

BOARD MINUTES

October 15, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, October 15, 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, Shane Rekdal, Austin Schlosser, and Shayne Vandivort.

Members excused: Justin Peterson.

Superintendent – Drea O’Donnell, Clerk – Kinsey Szillat, High School Principal – KJ Poepping, and High School AD – Tina Downing, Middle School AD – Dan Hansen, and Transportation Director – Bobby Trotter 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 September claims 134328 – 134417.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include September claims 134328– 134417, and the approval of the September regular meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

ADMINISTRATION

The administrators recapped their reports.

INFORMATIONAL

1. Building Use Requests
2. Nurse’s Report
3. Hometown Hero Lunch

On November 11, 2025 the District will be offering a free chili and cinnamon roll lunch to our hometown heroes.

4. Breast Cancer Awareness Lunch

On October 23, 2025 the District is inviting the community to join students for lunch for October Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

5. Resignations –
KJ Poepping – Assistant Golf Coach (Hired as Head Coach)
McKenzie Carlson – Nurse
Daniela Andrade – Kitchen Helper
6. Missing Children
7. Water
8. Shepherd Budget Information
9. Milligan Data

OLD BUSINESS

Bus Routes 2025-2026

The routes attached were presented to the county in September as the District's final version of routes for the 2025-2026 school year.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the 2025-26 bus routes as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

Negotiations with SEA

The Superintendent, Mrs. O'Donnell, recommended the approval of an MOU to the 2025-2027 negotiated agreement. The change in language was approved by the negotiations committee. The change in language was to ensure the CBA and Teacher Handbook were consistent.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Human Resources

District

Jennifer Hooker – Nurse *Pending background check

Athletics

Ely Feuerstein – Boys C Squad Basketball Coach

Danielle Robison – Girls C Squad Basketball Coach. *To be paid position only if there is a C Squad. If no C Squad position will be volunteer.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve hiring the employees as listed.

The motion passed unanimously.

Out of District Students

Middle School:

Approve:
MS39

High School:

Approve:
HS23
HS24

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Austin Schlosser, to approve the out of district student for the 2025-2026 school year.

A High School motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve the out of district students for the 2025-2026 school year.

Both motions passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Insurance Committee – The insurance committee met on September 29th at 6:00 with the new Montana State Insurance Group – Bridged Health Alliance. The committee will meet on October 27th at 6:00 with our current insurance provider. The committee will need to make a decision on which group they want to go with prior to the November board meeting.
- CTE Committee – The CTE committee will meet on November 10th at 6:00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Time of adjournment: 6:57pm.