

New Salem-Almont School Board Minutes

December 15, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.

High School Conference Room

President John called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. John, Gilstad, Hoovestol, Lausch, Feland, Reiner-Pletan, and Miller were present.

Superintendent Christopherson, Business Manager Dukart, and Principal Olson were in attendance. Principal Bennett was in attendance virtually. Richard Mendoza was also in attendance.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reiner-Pletan moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the November 12 regular meeting and the December 3 gym committee, as well as bills and financial reports for November. Lausch seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

There was no public comment.

In unfinished business, Principals Olson and Bennett presented the board with an overview of ND Insights Data and State Testing Results.

In New Business, Supt. Christopherson presented the board with a proposed 2025/2026 school calendar. As well as information about possible variations. Gilstad made a motion to accept the calendar draft with a change to add a full day of professional development on September 28, 2026, and to have school resume after Christmas break on January 5th, 2027. A second was made by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Supt. Christopherson requested that the board switch Monday, January 19, to an early release day instead of the late start scheduled. The request was made because the trainers providing professional development are only available in the afternoon that day. Miller made a motion to switch the late start to an early release on Monday, January 19. Feland seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Committee members and Supt. Christopherson shared an update on the gym committee. Supt. Christopherson and the gym committee asked the board for permission to restore electricity to the Almont Gym so it can be properly evaluated for needed updates and a cost estimate. Discussion was had. Miller made a motion to allow Supt. Christopherson to re-establish electricity to the Almont gym, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

There were no committee reports to report on.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared that the new gym board was not working properly and that the parts had been ordered to fix it. He shared with the board the results from the State One Act Competition and a grant he and Principal Bennett applied for.

Principal Olson shared an update on dual credit courses and a donation received from Post 91 to help students pay for additional courses.

Principal Bennett also shared a brief update.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 19th at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room.

Lausch moved to adjourn the meeting at 6: 46 p.m., seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

Austin John, President

Annie Dukart, Business Manager