

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on November 17, 2025

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on November 17, 2025. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

A. Pat Rensberger, Monty Peden, Jennifer 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. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

F. John Fishburn, Teacher

G. Damon Binkley, Athletic Director

Pat Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:16 P.M. following the conclusion of the public hearing and led the Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.

There was no communication from patrons.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the minutes of the October 20th regular meeting and public hearing and the October 27th executive session. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Karra Duff seconded the motion with the addition and it passed 5-0.

Damon Binkley, AHS Athletic Director, was on hand to update the Board on a new program being introduced in the athletic department. Argos middle and high school students interested in track will now be able to participate thanks to an agreement made with Culver Schools. Our runners will participate in all home Culver meets, as of now. Mr. Binkley is working on finalizing details for this new opportunity for students.

Monty Peden moved to approve the 26/27 school calendar as presented to the Board. Because of the way the calendar fell, we are able to move the school start date back a few days and still finish before Memorial Day 2027. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

John Fishburn presented the Board with information regarding a proposed trip to Gettysburg in March 2026. The trip would be March 20-23, 2026 and would be open to all interested juniors first and then filled with other students. Students and chaperones would spend their time touring museums, battlefields and participating in a ghost walk. Trip cost is \$750.00 per person up to 15 students/chaperones and drops to \$650.00 per person after that. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the plans to move forward with the trip. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0. Mr. Fishburn will now get to work on getting information out to interested students and finalizing the trip details.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve a quote from Lee Company to replace the muslin scrim on the auditorium stage in time for this year's musical. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve LWC invoices 19078 for lighting replacements, 19074 for 2024 site improvements and 19075 for future bond study. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Karra Duff made a motion to approve D.A. Dodd invoice #63404 for labor and materials for the walk-in cooler not keeping temperature. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Johnson updated the Board on Literacy Night which was held November 5. She was pleased to report that Gym 3 was packed as over 130 people attended the event aimed at promoting literacy in schools and homes. Many families were able to participate in sessions throughout the evening and over 100 free books were given away as prizes. Plans are being made to host it again next year. She also updated the Board on the Cultivate program. We presently have 37 students signed up to receive meals through Cultivate. The final update was on the newly created Kindness Club. The club recently held their first meeting and over 40 kids showed up ready to participate. Students are encouraged to practice kindness in their daily lives both in school and at home. Fun activities are being planned for this club.

Mrs. Johnson presented the October financial reports to the Board. Both the operations and education budgets continue to look good going into the final months of the budget year. We are 11% and 10% respectively, below where we should be at this point in the year. Slides were shown for what Mrs. Johnson and Kelli are hoping to encumber for the 2026 budget in both the

operations and education budgets. Those encumbrances will happen in the next month as purchase orders are put into the system to pull payables from to protect the budget for next year.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve a \$500.00 donation made to the Dragon Packs fund from the Maxinkuckee Oddfellows. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for approval of claims in the amount of \$364,758.18 with \$81,505.33 of that being accounts payable and \$283,252.85 being payroll claims. Monty Peden moved to approve the claims as presented. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

With no closing comments being heard, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Monty Peden, Vice-President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Chris O'Dell, Member

Karra Duff, Member

Board Approved Personnel November 17, 2025

A. Employment

1. Elizabeth Endres and Jenny Harness-Co Sponsors of Art Club

B. Basketball Coaches

1. Emily LaFree-8th grade girls
2. Ashli Prochno-7th grade girls
3. Anina Bowman-6th grade girls
4. Amberly Stults-5th grade girls
5. Chris Kindig-Varsity boys assistant
6. Joel Harman-8th grade boys
7. Justin Campbell-7th grade boys
8. Mat Smith-6th grade boys
9. Norman McCarthy-5th grade boys

C. Volunteer assistants

1. Garret Weil-JV/V boys basketball

D. Resignation

1. McKenna Burkholder-Girls soccer varsity assistant/JV coach