

# A-O CUSD #1

## Board Briefs



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September 14

2021

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On September 13, 2021, the Board held its regularly scheduled business meeting.

At 6:00 p.m., the regular meeting was called to order.

- Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance occurred.
- The board entered closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act-5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), which permits a closed session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, and/or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the public body.
- The regular meeting was reconvened.
- Staff comments were provided.
- District administrator(s) provided reports:
  - Mrs. Ryder:
    - Our K-5 enrollment is 378 compared to 357 at this time last year. Pre-K is full at 79 and our total enrollment is 461, compared to 430 last year.
    - A majority of our 1:1 technology has been rolled out and we have been completing FastBridge testing for our first assessment period of the three we complete each year. We will be starting RtI interventions next week.
    - Our Building Leadership Team met today and discussion items included quarantines and how we are addressing educational needs outside of the building, upcoming School Improvement day and trainings, and required drills to complete.
    - PATT has added three new board members and they are discussing goals for fundraising for a walking path/track at the elementary school.
    - A big thank you to our teachers, support staff, bus drivers and community for all of the support in getting the year started. It has taken a team effort and we are grateful.

- Mr. Blair:
  - Enrollment is 221 as compared to 226 last year.
  - Thank you to Mr. Altig for configuring and distributing all of the devices for our students.
  - Fastbridge screening in math, reading, and for social emotional benchmarks will be completed this week.
  - The AOMS Building Leadership Team will begin evaluating the 2020-2021 Illinois Assessment of Readiness Scores.
  
- Mr. German:
  - AOHS enrollment as of 9/8/21 is 246 compared to 262 last year at this time.
  - We were notified of a positive COVID case today. Thirty-nine individuals were identified as close contacts. Eight of those identified as close contacts are vaccinated and will not have to quarantine as long as they do not begin experiencing any symptoms. Thirty-one individuals were quarantined by the Macon County Health Department.
  - The Village of Argenta is submitting an application for grant funds to improve walking and bike paths to AOMS, AOHS, and other areas in town. To support this project, Macon County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Adkins will be taking pictures of areas around the school that the village plans to address. Sergeant Adkins will be here tomorrow morning taking pictures as students arrive at school. Thank you to the Village of Argenta and Sergeant Adkins for seeking these grant funds to provide safe and secure pathways to access AOMS and AOHS!
  - I firmly believe that we will find what we are looking for. If we look for problems and things to be angry about, we will find them. If we look for good and positive things to be grateful for, we will find them. There are many challenges facing schools right now but there are also a lot of good things taking place in the midst of these challenges.
    - Thank you to all of our teachers, support staff, students, parents, administrators, and board members working to serve our students!
    - We are a 1:1 technology school! Thank you to Mr. Tom Altig for all of his work in making this possible while also trouble shooting tech issues on a daily basis.
    - Thank you to our long-term subs serving our students (Ms. Suzie Easton, Mr. Zach Rose, Ms. Mallory Christensen)
    - Thank you Mrs. Denise Klover for making the MS/HS library an inviting place for students to check out books and learn new skills.
    - Thank you to all of our bus drivers and Mr. Mark Daley working to provide our students with safe transportation to and from school and school events.
    - Thank you to our custodial staff working to keep our schools and grounds clean.
    - Thank you to Mr. Chris Brunner and Mr. Mike Williams for all of your efforts on upgrading the baseball field.
    - Thank you to Mrs. Stewart and our AOHS yearbook staff for taking pictures of our students participating in activities.
    - Thank you to Mrs. Emily Enloe for working with our AOHS Student Council and planning for AOHS Homecoming 2021.
    - Thank you to Mrs. Lexi Ziegler for serving our students as our school Nurse. Mrs. Ziegler does an outstanding job in the midst of constant changes and challenges.

- Mr. German shared the following on behalf of Mr. Williams:
  - The concrete apron at the baseball field has been completed.
  - The additional bleachers have been delivered and will be installed in the coming days.
  - The two buildings have been demolished. BSI is beginning the layout of the new building.
  - The fence around the baseball field has been removed and disposed of.
  - Byrne and Jones is scheduled to be on site 9/14 to complete their work.
  - Following the Byrne and Jones work, the sprinkler system will be installed, followed up by the installation of the new fence.
- Public comments occurred.
- Mr. Jones discussed the FY 22 Budget during the budget hearing.
- Brief discussion of the 2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan occurred. No changes were recommended or approved.
- The board entered closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act-5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), which permits a closed session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, and/or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the public body.
- The regular meeting was reconvened.
- Review and approval of Board Minutes occurred.
- The approval of Payroll/Bills occurred.
- Personnel Employment
  - Action occurred on the following resignation(s):
    - Luz Catalan as middle school special education aide.
    - Judy Enis as bus driver.
  - Action occurred on the following hire(s):
    - Courtney Kaufman as district teacher (assigned to PreK)
    - Robin Whitaker and Jennifer Hupp as Co-PreK Family Coordinators.
    - Julie Stowers as middle and high School 3-hour cook.
- Two facility improvement projects were discussed. Action occurred to approve the A/E contracts with Midwest Professional Engineering, Inc for the 2022 middle school roof replacement project and the 2022 HVAC Renovation-2004 Addition (PreK, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, and Bomber Gym) at the elementary school.
- The FY22 budget was adopted.
- The Administrator & Teacher Salary & Benefits Report was approved.
- A “Resolution of the Board of Education Supporting the Village of Argenta Safe Routes to School Project and the Application for Safe Routes to School Funding to Make Infrastructure Improvements That Will Improve the Walking and Biking Environment for Students” was approved. This is a grant being sought by the Village of Argenta. No district resources are pledged or involved in this project. The district supports Argenta in this endeavor.
- One facility usage request was granted.

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.