

Fowler Public Schools

Board of Education | Minutes

Regular Board Meeting, Monday, October 13, 2025 at 7:30pm | Fowler High School Media Center

Meeting called to order by President Ryan O'Rourke at 7:31 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance - Recited.

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

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

Presentation – None

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

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

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

Board Member Comments and Observations about Our Community Schools- None

Board Committee Reports – None

Public Participation: 1 Guest. No Comments.

Old Business for Discussion - None

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Kristin Phillips approving consent agenda items Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2025 and Approval of General Fund monthly bills paid and funds transferred. Supported by Andy Weber. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business for Action:

Motion by Brett Thelen to approve the Schools of Choice Open Enrollment 2nd Semester for the 2025-2026 school year. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 6-0.

Ryan O'Rourke recused himself from voting on the following action item.

Motion by Matt Epkey to approve the hire of Cole Wittenberg, Freshman Boys Basketball Head Coach. Supported by Kent Thelen. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve the job posting and addition of High School Athletic Trainer Position. Supported by Andy Weber. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Andy Weber to approve the PowerSchool Litigation Resolution. Supported by Brett Thelen. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business for Discussion:

- A. AI Policy and Handbook Team – Discussion took place among the Board about the use of AI in the classroom and the implementation of a team to create policy for the Handbook.

Motion made by James Jandernoa to adjourn meeting. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Epkey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Matt Epkey/ ss

Secretary