

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Public Hearings and Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2025
Starmont High School Conference Room
6:30 PM

“Empowering all students with knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for responsible, productive, and fulfilling lives.”

1. Call to Order (Quorum)

The Starmont Community School District Board held a public hearing for the 2025-26 calendar on Monday, April 15th, in the High School Conference Room. President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Doug Puffett, Vicki Althoff, Julie Uhlenkamp, Tony Recker, Jacob Moellers.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Recker to approve agenda as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Opening Statement – Board President

5. Presentation of Calendar

6. Receive Written Comments

Written comments were presented.

7. Receive Oral Comments

No oral comments were presented.

8. Adjourn

Motion by Puffett to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Public Hearing for FY26 Budget

1. Call to Order (Quorum)

The Starmont Community School District Board held a public hearing for the FY26 Budget on Monday, April 14th, in the High School Conference Room. President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Vicki Althoff, Julie Uhlenkamp, Tony Recker, Jacob Moellers, Doug Puffett.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Recker to approve agenda as presented. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Opening Statement – Board President

5. Budget Presentation

6. Receive Written Comments

No written comments were presented

7. Receive Oral Comments

Oral comments were heard.

8. Adjourn

Motion by Puffett to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Regular Monthly Meeting

1. Call to Order (Quorum)

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, April 14th, in the High School Conference Room. President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM. Members present: Julie Uhlenkamp, Tony Recker, Jacob Moellers, Doug Puffett, Vicki Althoff. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Secondary Principal, Kris Martin; Athletic Director, Tracy Curtis; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

2. Public Forum

3. Staff and Board Communications

Students from Mr. Reed's 7th grade science class were present to present their recent projects on different body systems.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – March 10, 2025 and March 24, 2025
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations
 - i. Hires
 1. Roger Reed – Assistant Junior High Track Coach
 2. Gage Wallace – Summer Help
 3. Terra Corbin – Summer Help
 4. Julia Gamm – Summer Help
 5. Matt Lee – Summer Help
 - ii. Resignations
 1. Kris Martin as Secondary Principal. Thank you for your time, Kris!
 2. Tracy Curtis as Activities Director. Thank you for your time, Tracy!
 3. Rachel Hach as National Honor Society Advisor. Thank you for your time, Rachel!
 4. Aimee Cunningham as Wrestling Cheer Sponsor. Thank you for your time, Aimee!
 5. Emma McRobie-Bishop as Secondary Language Arts. Thank you for your time, Emma!
 6. Michelle Block as Kindergarten Teacher. Thank you for your time, Michelle!
- f. Approve Volunteer Coaches
 - i. Kristi Moeller – Junior High Softball
- g. Approve Open Enrollments
- h. Approve Fundraisers
- i. Approve Special Education Contracts

Motion by Puffett to approve consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Elementary Principal's Report

Principal Hesse state that the elementary had just over 90% parental turnout for parent/teacher conferences. 5th grade students completed a social studies project as to what changes or additions they would like to see at Starmont. After speaking with administration, they were able to see follow through of their requests to get a pickleball court set up on the playground. Students are currently taking ISASP tests and will be moving into spring FAST testing.

6. Secondary Principal's Report

Principal Martin stated that the Addams Family Musical was amazing. Secondary students are also taking ISASP tests. We will be holding a 6th and 9th grade orientation night on April 28th for incoming students. Freshman students had the best attendance last month at 95.75%. Parent teacher conference had 29% parent involvement in middle school and 21% parent involvement in high school.

7. Activity Director's Report

Activity Director Curtis stated that golf and track are off to a good start. The Varsity girls' meet last week went smooth. District football schedule have been released and is working to secure JV games for the 2025-26 year. Last week, two students involved in SillsUSA attended a field trip, nine students are currently attending State FFA Convention, and later this month DECA students will be traveling to Nationals in Florida.

8. First Reading of Board Policies

No first readings presented.

9. Approve 2025-2026 Budget

Motion by Puffett to approve budget option 1 as presented resulting in a levy rate of 10.76903. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Approve Hearing for 2024-2025 Budget Amendment

Motion by Puffett to approve 2024-25 Budget Amendment hearing at next month's regular meeting on May 12th. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Association

Motion by Moellers to approve Memorandum of Understanding with the Association allowing time to be switched from noon to 1:30 pm dismissal at the end of 1st and 3rd quarters to allowing staff to leave early from parent/teacher conferences. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Approve 2025-2026 School Calendar

Motion by Puffett to approve 2025-2026 school calendar as presented. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

13. Approve Out-of-State Field Trip

Motion by Recker to approve zoology and photography students to take a fieldtrip to Minneapolis to visit the zoo, botanical garden, mini golf/sculpture park, and a hobby farm. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

14. Approve 2025-26 Vision and Dental Options

Motion by Recker to accept vision and dental options as presented. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

15. Approve 2024-25 Graduating Class

Motion by Recker to approve 2025 graduation class as presented pending successful completion of graduation requirements. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.

16. Approve Request for Nutrition Bids

Motion by Moellers to approve request for nutrition bids as presented. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

17. Approve Baseball Fencing Bids

Motion by Recker to approve Heiar Fencing bid using current outfield fencing in the amount of \$9,299.02. Seconded by Puffett. Motion by Althoff to amend motion adding that administration needs to follow up on installation to be sure we don't continue to have reoccurring issues in the future. Seconded by Moellers. Motion to amend carried 5-0. Motion to approve amended motion carried 5-0.

18. Approve Concession Stand Fencing Bids

The Booster Club has applied for a grant to update concrete and fencing by the football concessions. Motion by Puffett to approve required 25% match in the amount of \$4,558.43 as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

19. Approve the Purchase of Furniture

Motion by Recker to approve purchase of 3 new desks totaling \$1,050/desk plus freight. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

20. Consider Bids to Replace Flooring

No action taken at this time.

21. Consider Public Relations Agreement

Motion by Althoff to approve proposal from MonkeyThis for one calendar year in the amount of \$415/month. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 3-2 (Nays: Uhlenkamp, Puffett).

22. Approve Agreement with Fayette County Sheriff's Office

Motion by Puffett to approve agreement with Fayette County Sheriff's Office as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

23. Approve Agreement with Upper Iowa University

Motion by Puffett to approve agreement with Upper Iowa University as presented. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

24. Approve Agreement with Morningside University

Motion by Puffett to approve agreement with Morningside University as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

25. Approve Agreement with Northwestern College

Motion by Puffett to approve agreement with Northwestern College as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

26. Discuss Principal Search

Discussion ensued.

27. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Busch stated that the Tri-Rivers Conference will be increasing gate admission to \$7 for varsity sports. He is also trying to prepare for next year's cell phone policy in regards to a legislative bill requiring schools to adopt policies limiting cellphone use during instruction. A survey was recently sent out to the Facilities Task Force to collect data regarding facility updates and is also awaiting proposals from geothermal engineer following a recent building walkthrough.

28. Adjourn

Motion by Puffett to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Julie Uhlenkamp
Board President

Katie Taylor
Business Manager/Board Secretary