

Union Street Charter

Board Minutes

August 19, 2026, 6 pm, Meeting location: 470 Union Street, Arcata, CA 95521

Members present: Jo Archibald, Seanessy Gavin, Lorene Lenhart, Josh Levine, Violet Ray, Jenny Winsted-Wilson

Absent: Yuko Wenzel

Visitors: Laurie De Keyser

Secretary/Treasurer: Rea Erickson.

Open Session-Josh called the meeting to order at 6:04

1. Seanessy read the Land acknowledgement-
2. Public comment: Laurie gave the Fundraising committee report (see below), and the board expressed their appreciation for all her work. Josh asked about the signage at the Little Learners site. Rea will follow through on that. There was discussion about the phone line being a problem for some cell phones.

Consent items: It was moved by Lorene and seconded by Jo to approve the consent items. Motion carried 4-0. Josh and Jo abstained since they were not at the last meeting.

1. Adopt minutes from 8/20/25
2. Approve hiring of Amelia Vanderford, School Counselor
3. Approval of warrants.

Items for Report, Discussion, and Possible Action

1. Rea gave an overview of the 25-26 Unaudited Actuals. It was moved by Lorene and seconded by Jo to approve. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Rea explained that Nancy Forrest is currently only teaching drama. Her units were reviewed and she was found to be qualified. It was moved by Lorene and seconded by Jo to approve the Local Assignment Option for Nancy Forrest. Motion carried 6-0.
3. The board discussed the necessity of adding the position on Counselor. It was moved by Lorene and seconded by Seanessy to approve the revised Salary Schedule for 26-27. Motion carried 6-0.

Items for Information/Discussion Items

1. The Principal/Director Goals for 26-27 were reviewed. Rea highlighted the charter petition renewal as a priority for the year.

Other Business

1. Rea gave the Director/Principal's report. It was the consensus of the board that in person speech be pursued with the district.
2. Fundraising committee-Laurie reported that the committee met on Monday in preparation for the 20th anniversary event. Student artwork will be used as decorations.
3. Board Member new items for future meeting-Jenny suggested that we discuss a long-term goal of locating a site closed to the main campus for TK. Seanessy asked about new teacher mentoring and evaluation.

Next board meeting Wednesday October 21, Superintendent Biesecker visit and policy updates.

Adjournment: 7:22