

Fowler Public Schools

Board of Education | Minutes

Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, 19, 2025 at 7:00pm | Fowler High School Media Center

Meeting called to order by President Ryan O'Rourke at 7:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance: Recited.

Roll call taken: Ryan O'Rourke, Brett Thelen, Kristin Phillips, Andy Weber, James Jandernoa, and Kent Weber present. Matt Epkey absent.

A motion was made by Kent Weber to appoint Brett Thelen as acting secretary for the regular meeting. Supported by James Jandernoa. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent/H.S. Principal Patrick O'Rourke, Elementary/Middle School Principal Paul Minns, Athletic Director Kris Ernst, Business Manager Tiffany Martin, Secretary Sarah Sills were also present.

Presentation: Darci Schulze the ASL teacher and two students, Maria Wieber and Landon Miller, gave a presentation. The ASL students have been exceling in the classroom with the new curriculum and are putting their knowledge to the test at different functions. They have signed the pledge of allegiance at various sporting events, Christmas caroled at the high school and Laurels of Fulton, and participated in "silent bowling" and hosted a "silent game night" which included deaf community members.

Sherry Hamilton and Brenda Epkey gave a presentation on the new reading curriculum, Wonders Literacy Curriculum. They explained the benefits of this curriculum and are eager to implement it into their classrooms.

Superintendent/High School Principal report: Patrick O'Rourke provided an update on the High School.

Elementary/Middle School Principal report: Paul Minns provided an update on the Elementary/Middle School.

Athletic Director's report: Kris Ernst provided an Athletics update.

Board Member Comments and Observations about Our Community Schools – Board Member Kristin Phillips gave kudos to Darci Schulze and her two students that provided the ASL presentation.

Board Committee Reports: Patrick O'Rourke reported that the Construction Committee met prior to the regular meeting to discuss the bids received for the upcoming roofing project at Waldron. Brett Thelen, James Jandernoa, and Kent Weber were in attendance. The project will be completed over the summer and completed before school begins in August.

The Curriculum Committee met prior to the regular meeting to discuss replacing the reading curriculum for first through fourth grades. Ryan O'Rourke, Kristin Phillips, and Andy Weber were in attendance. Wonder Literacy Curriculum has received many positive reviews and the transition to this curriculum from the current curriculum would be smooth. Kristin commented on the experience and confidence of our elementary teachers and their ability to make this curriculum change.

Public Participation 3 Guests – Sherry Hamilton complimented the High School Band and the Band Director Jake Roorda for earning a division one rating at MSBOA Band Festival and high honors at MSBOA's Solo & Ensemble Festival.

Old Business for Discussion

Bond Update- Patrick O'Rourke provided an update on the bond.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Kristin Phillips approving consent agenda items Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2025 and Approval

of General Fund Monthly Bills paid and funds transferred. Supported by Andy Weber. Motion carried 6-0.

New Business for Action:

- A. Motion made by Andy Weber to approve the purchase of Wonders Literacy Curriculum. Supported by Kent Weber. Motion carried 6-0.
- B. Motion made by Brett Thelen to relinquish funds for Title III Part A Immigrant Students/Carry-Over. Supported by James Jandernoa. Motion carried 6-0.
- C. Patrick O'Rourke and Business Manager Tiffany Martin reported on the 2024-2025 Budget Amendment. Tiffany gave a verbal explanation of the budget amendment to the Board. Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve the 2024-2025 Budget Amendment. Supported by Andy Weber. Motion carried 6-0.
- D. Approval and acceptance of quote received from Hoekstra Roofing for the Waldron roofing project. Motion made by Andy Weber and supported by Kent Weber. Motion carried 6-0.

New Business for Discussion:

- A. Review of the Waldron Roofing Project RFP Bids. Brett Thelen made a motion to move this item to action item 12D. Motion supported by Kent Weber. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Brett Weber to adjourn meeting. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brett Thelen/ ss

Acting Secretary