STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, November 9, 2026
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 its regular board meeting on Monday, November 9th, in the High School Conference Room. President Puffett called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Nathan Meyers, Doug Puffett, Jacob Moellers, Julie Uhlenkamp, Tony Recker. Absent: none. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Co-Athletic Director, Mike Augustine; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

2. **Approve Agenda**
   Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve agenda as presented. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **Public Forum**

4. **Staff and Board Communications**
   Vinnie Recker and Derek Farmer shared their experiences attending the 2026 Iowa Boys State, a six-day leadership and civic education program. Derek participated in the Military Service Program, while Vinnie ran for Governor and served as Adjutant General and Director of the Department of Education. Vinnie was also recognized as a national runner-up for the American Legion Samsung Scholarship, receiving $5,000 toward college. We appreciate all that local American Legion posts do for our students and their future.

   FFA students presented a recap of their trip to the 2026 National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, highlighting general sessions, leadership workshops, career and college opportunities, and agriculture tours. Students also shared their experiences visiting the John Deere Museum, Churchill Downs, Louisville Slugger, and Three Hills Rodeo. Special recognition was given to Ethan Bunting and Kristen Haynes for receiving their American FFA Degrees, an honor earned by less than 1% of FFA members.

   Student Council presented on a proposal to recognize and support local veterans by offering free admission to participating Starmont home events throughout November, followed by a Starmont's Five Star Salute pass for use from December through the end of the school year. The program aims to help veterans feel welcomed and connected to the school community. Student Council would assist with promotion and coordination, while also encouraging other school districts to develop similar initiatives.

5. **Consent Agenda**
   a. Approve Minutes – October 12, 2026 and October 29, 2026
   b. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
   c. Approve Monthly Bills – Uhlenkamp audited bills
   d. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations
      i. Hires
         1. Megan Brase - Paraprofessional

ii. Resignations

e. Approve Volunteer Coaches
   i. Kyle Sneed – Speech
   ii. Tracy Curtis – HS Boys & Girls Basketball
   iii. Olivia Willfong – Wrestling Cheer
f. Approve Open Enrollments
   i. Catalina Chamberlain (7th) from East Buchanan
   ii. Andrew Chamberlain (8th) from East Buchanan
g. Approve Fundraisers
h. Approve Special Education Contracts
i. Approve Annual Contracts/Agreements

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

6. Principal's Report

Principal Lange was absent, but provided the board with a monthly update.

7. Activity Director's Report

Co-Activity Director Augustine reported on fall athletic and extracurricular activities, highlighting conference and regional accomplishments in volleyball, cross country, and football, including the football team qualifying for the 2026 playoffs and four cross country athletes qualifying for the State Meet. Lauren Krogmann earned 9th place and a state medal. Recognition was also given to All-Conference Volleyball, All-District Football, and All-District Academic Football selections. Other activities included hosting the Tri Rivers Middle School Honor Band and regional volleyball tournaments, FFA attending the National Convention, and the choir hosting its fall concert.

8. First Reading of Board Policies

Board reviewed first reading of board policies 107, 501.07, 501.09, 503.11, 600 Series, 604.09 and Rescinding 604.1E1.

9. Second Reading of Board Policies (waive 1st reading)

Motion by Moellers to approve second reading of board policies 701.05, 701.5-R(1) stating the maximum amount of unspent balance shall be 35% of authorized published budget, and 504.06 including optional language allowing eighth-grade students to participate in high school interscholastic athletics with parent or guardian permission and selecting Option 2 for participation in both junior high and high school athletics during the winter season. The board also selected Option 4, allowing high school students participating in school-sponsored athletics to participate in non-school-sponsored sports during the same season with approval of the designated administrator, provided the outside participation does not conflict with school-sponsored activities. Seconded by Meyers. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Consider Activity Pass for Veterans

Motion by Meyers to approve Option #2 providing Veterans with a free activity pass during the month of November and a Five Star Salute Punch Card for 5 participating school sponsored activities. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Puffett moved to amend the motion to specify for the 2026-27 school year. Uhlenkamp seconded the amendment, which carried 5-0. Moellers moved to further amend the motion to provide a free pass for the month of November; however, the motion failed for lack of a second. The amended motion carried 5-0.

11. **Review Auditor's Letter of Explanation for Submission to SBRC**
    Motion by Moellers to approve the Auditor's Letter of Explanation for submission to the School Budget Review Committee. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.

12. **Review and Approve District's Letter of Explanation for Submission to the SBRC**
    Motion by Meyers to approve the District's Letter of Explanation for submission to the School Budget Review Committee. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.

13. **Consider Open Enrollment Transportation and Inter-District Transportation Agreement with Oelwein Community School District**
    Motion by Uhlenkamp to authorize an exception to Policy 501.05 concerning open enrollment transportation and approve the Inter-District Transportation Agreement with Oelwein CSD. Seconded by Meyers. Motion carried 5-0.

14. **Approve Consider Early Separation Incentive**
    Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve an early separation incentive for certified staff with at least 20 years of service at Starmont Community School District and at least 15 of those years occurring consecutively and are 55 years or older by June 30, 2027. All application materials will be due to the Superintendent or Business Manager no later than 4:00 pm on February 1, 2027. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

15. **Junior High Basketball Sharing Agreement**
    Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve junior high girls' basketball sharing agreement with West Central as presented. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

16. **Approve Agreement for Prom Venue**
    Motion by Recker to approve agreement with Arlington Community Event Center for $500 with a potential discount. Seconded by Meyers. Motion carried 5-0.

17. **Approve Agreement for Prom DJ**
    Motion by Recker to approve agreement with Rollin' Rock to provide prom DJ services for $625. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.

18. **Superintendent's Report**
    Superintendent Busch shared with the board that he is working with Matt Gillispie to update our PPEL/SAVE plan and is checking in with our insurance provider before plans are finalized for the pro wrestling fundraiser. He also provided the board with comparative analytics from Frontline.

19. **Adjourn**
    Motion by Meyers to adjourn. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Doug Puffett
Board President

Katie Taylor
Business Manager/Board Secretary