

BOT Meeting Thursday August 28, 2025 Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: Jim Sander, Robert Ansbro, Thomas Gorrell, Sean Blackwell, Christopher Brignola, Lucas Doe

Administrators in attendance: Norma Hurwitz, Eddie Kubina

Not in Attendance: Ted Francavilla

Meeting Called to Order by Jim Sander 6:40 pm

I. Approval of Minutes

Robert motioned to approve the minutes, Thomas seconds, all in favor

II. State Exam Results

Our school performed at a high level, 91% in literacy and 94% in math. All grade levels did well. For science we had 72% passing overall. 8th grade did slightly better with 79% passing and 5th grade had 64% passing. We have been working with staff to improve these numbers. We are refining the curriculum to include more experiments and observational science. We also went over the June Instructional Report in order to identify the strands that we need to focus on for ELA and Math. We identified topics involving fractions as an area that needs improvement across multiple grades. For literacy, there are more grade level specific strands that need improvement. We looked at the exam questions that matched the standards so that we can refine how we address these types of questions. We anticipate to match or exceed our performance.

Thomas will be able to visit the school to speak with the teachers and get a sense of what is happening with the science program and offer advice and support.

III. Staff

We have hired new people, especially at the high school level. We expect them to do well. Leena has moved on from our organization. She found a placement at a school that can benefit from her experience. Our staff has been mentoring our new teachers. They are strong in their subject areas, they are being mentored more in how our school operates. The job market is becoming more challenging and we have found better quality teachers who have a strong base in their subject area. Our new staff seems committed and have a lot to offer.

One of our teachers is looking to move into a leadership position. She is going to school and we are hopeful to keep her. She will be working with us in a different capacity and hopefully we can help her grow as an administrator. She is very capable and we are lucky to have her still with us.

IV. Accountability Report

The report includes the goals and objectives for the upcoming year and if they were met for the past year. The report focuses on academics and is a way to measure if the school is in good standing. We were able to meet every objective that is a prerequisite of the state. We are making progress each year.

The state has a deadline for Nov. 1st for an audit of our finances. This is completed by an outside agency.

Our high school will be a challenge. We will look to meet the expectations, but we are not anticipating our results to be as great the first year as our 3-8 program. As we move into our second year, we anticipate that our numbers will go up and we will have better performance.

Enrollment in the high school is at a good level. We had our high school students coming in for orientation and 35 of them are confirmed. We have a good amount of students for grade K-8, we may not have every student come in on day one, but we are still getting applications and plan on continuing our recruitment process to attract more students. We have staff members that are eager to help. We are also running a commercial and look to increase our presence on social media.

V. Committee Reports

Building: The plaques will be able to go up soon.

Finance: Nothing to report on finance.

Education: IXL can be used for science, the science standards are assigned as homework. They can use it until they are able to master each standard. They also use the science companion test prep book.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47 pm.