

New Salem-Almont School Board Proceedings

NEW SALEM-ALMONT SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2026 6:00 P.M. HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

President John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. John, Miller, Hoovestol, Feland, Reiner Pletan, and Lausch were present.

Superintendent Christopherson, Business Manager Dukart, and Principals Bennett and Olson were in attendance. Richard Mendoza from the Morton County News Journal, and teachers Mr. Mosbrucker and Miss Heupel were also present. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miller moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the January 19 regular meeting, as well as bills and financial reports for January. Hoovestol seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Additions to the agenda were #4. Co-op Committee and #5. PVE Windows.

There was no public comment and no unfinished business.

In New Business, Mr. Mosbrucker and Miss Heupel presented to the board about adding eSports to the schools extra curricular activity offering for students. Discussion was had. Lausch made a motion to add eSports to the schools extra curricular activities, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Four open-enrollment applications from three households were presented to the board for consideration.

Student A – Reiner-Pletan made a motion to approve the open enrollment application for "Student A." Seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Student B – Lausch made a motion to approve the open

enrollment application for "Student B." Seconded by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Students C and D (same family) – Miller made a motion to approve the open enrollment application for "Students C and D." Seconded by Lausch. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Business Manager Dukart presented the 2025 financial audit report completed by Rath & Mehrer, P.C., to the board. Reiner-Pletan made a motion to approve the 2025 financial audit with a second by Miller. All members present voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The Board was informed that the Glen Ullin School District has notified the New Salem-Almont School District of its interest in exploring a sports/extra-curricular activity co-op. Reiner-Pletan made a motion to form a co-op committee comprised of two board members, coaches, administration and a few students and parents. Hoovestol seconded the motion. All members present voted, "Aye." The motion passed. The two board representatives will be Lausch and Feland.

The building committee recommended that the board accept a quote to replace exterior windows at the elementary school, as it is one of the top priorities from the district's facility assessment. Motion to accept the quote was made by Miller, with a second by Feland. All members present voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

A brief update from the building and grounds committee meeting held prior to the school board meeting was provided.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared an update on the Almont Gym status. He plans to work with the board to establish a date and time for an upcoming board retreat.

He thanked the American Legion Post 91 for the donations to support various activities by providing funds to purchase needed equipment. Supt. Christopherson also shared that he and Business Manager Dukart have been looking closely at some of the school's bank accounts and investment options. He also indicated he plans to hold a policy committee meeting before the next board meeting. He also provided the board with a refresher on the district's bus rules.

Principal Olson shared that the middle and high school students are almost done with winter testing. NAEP will be at the school next week to administer tests with the 8th graders. He will also have students complete the engagement survey this month. He is preparing for teacher evaluations and scheduling students for next year. He has been attending Infinite Campus meetings to prepare for that change as well.

Principal Bennett shared in her update that the elementary is also almost completed with NDA+ winter testing. She has started MTSS meetings and will also be completing the student engagement survey with students. The new IXL curriculum is up and running for students in 4-8th grades. She shared she will also be starting evaluations with teachers soon and that February is kindness month so the elementary has some special things planned.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 16th at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room.

Feland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m., seconded by Reiner-Pletan. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

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NEW SALEM-ALMONT SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES MARCH 16, 2026 6:00 P.M. HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

President John called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. John, Miller, Hoovestol, Feland, Reiner Pletan, Gilstad and Lausch were present.

Superintendent Christopherson, Business Manager Dukart, and Principals Bennett and Olson were in attendance. Richard Mendoza from the Morton County News Journal, and teachers Mr. Jared Kautzman, Mrs. Ruth Roth, Mrs. Sara Nelson, NSA Athletic Director Mr. Slag, and coach Marty Doll were also present.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miller moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the February 9 regular meeting and building/grounds committee meeting, the February 26 special board meeting and board retreat minutes, and the March 5 special board meeting minutes. As well as bills and financial reports for February. Hoovestol seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Public comments were heard.

In unfinished business, the Boys Golf Co-op with Sweet

Briar was presented. Lausch made a motion to approve, with a second by Feland. Roll call vote was taken: Reiner-Pletan: Yes; Miller: Yes; Lausch: Yes; Gilstad: Yes; Hoovestol: Yes; Feland: Yes; John: Yes

All in favor, motion passed.

Continuing unfinished business, the potential sports co-op with Glen Ullin was discussed at length. Feland made a motion to table the vote till the next regular board meeting, continuing the discussion and fact/opinion gathering in the meantime. Lausch seconded the motion. Discussion was continued, and a tentative meeting date of April 13 was chosen for a second community meeting. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to table the vote: Reiner-Pletan: No; Lausch: Yes; Gilstad: Yes; Miller: Yes; Hoovestol: Yes; Feland: Yes; John: Yes

With 6 "yes" votes and 1 "no" vote, the motion passed.

In New Business, two open-enrollment applications were presented to the board for consideration.

Student A – Lausch made a motion to approve the open enrollment application for "Student A." Seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Student B – Lausch made a motion to approve the open enrollment application for "Student B." Seconded by Miller. All

members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Reiner-Pletan provided the board with an update from the Heart River Career and Technical Education Center.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared he attended the University of Mary job fair, and it was good. He shared that the current driver's education car the school uses is still ok to continue using. He updated the board on parent-teacher conferences and asked them to review next year's dates and spring break to avoid any conflicts. Teacher contracts are due to the business manager on or before March 19.

Principal Olson shared an update on parent-teacher conferences, teacher evaluations, Infinite Campus training, interim testing, and that the ACT test will be taken on Tuesday, March 24.

Principals Olson and Bennett provided an overview of NDA+ testing data for the board.

Principal Bennett shared an update on parent-teacher conferences at the elementary.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 20th at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m., seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

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