

Approved Minutes
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
Albany Area Schools – ISD #745
District Office Board Room
October 26, 2022

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Winkels at 6 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Winkels, Pennie, Kreuzer, Sand, Carbajal

Absent: Hansen, Sands

Student Representatives: Bierbaum, Hudock, Seiler

3. Student Representatives

Student representatives gave an overview of a recent survey they provided to the 550 high school students, 128 responds. Students said the district does well in the variety of classes offered, the opportunity of higher-level classes and graduation requirements. The survey also showed that the majority of the students want to continue having E-Learning days.

The survey showed positive responses in regards to athletics/activities and the positive team environment, great coaches/leaders, community involvement, continuous support and the opportunities to build new relationships.

The student survey noted a few academic areas where they would like to see improvement:

- More engaging classrooms
- More time to complete homework & an understanding of the students' workload
- More current events in school

Athletic improvements:

- Better/newer equipment
- Equal sports representation
- Equity in playing time and access for all students

The survey also showed they would appreciate:

- More focus and education on bullying, harsher punishments for those involved
- Additional education on drug use and the negative effects
- The counselors being available more often and more check-ins with students
- Mental health speakers

4. Early Learning Center Update

Weekly meetings to discuss the Early Learning Center project have been held with a variety of teachers, administrators, board members and community members.

5. Transportation Update

The Transportation Position was posted, applications received, and interviews will take place this week. The Grounds Position had a number of qualified applicants, and the offer will be made to the candidate soon. The district is currently getting estimates for snow removal at the school locations.

Tech update – Monday Oct 24th the internet service went down through the district’s current provider, Arvig. The district contacted Albany Mutual Telephone (AMT) for assistance and AMT had the service up and running quickly.

Meet and Confer – Feedback from the Meet and Confer meeting noted serious concern from teachers and staff about the heat regulation in Spring and Fall, with some classrooms being over 85 degrees. Superintendent Okerlund is following up on this to determine a short-term and long-term plan.

6. Adjournment

Agenda completed at 7:05 pm

Lynn Pennie, Clerk