd School's Assessment Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Shepherd Curriculum Plan**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Rekdal, seconded by Shayne Vandivort, to approve the Shepherd School's Curriculum Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Shepherd School Climate Plan**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Jeff Branson, to approve the Shepherd School's Climate Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Principal Rehires and Administration Salaries**

An Elementary motion was made by Jeff Branson, seconded by Shane Flowers, to rehire Mr. Richard Hash as the Middle School Principal and Mrs. Autumn Arlian as the Elementary Principal for the 2025-2026 school year, as well as provide the same percentage salary increase to the Middle School and Elementary Principals that the District provides to the certified teaching staff.

A High School motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Justin Peterson, to rehire Mr. KJ Poepping as the High School Principal for the 2025-2026 school year, as

well as provide the same percentage salary increase to the High School Principal that the District provides to the certified teaching staff.

Both motions passed unanimously.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Safety Committee – The safety committee met in the spring, and no further meetings are planned.
- Policy Committee – The policy committee will meet with MTSBA to continue to review our policies. We have the 3000, 5000, 8000, and 9000 series left. We are looking at March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Negotiations Committee – The negotiation committee met as a board committee and looked at the STARS Act funding. We will meet with the negotiations committee at the beginning of March.
- Athletic Committee – The athletic committee has met regularly to interview coaches.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Time of adjournment: 8:41pm.