

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools  
Regular School Board Meeting  
Held on May 18, 2026

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on May 18, 2026. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

A. Pat Rensberger, Karra Duff, Jennifer Hurford, Chris O'Dell and Monty Peden, Board Members

B. Kerry Johnson, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

President Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

There was no communication from patrons.

Monty Peden moved to approve the minutes of the regular and executive sessions for April 20, 2026. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Chris O'Dell made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve three LWC invoices for payment. Those invoices include 19613 for tunnel piping replacement, 19626 for exterior masonry repairs and 19630 for roofing and coping replacements. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was approval of the 2026-2027 Student Handbook. Board member Jennifer Hurford had several questions on some proposed changes to the handbook regarding home school students participating in athletics and jackets in classrooms. The question was answered regarding the home school students participating in athletics and Mrs. Johnson will consult with Mr. Medich and Ms. Balsley regarding the athletic jackets in classrooms and bring it to the next Board meeting, at which time it can be approved. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the student handbook as presented, with the exception of the items mentioned above. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Classified, Certified and Substitute Employee handbooks as presented. There were no changes made to the handbooks from last year's editions. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve a quote from Amplify for curriculum materials for grades 6-8 in the amount of \$31,383.86. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden made a motion to approve the NIESC Contracted Dietician director contract for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$5,000. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Karra Duff moved to approve Open Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year. We are anticipating having it ready to go sometime the week of May 25th and it will be open until Count Day in the Fall, which is yet to be determined by the State. New and returning students will be able to register for the 2026-2027 school year online as in years past. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

The Varsity girls basketball team has requested they be able to attend an out of state camp at Adrian College in Michigan, June 22-24, 2026. Cost of attendance is \$120.00 per athlete. If the athlete has financial hardship, this cost will be covered by the Student Activities account. Karra Duff moved to approve the team travelling to this camp. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

In Mrs. Johnson's superintendent report, she reminded the Board that graduation is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 29th at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Johnson then gave a summer construction update. A construction kick off meeting was held which brought together representatives from all 4 companies that will be working here over the summer. Steve Sweet has been assigned as the construction administrator and will be responsible for coordinating schedules and getting information from each company to school administration and Greg Drennen at LWC. Ziolkowski Construction has already begun working on the exterior masonry repairs. Each of the companies will work around the summer school schedule. Mrs. Johnson also updated the Board on a gas line that has recently been repaired in the school. She will update the board on the hot water heater as she gets more information from Core Mechanical Services. Mrs. Johnson recently attended the Senior Awards Program held at the Gallery on West. A total of \$63,725.00 in scholarships was given out that day to Argos High School seniors. She also updated the Board on the HNAC Math contest that we were able to host recently. A total of 9 schools were present for the competition and Argos was able to bring home 3rd place overall, as well as place in the top 5 schools of all competitions that day.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for the approval of claims in the amount of \$361,311.44 for the month of April. Of that total, \$88,245.42 is for accounts payable and \$273,066.02 is for payroll. Chris O'Dell moved to approve the claims as presented and Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion. It was approved 5-0.

Mrs Johnson presented the financial report for April 2026 to the Board. We have expended 24% of the education fund budget to date. The operations fund is also sitting at 27% expended. Total cash reserves and the rainy day fund both are healthy and continue to grow.

In closing comments, Monty Peden told the Board that the Afterprom went very well. This year it was held in Warsaw at Eastlake Skating Center. The Lions Club was able to award approximately \$1,200 in cash and prizes to prom goers. The Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build was also held this past Saturday at the fairgrounds and was a resounding success. Reminder that the next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Monday, June 22 instead of June 15th.

With there being no other business, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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Pat Rensberger, President

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Karra Duff , Vice President

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Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

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Chris O'Dell, Member

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Monty Peden, Member

Board Approved Personnel, May 18, 2026

A. Summer School Employment

1. Kirsta Gardner-2nd and 3rd grade
2. Victoria Perschbacher-4th and 5th grade
3. Kenna Bowen-Elementary aide
4. Mark Kessel-Jr. High English
5. Chris Willis-Jr High Math

B. Regular Employment

1. Alexandria Tungate-Jr/Sr. High Agriculture-beginning 26/27 school year
2. Elizabeth Kasten-Jr. High Science-beginning 26/27 school year
3. Anina Bowman-Jr/Sr High MOMH aide

C. Transfer

1. Chris Willis-Jr/Sr. High Special Ed to Sr. Science
2. Jennifer Stults-Jr. High Science to Jr. High English

D. Resignation

1. Ron Richie-6h grade English/Math remediation
2. Haleigh Cassel-2nd grade teacher