

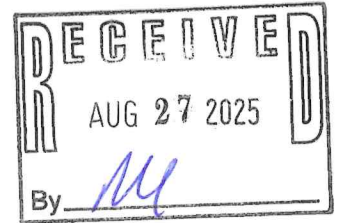
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Special Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2025

ASTE Committee

Committee Members

Diane Barnes, Chair
John Morosani

Rob DeLayo
Susan Wheeler



1. Call to Order The ASTE Committee meeting held at Lakeview High School and via teleconference was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Diane Barnes.

Members present: Diane Barnes, Chair, Rob DeLayo, and Susan Wheeler.

Also present: Jeffrey Villar, Ph.D., Superintendent, Julia Cardillo, Chief Financial Officer, and Ken Jacob, Forests to Furniture.

Absent: John Morosani

2. ASTE Program Update

Casey Manzolino, Director of ASTE, gave the ASTE Program Update. Of note, three Wamogo FFA graduates have qualified to receive the prestigious American FFA Degree; Nicholas Boggio, Danielle Joray and Kaleigh Lynch (Class of 2024). Nationally, less than 1% of FFA members earn this degree, but the percentage climbs to about 5% for Wamogo FFA. She also shared the Agriscience Open House will be held on November 20, 2025; all are welcome. The FFA Officers recently completed two days of training and are ready to lead the Chapter this year. Casey Manzolino closed by giving an enrollment update noting the program is at capacity with 240 students and that there are 36 Agriscience students who are Litchfield residents. This number is up by 10 students from prior year.

3. Sawmill Shed Proposal

Ken Jacob, Forests to Furniture, and ASTE students Tony Boggio and Finn Scribner spoke about the projects and activities they have done working with Ken Jacob and Gino Masi, natural resources teacher, over the past few years. Ken Jacob also gave a presentation with a proposal to build a sawmill shed for the ASTE department. Students, Tony Boggio and Finn Scribner spoke to the value and need for the shed for the natural resources program.

Dr. Villar commented about the outstanding presentation and voiced his support for the concept. Dr. Villar added to move this project forward, it is important to keep him informed, include the Board and involve the CFO, especially when speaking about fundraising.

4. Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem