New Salem-Almont School Board Proceedings

NEW SALEM-ALMONT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 22, 2026 | 6:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

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

Superintendent Christopherson and Business Manager Dukart were in attendance. Justin Barclay, NaTesa Messerschmidt, and Richard Mendoza were also present.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lausch moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the May 18 negotiations committee, personnel committee, and regular board meetings, bills, and the financial report. Gilstad seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

New business item number ten, Banking services, was removed from the agenda. Consolidated Application was added to the agenda under new business.

No public comment.

No unfinished business.

In new business, the elementary music position was reviewed. Miller moved to approve the contract for Mrs. Mariah Harter to fill the elementary music position. Seconded by Hoovestol. All members present voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The first reading of the revised policy, BGA Board Communications with the Public, was held.

Lausch made a motion to approve the first reading, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The first reading of the revised policy, DBBA – Drug and Alcohol Testing Program for Employees, was held. Miller moved to approve the first reading, with a second by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The first reading of the revised policy, DEAA – Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace, was held. Miller moved to approve the first reading, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

2026-2027 School Fees were reviewed. Feland made a motion to increase lunch prices by 25 cents per age group, as follows: K-6: $3.00, 7-12: $3.50, Adults: $4.50 per lunch. The motion was seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted "Aye." The motion passed.

Substitute teacher pay was evaluated by the board, and Gilstad moved to increase sub pay by $10 to $150/day. The motion was seconded by Hoovestol; all members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The 2026-2027 staff handbook was presented to the board. Miller moved to approve, with a second from Lausch. All members voted "Aye." The motion passed.

The PVE and High School Student handbooks were presented to the board. Discussion was had. Lausch moved to table the approval until the board had more time to review. Miller seconded the motion; all members voted "Aye." The motion passed.

Results from the June 9, 2026 school board election were presented to the board by business manager Dukart. Discussion was had. Gilstad moved to approve the school board election results for Area 1, electing Justin Barclay, and Area 2, electing NaTesa Messerschmidt. The motion was seconded by Feland.

A roll call vote was held: Feland: Yes; Lausch: Yes; Hoovestol: Yes; Miller: Yes; Gilstad: Yes; John: Yes.

All members present voted yes, and the motion passed.

Miller moved to appoint Kyle Bopp, Jr. to a 1-year term in the unfilled Area 4 position, with a second by Hoovestol.

A roll call vote was held: Feland: Yes; Lausch: Yes; Hoovestol: Yes; Miller: Yes; Gilstad: Yes; John: Yes.

All members present voted yes, and the motion passed.

Supt. Christopherson presented the 2026-2027 Consolidated Application to the board. Lausch made a motion to approve the application, with a second by Gilstad. All members voted "Aye." The motion passed.

President John gave a finance committee report from the June 15th committee meeting.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared an update on summer projects and the Almont Gym project. He recommended that the Almont Gym project updates be sent to the building and grounds committee until or if further board action is needed by the full board. He also provided the board with an update on some hot topics currently circulating with districts and legislators. As well as an update on the sports co-op with Glen Ullin.

President John thanked the outgoing board members for their time and service to the school district. He also welcomed the incoming board members.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 20, at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room.

Feland moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lausch. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

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