

# **BOARD MINUTES**

**June 18, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, June 18, 2025 in the Board Room of the New Addition. Chairman, Carl Openshaw, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Shane Flowers, Julie Hinkle, Carl Openshaw, Austin Schlosser, and Shayne Vandivort.

Members excused: Justin Peterson and Shane Rekdal

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

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the Elementary business claims and accounts, to include May claims 134047 – 134140.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include May claims 134047– 134140, and the approval of the May regular meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

None.

## **INFORMATIONAL**

1. PTO Playground Information  
The PTO will use their fundraiser proceeds to improve the playground. Improvements include filling and leveling low spots, filling in cracks, and putting two coats of sealant over the whole surface.
2. 2024-2025 Accreditation Status Report  
All three schools within the Shepherd District have been granted accreditation from the State of Montana.
3. Milligan Data Survey Comparisons
4. Building Use Requests
5. Water

6. Resignations – None.
7. Missing Children
8. Milligan Data
9. Shepherd Budget Information

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The administrators recapped their reports.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Wrestling Building Update**

Austin Ketchem and Luke Knaff, current high school wrestling coaches and AAU wrestling coaches, were present to discuss building a wrestling building on school property. The AAU program has exhausted all other options including purchasing property from existing homeowners and searching for property already on the market. They would like to purchase the land from the school to build a 40x80 wrestling building near the Bus Barn. Their request is to have complete control over the building, and put an agreement in place that states the building would be turned back over to the school should the Shepherd AAU program cease to exist. The Board Chair, Carl Openshaw, requested the AAU program to draft an agreement to present to the Board for approval at the next regular meeting.

No action taken.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Negotiations with SEA (moved from number 8 by Board Chair)**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to accept the negotiated agreement between the Shepherd School District and the Shepherd Education Association for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Daycare Food Program**

Each year the daycare needs board approval to use our food service program to supply them with lunches.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the Shepherd Daycare to use the food service program as their lunch program.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Human Resources**

### **Middle School**

Amanda Sherman – Paraprofessional

Gustav Wenz – Art Teacher

Dan Hansen – Keyboarding Teacher \*Pending background check

### **High School**

Rich Hash – Driver's Ed Instructor

Rachel Weeks - Paraprofessional

### **Athletics**

Tina Downing – High School Athletic Director

Dan Hansen – Middle School Athletic Director

Coach Re-hires as attached

An Elementary motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Austin Schlosser, to approve hiring the employees and coaches as listed.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve hiring the employees and coaches as listed.

Both motions passed unanimously.

## **2025-2026 High School Handbook**

A High School motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the amendments to the High School Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **MOU with Yellowstone County for SRO**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the MOU with Yellowstone County for an SRO for the 2025-2026 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Records Retention – Destroy Request**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the Records Retention Destroy request as presented through the use of a shredding company.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Property/Liability and Work Comp Insurance Renewals**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shayne Vandivort, to approve the renewal of the school's property/liability and work comp coverages through MSGIA for the 2025-2026 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Ambulance Service for Varsity Football**

A High School motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the use of AMR BLS Ambulance service during varsity football games for the 2025-2026 football season.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Bus Purchase 2025**

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Austin Schlosser, to approve the purchase of a bus from I-State for a total of \$178,615.00

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Surplus Items - Disposal**

There are multiple old items in the basement under the Middle School gym that have water damage and need disposed of.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the disposal of old items that have had water damage.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Security Window Coverings**

The Safety Committee looked at installing window coverings on our vulnerable window areas to help protect them from being broken and buildings being entered by outsiders. The District has received two quotes from one company (American Defense) and two additional companies would not provide quotes since we received one from American Defense. For both quotes attached, the whole project can be installed and can be billed over multiple years.

After a discussion, the Board decided to table this item and has requested the Superintendent to look into grants to help with the cost prior to committing to the purchase.

No Action.

### **Spending of June Funds**

An Elementary motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to transfer any monies available at the end of June to the multidistrict agreement fund.

A High School motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to transfer any moneys available at the end of June to the multidistrict agreement fund.

Both motions passed unanimously.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Policy Committee – The policy committee will meet with MTSBA one last time prior to August to make sure we have all new policies in place for the upcoming school year.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Time of adjournment: 7:39pm.