

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools  
Regular School Board Meeting  
Held on September 16, 2025

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on September 16, 2025. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

- A. Pat Rensberger, Jenny Hurford, Chris O'Dell and Karra Duff, Board Members
- B. Kerry Johnson, Superintendent
- C. Ned Speicher, Advisor to Superintendent
- D. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager
- E. Greg Drennen and Kevin McCurdy, LWC Architects
- F. Beth Cohagan, Argos CTA President

President Rensberger called the Public Hearing regarding the 2026 Argos Community Schools Budget to order at 7:30 P.M. In opening statements, Mr. Speicher shared with the Board that all required forms concerning the proposed budget have been posted on Gateway. We are anticipating that it will be cut back from the state, but will wait to hear the final numbers. With there being no public testimony, Jenny Hurford made a motion to adjourn the hearing with Karra Duff seconding. With a vote of 4-0, the hearing was adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Pat Rensberger then called the Collective Bargaining hearing to order at 7:38 P.M. Contract negotiations with the ACTA (Argos Classroom Teachers Association) are set to begin. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17th at 3:15 P.M. Both sides are ready to work together to build a contract that best fits the needs of both parties. There was no communication from patrons. Chris O'Dell made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Karra Duff seconded and with a vote of 4-0, the hearing was adjourned at 7: 42 P.M.

Pat Rensberger called the regular meeting to order at 7:43 P.M. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence. Board member Monty Peden was absent. There was no communication from patrons.

Jenny Hurford moved to approve the minutes of the August 18th regular meeting and the August 26th special meeting and public hearing. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Chris O'Dell made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Greg Drennen from LWC presented a construction update to the Board. Things are wrapping up from project 4 in the baseball field and soccer stadium. The baseball backstop has been installed. Final completion of the project including reseeding will occur in October. Greg has recommended that R. Yoder Construction send in their final pay application to be approved at the October meeting. When that happens, project retainage can be released. The roof scan is complete and reports have been sent to Greg for review. Greg went on to detail the results of the scan and areas that needed to be addressed sooner than later. He also went over the proposed future projects with new projected costs. LWC will continue to get information regarding the future projects and work with our bond counsel, Damien Maggos, to keep the new bond process on schedule for future work.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve LWC invoice #18908 for payment. This invoice was for services rendered through 8/10/25 on the future bond study. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Karra Duff moved to approved LWC invoice #18916 for lighting replacements. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0 as well.

Karra Duff moved to approve the Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Success Payments as presented for the 2024-2025 school year. These payments are not included in the teacher contract and are paid as a result of the success of students in each teacher's dual credit/AP classes. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

In Mrs. Johnson's Superintendent Report, she told the Board that Mase insurance program members will be able to get a flu shot on site on Monday, October 20 from 6:45-8:45 A.M. in the auditorium lobby. Employees who do not have school insurance coverage will be able to get a flu shot from the Marshall County Health Department (MCHD) on Tuesday, October 21st. The MCHD Mobile Vaccination unit will be set up out front from 2:30-5:30 P.M. to administer flu shots as well as routine childhood immunizations to those who need them. Mrs. Johnson then updated the Board on Cultivate. There have been ongoing freezer issues at Marian/Ancilla so we haven't been able to implement the program yet this year. She is hopeful in the next couple of weeks that the freezer issues will be resolved and we can begin serving those in need. We currently have 26 kids signed up to receive the meals from Cultivate but have the capacity to have 50 kids. Mrs. Johnson also introduced "Dragon Packs" to the Board. This program is meant to replace the former Blessings in a Backpack program and to complement the Cultivate program once it is up and running this school year. Our elementary guidance

counselor, Stacia Scaife, is starting up a service club in the elementary called the “Random Acts of Kindness Club”. This club is going to implement the Dragon Packs. Scaife is currently working on getting supplies set up and determining the needs of our students. Eligible students will receive a bag on Friday afternoons filled with non-perishable food items to supplement their food over the weekend.

Karra Duff moved to approve the purchase of a new walk in cooler for the cafeteria from D.A. Dodd. The existing cooler has been in service for many years and is beginning to show its age. D. A. Dodd proposed to furnish a new cooler with an additional 4-5 feet of space for an extra row of storage for \$42,960. Karra Duff moved to approve the purchase and Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Chris O’Dell made a motion to approve a resolution to deposit revenue from earned interest to the operations fund. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked the Board to approve claims for the month in the amount of \$480,850.81. This includes 5 pages of payroll claims in the amount of \$403,775.06 and 7 pages of accounts payable claims in the amount of \$77,075.75. Karra Duff moved to approve, with Chris O’Dell seconding and the motion passed 4-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve a donation from Anthony Polite, dba Varsity Appliances, to Literacy Night. Donations were also accepted for the Boys soccer program from Beamers, Bauman Crop Solutions, Re/Max Aspire, Lake City Bank, Ameri-Can Engineering and H&H Group. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Mrs. Johnson presented the financial reports to the Board. 67% of the year has passed and we have spent 57% of the education fund and 53% of the operations fund. We will continue to operate in a fiscally responsible mode.

In closing comments, Pat Rensberger read a thank you card from Ned and Deb Speicher for the flowers that were sent to the celebration of life for Ned’s mother Miriam.

Having no other items for discussion, Karra Duff made a motion to adjourn with a second by Chris O’Dell. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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Pat Rensberger, President

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Chris O'Dell, Vice President

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Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

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Karra Duff, Member

Board Approved Personnel, September 16, 2025

A. Employment

1. Melissa Spicer-Elementary Yearbook
2. Andria Detweiler, Beth Cohagan and Elizabeth Endres-Co Sponsors HS Yearbook
3. Jennifer Stults-Mentor teacher to Jerry Miller