Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on September 16, 2026

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on September 21, 2026. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

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

B. Kerry Johnson, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

President Rensberger called the Public Hearing regarding the 2027 Argos Community Schools Budget to order at 7:03 P.M. In opening statements, Mrs. Johnson shared with the Board that all required forms concerning the proposed budget have been posted on Gateway. The proposed 2027 budget is very similar to the 2026 budget. It has also been figured to include no impact to the tax rate and levy. 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, Karra Duff made a motion to adjourn the hearing with Jennifer Hurford seconding. With a vote of 4-0, the hearing was adjourned at 7:04 P.M.

Pat Rensberger then called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence. Board member Monty Peden was absent. There was no communication from patrons.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the minutes of the August 17th regular meeting. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

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

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the hiring of Norman McCarthy as the new grounds worker/assistant maintenance worker following the departure of Kevin Croninger. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Mr. McCarthy will start in his new position on October 5th.

Karra Duff moved to approve SPG Roofing pay app no. 1 for roofing replacement in the amount of $685,852.20. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve pay app no.4 from Core Mechanical Services for tunnel piping replacement in the amount of $164,587.18. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was also approved 4-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve a change order from SPG Roofing for the gym 3 roof area. The total amount of the change order is $79,078.02 and consists of a complete tear off of this area. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the contract award for the roof top units to Core Mechanical Services. LWC has reviewed each bid and recommended Core Mechanical for the job. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Karra Duff moved to approve the Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Success Payments as presented for the 2025-2026 school year. The total amount of the payments is $28,750.00. 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 and exam scores. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the following invoices from LWC: 19970 for exterior masonry repairs, 19976 for tunnel piping replacement, 19977 for roofing & coping replacement, 19978 for rooftop unit replacement, 19979 for stage lighting and 19983 for the elementary patio area. The total amount due for all invoices is $37,491.51. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Karra Duff moved to approve Ziolkowski Construction pay app no. 4 for exterior masonry repairs in the amount of $71,537.76. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Karra Duff made a motion to approve a resolution to deposit the earned interest from our checking account into the operations fund. The estimated amount of interest monthly is around 20K, but will vary depending on the total balance in the account at each statement end date. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the 2027 transfer resolution which allows our business manager to transfer $50,000 a month from the education fund to the operations fund. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0, as well.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve an agreement with Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center to provide health services for the 2026-2027 school year. Contract total is $104,311.28 and is down from years past. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

In Mrs. Johnson's Superintendent Report, she mentioned that the Marshall County Health Department would be here October 8th to administer flu shots to employees wanting them. They will be in the auditorium lobby from 1-3 for employees and then 3-7 to administer student immunizations. There will be 2 hour delays on October 7th and 8th due to parent teacher conferences. Conferences are scheduled to begin at 3:30 each day and wrap up at 7. Mrs. Johnson updated the Board on the construction projects. The elementary patio area is complete. Ziolkowski is moving right along with the masonry repairs. They are hoping to be completely done with the project by October 15. All lines in the tunnel piping project have been insulated and they are working on finishing the sanitary lines. Core Mechanical hopes to be done with this project by the end of Fall Break. SPG has to finish the gym 3 roof area and is currently working with LWC to find a good time to finish that project.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked the Board to approve claims for the month in the amount of $353,878.93. This includes 2 pages of payroll claims in the amount of $275,974.93 and 6 pages of accounts payable claims in the amount of $77,904.00. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve, with Chris O'Dell seconding and the motion passed 4-0.

The following donations were presented to the Board for approval.
Brett and Deb Sanders-$200.00 towards boys and girls soccer teams for team dinners.
Argos Lions Club-$1,000 for all student clubs that worked in the fair booth
Argos Festivals Inc-$1750 to be split between lacrosse, cheerleading and girls soccer for festival parking
AYS donation of 750.00 to sponsor Argos students free admission to 2 boys and 2 girls soccer games on 9/19, 9/26, 9/28 and 10/3.
Multiple donations to the athletic department for the Jonathan Hayn memorial.
Karra Duff moved to approve all of the donations with Chris O'Dell seconding and they were approved 4-0.

Mrs. Johnson presented the financial reports to the Board. We are 68% through the year and have expended 54% of the education fund and 53% of the operations fund. We will continue to operate in a fiscally responsible mode.

There were no closing comments.

Having no other items for discussion, Karra Duff made a motion to adjourn with a second by Jennifer Hurford. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

_____
Pat Rensberger, President

_____
Karra Duff, Vice President

_____
Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

_____
Chris O'Dell, Member

Board Approved Personnel, September 21, 2026

A. Resignation
    1. Kevin Croninger-Head of grounds/assistant maintenance
    2. Monica Crace-Middle school remediation aide
    3. Dan Stombaugh-JV/Varsity boys baseball coach

B. ECA Sponsors
    1. Corey Bowman-Jr. High student council
    2. John Fishburn-National Honor society

C. Mentor teachers
    1. Jennifer Stults

2. Jon Alcorn
3. Jonathan Arndt

D. Coaches
1. Josh Schafer-5th grade boys basketball coach