

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Work Session and Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, October 13, 2025
Starmont High School Conference Room
6:00 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 work session on Monday, October 13th, in the High School Conference Room. President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members present: Jacob Moellers, Tony Recker, Julie Uhlenkamp, Vicki Althoff, Doug Puffett. Absent: none. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Secondary Principal, Jennifer Lange; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor; Co-Athletic Director, Mike Augustine.

2. Approve Agenda

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

3. Discuss Building Improvements

Mike Brocka was present to go over building specs and system layout.

4. Open Discussion and Q&A

5. Adjourn

Motion by Puffett to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Work session adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

1. Call to Order (Quorum)

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, October 13th, in the High School Conference Room. President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM. Members present: Julie Uhlenkamp, Doug Puffett, Vicki Althoff, Jacob Moellers, Tony Recker. Absent: none. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Secondary Principal, Jennifer Lange; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor; Co-Activity Director, Mike Augustine.

2. Approve Agenda

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

3. Receive Communications and Visitors (Including Board Members)

4. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve Minutes – September 8, 2025; September 17, 2025; September 29, 2025; October 10, 2025
- b. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- c. Approve Monthly Bills – Moellers audited bills

- d. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations
 - i. Hires
 - 1. Carmen Swales – Wrestling Cheer Sponsor
 - 2. Keri Thole – Bus Route Driver (pending licensing)
- e. Approve Volunteer Coaches
 - i. Anita Blaker – JH Girls Basketball
 - ii. Karina Bartels – JH Girls Basketball
 - iii. Nick McTaggart – JH Girls Basketball
 - iv. Christopher Baumgartner – HS Boys Basketball (pending licensing)
 - v. Kyle Sneed – Large Group Speech
- f. Approve Special Education Contracts
- g. Approve Open Enrollments
 - i. Quynn Kugel from West Central
- h. Approve Fundraisers
- i. Annual Agreements
 - i. Northeast Iowa Community College
 - ii. School-Based Special Education Facilitator
 - iii. PowerSchool Agreement

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

5. Elementary Principal's Report

Principal Hesse stated that FAST testing has completed and followed up with data digs for teachers to target supports for students. Behaviors have increased. Students are continuing their chocolate fundraiser. PBIS 1st quarter celebrations are coming up with PK-3rd grade students visiting the park and 4th-5th grade students visiting a trampoline park.

6. Secondary Principal's Report

Principal Lange stated that homecoming week was a great success with a lot of student participation. She has had two students complete "Skip the Trip" testing to get their driver's permit, allowing them to take their tests and not miss school. High school students will be going to Camp Klaus for 1st quarter PBIS celebrations. She is also working on getting Work Based Learning/Internship Program up and running for next school year. Will be meeting with county attorney regarding student attendance.

7. Activity Director's Report

Co-Activity Director Augustine provided the board with updates on the fall season. Thanks to all volunteers that helped cross country meets run smoothly. Recently held a high school girls basketball meeting to discuss the upcoming season. FFA had 16 students compete at Clayton County Soil Evaluations. Eight students will be attending National FFA Convention at the end of October. Volleyball raised over \$5,000 at Pink Night. Congratulations to Lauren Krogmann on breaking the girls cross country record twice this year.

8. First Reading of Board Policies

Board reviewed board policies as presented.

- 9. Approve Recommendation to Move to Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball**
Motion by Recker to approve canceling varsity schedule and playing a junior varsity schedule due to having one senior and no juniors currently signed up. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.
- 10. Approve SBRC Request for Special Ed Deficit**
Motion by Puffett to approve SBRC request for negative special education balance of \$181,061.85 or as adjusted by the Department of Management. Seconded by Althoff. Roll call vote: Ayes – Recker, Puffett, Uhlenkamp, Althoff, Moellers. Nays – none.
- 11. Approve Application for Modified Supplemental Amount (MSA) for EL (English Learners) Excess Cost**
There were no excess costs in the prior year.
- 12. Approve Student Handbook Changes**
Motion by Althoff to approve student handbook changes in regards to Summer School Guidelines, Student Agreement for Enrollment in NICC Course without Meeting Standard Requirements, and Bus Discipline Procedures. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.
- 13. Approve Agreement with Northeast Iowa Community College for College and Career Transition Counselor**
Motion by Puffett to table item. No second. Motion died. Motion by Puffett to table item. Seconded by Moellers. Motion failed 1-4 (Althoff, Uhlenkamp, Moellers, Recker). Motion by Moellers to approve agreement with Northeast Iowa Community College for College and Career Transition Counselor for one year totaling \$13,087 and allowing Starmont additional operational sharing dollars (2 Full Time Equivalents). Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 4-1 (Puffett).
- 14. Approve Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel**
Motion by Puffett to approve Ahlers Cooney as our legal counsel for future bond services. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.
- 15. Approve Frantz Law Group Engagement Agreement**
Motion by Puffett to approve Frantz Law Group's engagement agreement allowing Starmont to join the multi-district litigation against PowerSchool. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.
- 16. Approve Bid for Snow Removal**
Motion by Moellers to approve snow removal bid from Jacob Corbin at \$250/truck/hour and \$700/ton of salt. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.
- 17. Approve School Business Official Attendance at Annual National Conference**
Motion by Althoff to approve SBO national conference attendance. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.
- 18. Approve Purchase of Lift**
Motion by Moellers to approve purchase of lift spending up to \$5,500. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

19. Approve Bid for Power Washer

Motion by Moellers to approve power washer bid from Midwest Alkota in the amount of \$9,357.97 (including \$1,000 deduction for trade in). Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.

20. Approve Technology Purchase Using Credentials to Careers Grant

The industrial tech program was awarded a Credentials to Careers Grant totaling \$46,585. This grant will be used to upgrade computers for drafting and construction classes, as well as OSHA 10 Construction certifications for students. Motion by Puffett to approve technology purchases as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

21. Approve 3-Year Agreement with E3

Motion by Moellers to table the agreement. Seconded by Puffett. Motion carried 5-0.

22. Consider Bus Stop

Motion by Moellers to approve bus stop request as presented. Seconded by Recker. Motion failed 2-3 (Uhlenkamp, Althoff, Puffett).

23. Request Bids for a Truck, Snow Plow, and Sand/Salt Spreader

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

24. Approve Request to Improve Concession Stand

No action taken.

25. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Busch has scheduled the following town hall meetings: Tuesday, October 21st at 6 PM – Lamont City Hall; Tuesday, October 28th at 6 PM – Strawberry Point Civic Center; and Wednesday, October 29th at 6 PM – Arlington Community Center. IASB Annual Convention will be coming up in November. Busch and Taylor will be attending a workshop in Cedar Rapids to update our Comprehensive Financial Projection Model and 5-Year Projections.

26. Adjourn

Motion by Puffett to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Julie Uhlenkamp
Board President

Katie Taylor
Business Manager/Board Secretary