

BOARD MINUTES

August 19, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, August 19, 2026 in the Board Room of the New Addition. Vice Chair, Julie Hinkle, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Josette Barthule, Tenille Bomar, Julie Hinkle, Justin Peterson, Austin Schlosser, and Taner Sorge.

Members excused: Carl Openshaw.

Superintendent – Drea O’Donnell, Clerk – Kinsey Szillat, Elementary Principal – Calli Nicholson, Middle School Principal – Rich Hash, High School Principal – KJ Poepping, High School Activities Director – Tina Downing, Middle School Activities Director – HaiLeigh Davis, and Transportation Director – Bobby Trotter were present for the entire meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

An Elementary motion was made by Josette Barthule, seconded by Josette Austin Schlosser, to approve the Elementary business claims and accounts, to include June claims 134905 – 134968 and July claims 134969 - 135058.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Taner Sorge, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include June claims 134905 – 134968 and July claims 134969 - 135058, and the approval of the June regular meeting minutes and July special meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATION

The administrators recapped their reports.

INFORMATIONAL

1. Building Use Requests
2. Resignations –
Justin Pizano – Head High School Baseball Coach
Isiac Hammer – Assistant High School Baseball Coach
Tenley Miller – High School Cheer Coach
Cindy Glinwood – Elementary Paraprofessional
3. Water
4. Shepherd Budget Information
5. Milligan School Data
6. Bus Inspections
7. District Newsletter 2026-2027
8. Graduation Date

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Human Resources

Rich Hash – Driver's Ed Instructor
Chris Nydegger – Concessions Manager
Michaelia Rogers – Kitchen Helper *Pending background check

Athletics

Joe Cook – Volunteer 5/6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
Ryan Mossman – Volunteer 5/6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
Jon Sprenger – Volunteer Middle School/High School Track Coach
Corey Schultz – Volunteer High School Boys Basketball Coach
Hope Mikkelson – Assistant High School Track Coach
Darcy Stracke – 5/6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
Amanda Stene (Simmons) – High School Cheer Coach

Advisors

Alesia Styren – Elementary Student Council
Megan Logan – Middle School Yearbook
Angela Wagenhals – Middle School Student Council
Rachel Steiner – BPA
Rachel Steiner – Sophomore Class Sponsor
Kylee Billingsley – FFA
Tana Luptak – Spanish Club
Tana Luptak – High School Student Council
Janessa Fisk – FCCLA

Kari Drange – Key Club
Kari Drange – Choir
Kari Drange – Pep Band
Aspen Jonas – Art Club
Aspen Jonas – Game Club
Aspen Jonas – Junior Class Sponsor
Amy Peterson – Library Club
Mikaela Toegel – National Honor Society
Rachel Stratman – HOSA
Allie Walker – Performing Arts Club
Alex Bohle – Junior Class Sponsor
Cindy Sundheim – Senior Class Sponsor
Amy Farris – Senior Class Sponsor

Substitute List as Attached

A High School/Joint motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve hiring the employees, substitutes, and coaches as listed.

The motion passed unanimously.

2026-2027 Out of District Students

Elementary

See List Attached to Board Packet

Middle School

MS33

MS34

MS35

High School

HS28

An Elementary motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Josette Barthule, to approve the out of district students for the 2026-2027 school year.

A High School motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve the out of district students for the 2026-2027 school year.

Both motions passed unanimously.

Records Retention – Destroy Request

A High School/Joint was made by Taner Sorge, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve the Records Retention Destroy Request as presented through the use of a shredding company.

The motion passed unanimously.

Policies

Final reading of policies 3665, 5122, 2600, 1105, 2050, 2100, 2151, 2170P, 2171, 2410, 2410P1, 2410P2, 3110, 3120, 3231, 3340, 3341, 3225P1, 3600P1, 4315, 5012P1, 5120P1, 5321, 5322, 5323, 5324.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Tenille Bomar, seconded by Josette Barthule, to approve the policies as listed for the final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

Handbooks

A High School/Joint motion was made by Josette Barthule, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve the Classified, Advisor, Teacher, Substitute, Transportation, and Purchasing handbooks, as well as the change to the High School handbook and Coach/Advisor handbook for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

Out of State Trips

The following out of state trips were recommended for approval:
FFA National Convention – Indianapolis, IN October 21-24, 2026
BPA Nationals – Denver, CO May 5-9, 2027
FCCLA Nationals – Washington, DC June 22-26, 2027
National Speech and Drama – Phoenix, AZ June 13-18, 2027
National HOSA Convention – Philadelphia, PA June 22-25, 2027

A High School/Joint motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve the out of state trips for the 2026-2027 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Routes and Contracts

A High School/Joint motion was made by Taner Sorge, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve the bus routes as presented with the individual contracts included for the 2026-2027 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

AMR Contract for Football Season

AMR has contracted with the District for several years to provide ambulance service for our home football games. The contract for the upcoming season was presented.

No action was taken on this item as the Help Flight Ground Crew has offered to provide ambulance service for this season's home football games free of charge.

Open Account for Freshman Class

A High School motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Josette Barthule, to approve opening an account for the freshman class of 2030 and closing the account for the class of 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

Travel Bus Purchase

A High School/Joint motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Austin Schlosser, to approve the purchase of a travel bus through National Bus Sales.

The motion passed unanimously.

Montana Deaf and Blind MOU

A High School/Joint motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve the memorandum of understanding with the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

The motion passed unanimously.

Montana Digital Academy MOU

A High School/Joint motion was made by Josette Barthule, seconded by Taner Sorge, to approve the memorandum of understanding with the Montana Digital Academy for the 2026-2027 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

Football Field Light Pole Construction

It was brought to the District's attention that one of the football field light poles is no longer appropriately attached to the base. The bolts have broken off and the pole is not attached firmly. This will need to be fixed to prevent it from falling.

Three bids were presented to the Board to replace the pole:
Ace Electric- \$51,000.00

Langlas- \$46,307.15
McCabe Electric- \$26,000.00

A High School/Joint motion was made by Taner Sorge, seconded by Tenille Bomar, to approve the replacement of the football field light pole and base with McCabe Electric with the use of the Fund 182.

The motion passed unanimously.

Trustees Reports

The Elementary and High School 2025-2026 Trustee Reports were presented.

An Elementary motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Josette Barthule, to approve the 2025-2026 Trustees Report as presented.

A High School motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Taner Sorge, to approve the 2025-2026 Trustees Report as presented.

Both motions passed unanimously.

Revenue Budgets

The Elementary and High School 2026-2027 Revenue Budgets were presented.

An Elementary motion was made by Austin Schlosser, seconded by Josette Barthule, to approve the 2026-2027 Revenue Budgets as presented.

A High School motion was made by Tenille Bomar, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve the 2026-2027 Revenue Budgets as presented.

Both motions passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee – The Policy committee met on August 3rd to discuss the first reading of the policies covered in this meeting.

Mission/Vision Committee – The Mission/Vision committee met right before this board meeting to discuss board goals. The committee will have a list of these goals ready for the September meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Time of adjournment: 7:08pm.