



Pullman School District

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday March 25, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Location

Paul R. Sturm Community/Board Room
Pullman High School
510 NW Greyhound Way
Pullman, WA 99163

Directors Present

Arron Carter, Craig Nelson, Deena Bayoumi, Lisa Waananen Jones, Stephanie Horn

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

Bob Maxwell, Courtney Hodge, Diane Hodge, Juston Pollestad, Ryan Mulvey

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Arron Carter called a meeting of the board of directors of Pullman School District to order on Wednesday Mar 25, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026

C. Flag Salute

D. Land Acknowledgement Statement

E. Approval of Agenda

Lisa Waananen Jones made a motion to approve the agenda.

Craig Nelson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Reports, Correspondence & Program

A. PHS ASB Report

The PHS ASB student representative provided an update on recent ASB activities, including finalizing the ASB constitution, developing ASB and club budgets, and upcoming events:

- **March Madness:** Students can enter brackets and watch games on the lunchroom projector.
- **April 2:** ASB executive election packets distributed.
- **April 22:** Class elections scheduled.
- **Freshmen:** Fundraising by selling concessions at track meets.
- **Seniors:** Planning a Silverwood trip at the end of the year.

B. Board Reports

- Stephanie Horn: Reported about experience attending a Jefferson Professional Learning Community (PLC) on Monday morning.
- Deena Bayoumi: No report.
- Craig Nelson: No report.
- Lisa Waananen Jones: No report.
- Arron Carter: The audit exit interview is scheduled for April 13 and will be attended by board members on the Finance Committee. The audit report will be shared following that meeting.

C. Superintendent's Report

- **PHS Knowledge Bowl:** Placed 2nd at state; LMS team advanced to nationals.
- **ELA Standards Review:** OSPI is reviewing ELA essential standards. Feedback is ongoing, with final standards expected before the 2026–27 school year. The 2026–27 school year will be spent reviewing changes, with implementation planned for 2027–28.

D. Program Reports

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026

Jefferson Elementary Showcase

Presenter: Kelsey Winningham, Jefferson Elementary Principal

The presentation highlighted positive behavioral changes and academic growth at Jefferson Elementary, emphasizing students taking ownership of their learning. Data was shared showing student growth in reading fluency, including the number of students living in poverty who are at or above benchmark.

National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) Report

Presenter: Willma Fields, NBCT Cohort Facilitator

A presentation was given on the NBCT Cohort program, which supports teachers pursuing national board certification. The presentation included the program's establishment in Pullman School District, the cohort model, completion requirements, and provision of clock hours through an in-person model, allowing participants to work locally rather than virtually. Expansion to other districts was discussed.

It was clarified through discussion that teachers must have three years of classroom experience before submitting for certification, though work on components can begin earlier. There are four components to be submitted within five years; all must be completed for certification.

E. A Community of Belonging - Update

No report.

III. Public Comment

A. Speaker

Speaker: Megan Itani

Topic(s): Investigation into the work of the board and concerns regarding the board's lack of transparency.

Speaker: Diane Hodge

Topic(s): Retiring from Pullman School District and provided reasoning for the decision.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes - March 11, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Craig Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as part of the consent agenda from Regular Board Meeting on 03-11-26.

Stephanie Horn seconded the motion.

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

- B. Personnel Report**
- C. Warrants**
- D. Student Transfer Requests**
- E. Overnight Field Trip Requests**
- F. Budget Status Report**
- G. Out-of-State Travel Request**
- H. Consent Agenda Approval**

Craig Nelson made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Stephanie Horn seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Action Items

A. Interlocal Agreement with City of Pullman

Presenter: Juston Pollestad, Executive Director of Operations

The city will no longer maintain Quann Field; the district will assume responsibility. While the focus remains on Sunnyside and Military Park, the district aims to ensure the city has access to school facilities as needed.

Lisa Waananen Jones made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with City of Pullman.

Craig Nelson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. 6000 Program Planning, Budget Preparation, Adoption and Implementation

Presenter: Diane Hodge, Finance Director

This item was presented at the last meeting. No questions have been received since.

It was clarified that the approximate dollar amount equivalent to the increased reserve percentage is \$1.2–\$1.4 million, which is roughly equivalent to one month of payroll and one month of accounts payable.

Lisa Waananen Jones made a motion to to approve the revision to Policy 6000 to increase the General Fund minimum fund balance from 7.5% to 10% of annual expenditures and to clarify that the reserve is intended to cover one month of payroll and accounts payable obligations.

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026

Deena Bayoumi seconded the motion.

Finance Director Hodge noted that this revision will be shared with the auditor.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. 2026-2027 Lincoln Middle School & Pullman High School Fee Schedules

Presenter: Bob Maxwell, Superintendent

The fee schedule was presented at the previous board meeting; no questions have been received. An error on the 2026-27 Pullman High School fee list was corrected: the Art class fee was increased to \$25, while the Art Club fee remains \$20.

Deena Bayoumi made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 LMS and PHS fee schedules.

Craig Nelson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. 2026-2027 Lincoln Middle School & Pullman High School Course Approvals

Presenter: Bob Maxwell, Superintendent

This item was presented at the last meeting and there have been no questions received.

Craig Nelson made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Lincoln Middle School & Pullman High School course offerings.

Stephanie Horn seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Resolution 26-27: 02 - 2026-2027 Annual WIAA Membership

Stephanie Horn made a motion to approve Resolution 26-27:02 - 2026-2027 Annual WIAA Membership as presented.

Craig Nelson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Discussion Items

A. 5401 Sick Leave

Presenter: Bob Maxwell, Superintendent

Policy 5401 Sick Leave has been revised by WSSDA and was highlighted in the March Policy and Legal News. The policy has been revised to reduce the need for frequent updates when leave laws change, which creates a more enduring policy. Rather than paraphrasing or summarizing statutory or regulatory language, this policy now references the relevant laws and clarify that districts will follow them.

VII. Executive Session

A.

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026

Evaluation of Public Employees

A. Carter announced there will be an Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of public employees that will end at 7:50 pm. No action will be taken.

The board meeting reconvened into an open session at 7:50pm, and the chair announced that the executive session end time would be extended 10 minutes before returning to executive session.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arron Carter

Documents used during the meeting

- 2026_03_11_board_meeting_minutes.pdf
- Board Report - 3.25.2026 Personnel.pdf
- Check Summary_023.pdf
- 2026 03.25 Regular Board Meeting - Student Transfer Requests.pdf
- Overnight Field Trip Request - PHS Boys Soccer UPDATED 3.25.26.pdf
- February 2026 Budget Status Report.pdf
- MEMO Request for Out-of-State Travel 3.25.26.pdf
- ES Interlocal Agreement - Pullman SD City of Pullman 2026.pdf
- 2026 Interlocal Agreement-Final.pdf
- Policy 6000 Executive Summary.pdf
- 6000 Prog Planning Budet Prep 3.11.26.pdf
- ES 2026-27 LMS-PHS Fee Schedule 3.25.26.pdf
- PHS Fee List Updated_2026-27.pdf
- ES 2025-26 LMS-PHS Course Guide Approval 3.11.26.pdf
- LMS Course Guide 2026-27.pdf
- PHS Course Guide 2026-27.pdf
- ES 26-27.02 - 2026-2027 Annual WIAA Membership 3.11.26.pdf
- 2026-2027 Annual WIAA Membership - School Board Resolution 26-27.2.pdf
- ES 5401 Sick Leave 3.25.26.pdf

Arron Carter

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- 5401 Sick Leave 3.25.26.pdf
- March Administrative Requirements Update.pdf
- Expense Claim Audit Comm Update Schedule.pdf
- 2025-2026 Board Meeting Content Calendar REV 6.9.25.pdf
- 2025-26 Strategic Plan Goals_Priorities_Success Indicators.pdf
- 5200 Gen Provisions for Unrep Class Staff 3.25.26.pdf

Arron Carter

Signed by Arron Carter on 4/20/2026