

Minutes

1. Call to Order / Roll Check

Chair Dyson called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Roll check confirmed that all five members were present: Directors Rooklyn, Ferguson, Ruby, Vice Chair Hatch, and Chair Dyson.

2. Adoption or Adjustment of Agenda

- ❖ **Motion:** Director Rooklyn moved, and Director Ruby seconded to accept the agenda as submitted.
Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Hatch, Dyson
Nay: none
Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. YAAL Update

Director Rooklyn provided an update on the YAAL PAC's work ahead of the May 19 election, including voter pamphlets, ballot mailing, business support, and a planned mailer to district constituents. She encouraged outreach to friends, family, and parents to vote, and Board members expressed appreciation for the PAC's efforts.

4. Executive Order 26-06 Update

Superintendent Hattrick reported on Executive Order 26-06 regarding student instructional time and the related temporary rule. He noted that the order is intended to preserve instructional time and restricts districts from reducing current instructional levels or seeking waivers, except in emergencies. He also shared that the state temporarily removed restrictions on counting up to 30 hours/each of professional development and parent-teacher conference hours toward instructional time. The district is awaiting further clarification from the state and COSA. Board members expressed interest in advocating when appropriate.

5. Lincoln School Update

Superintendent Hattrick invited Executive Director of Operations Steve Mitzel to provide an update on the Lincoln School insurance claim. Director Mitzel shared that PACE denied the claim, citing age-related checking and cracking of the beams as not covered by insurance. The district is exploring appeal options and working with its insurance representatives to determine whether any costs incurred to date, approximately \$63,000, may be recoverable.

Superintendent Hattrick outlined the appeal process, which includes a mandatory appeal to PACE, mediation, and binding arbitration. Superintendent Hattrick indicated he is willing to continue pursuing the matter and will work with Business Director Sherry Ely to contact the PACE Board and develop a strategy.

The Board discussed possible next steps for the building, including demolition and sealing of the affected wing, securing the entire space, or evaluating potential future funding opportunities. Director Rooklyn noted that the City of Ashland is pursuing a federal tax incentive program that could potentially support future work at Lincoln School, though funding would not be known until July 2027. Director Mitzel noted that certain repair or demolition costs could trigger additional ADA, plumbing, and electrical requirements.

The Board requested additional information on the demolition and sealing option. Superintendent Hattrick will bring options for next steps to a future work session.

6. ACTION: Edlen & Co. Amendments to ENA

Superintendent Hattrick presented the First Amendment to the Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) between Ashland School District and Edlen & Co. He explained that the amendment makes child care an option rather than a requirement and allows for up to three three-month extension periods as the parties continue moving toward a Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA).

- ❖ **Motion:** Vice Chair Hatch moved, and Director Ferguson seconded to approve the First Amendment to the ENA between Ashland School District and Edlen & Co. as written.
Aye: Rooklyn, Ruby, Ferguson, Hatch, Dyson
Nay: none
Result: The motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. Youth Truth Survey Report

Superintendent Hattrick presented a summary of the 2025-26 YouthTruth data, prepared by Assistant Superintendent Cuddeback. The survey was administered in February to families, staff, and students. TRAILS and Willow Wind data were included in the elementary category.

Superintendent Hattrick reviewed key themes for each survey group, including school safety, engagement, culture, relationships, communication, resources, professional development and support, academic challenge, and belonging. Family responses showed positive trends across all core themes, with some downward trends noted in Latino and multiracial demographic groups. Superintendent Hattrick noted that the District Equity Committee will review the data.

Staff responses showed improvement in all but one category, with all scores above the median. Student data also reflected growth, including significant improvement at the high school level.

Board members discussed questions related to elementary scoring, multi-year trend data, whether and how to share highlights publicly, and areas where the data may inform meaningful district improvements. Board members expressed appreciation for the report and requested additional follow-up with Assistant Superintendent Cuddeback at a future work session.

8. Board Learning

The Board discussed Chapters 9 and 10 of *Improving School Board Effectiveness*, focusing on effective engagement, reflection, and the need for a clear shared vision to guide district work. Members discussed balancing regular meeting business with broader discussion time, the value of in-person work sessions, and the Board's role in the Transformation process.

The Board also discussed the possibility of developing shared vision language, an ASD "elevator pitch," and a Portrait of a Graduate to support future engagement and decision-making. Superintendent Hattrick will continue to provide Transformation updates during regular Board reports, and when appropriate, the Board would like to include TSC updates during work sessions.

Chapters 3 and 4 were assigned for the next work session.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Dyson adjourned the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Submitted by:
Holly Rosser, Board Secretary

Date for Board Approval: May 14, 2026