

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #40
EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

The Board of Education meeting will be held at the Unit #40 Board Office at 2803 S. Banker St., Effingham, IL at 6:00 p.m.

The number of the general public permitted to attend the Unit #40 Board of Education meeting may be limited. The Unit #40 board meeting will be streamed live on YouTube.

Please use the following links to access the meeting:

Live stream starting at 6:00 p.m.: <https://youtube.com/live/57mRCGXYVp8?feature=share>

Live stream following closed session: <https://youtube.com/live/tRbsq5FzD00?feature=share>

1. Call to Order Regular Meeting/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
President Wendling called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 PM
Secretary Willenborg called the roll.
Members present: Andrew Altman, Erica Boone, Chad Thompson, Desha Wear, Jill Wendling, and Jane Willenborg
Members absent: none
Members in attendance remotely: Brandon Duncan
Staff present: Andrew Johnson, Kelsey Baker, Michelle Morrissey
2. Acknowledgement of Retirees
Dana Flowers, Troy Kyle, Gwen Kuhns, Rich Hirtzel, Melvin Haarmann, Theresa Wolke, Barb Probst, Sandy Lohman, Mary Walters, Diane Claar, Joann Haarmann, Leah Colclasure, Baron Guenther, Kim Knierim, Sue Ahten, Clara Brown
3. Recognition of Visitors
4. Financial Report
Baker reported a net fund balance of \$23,607,232.52 and; Operating funds net total of \$20,598,830.94. Reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$3,703.71 and approve the bills as listed:
Education Fund – \$745,644.47
Little Hearts Daycare - \$9,699.53
Operations, Building & Maintenance Fund – \$115,640.14
Bonds & Interest - \$323,494.88
Transportation Fund – \$273,628.89
Tort Fund – \$32,396.11
Capital Improvements - \$0.00
Total - \$1,500,504.02
Altman made a motion and seconded by Thompson to approve the financial report and to reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$3,703.71 and payment of bills in the amount of \$1,500,504.02.
Roll call vote
AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

5. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes – April 28, 2025, Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes and May 12, 2025, HR/Committee Meeting Minutes

B. Cafeteria Report – Enclosed

C. Fundraisers

Group	Event	Reason	Date
EJHS Cross Country	Sell Calendar Dates	Raise money for the program for activities, meals, prizes, etc.	July 1 - 31, 2025
EHS FFA	9" Potted Mums	Raise funds for national convention, awards, and contest.	August 18, 2025 - September 5, 2025
EHS Football Cheer	Hog Raffle Tickets	Raise funds to cover cheer costs (cheer year)	May 20, 2025 - June 19, 2025

D. Field Trip

Group	Event	Date
EHS FFA	National FFA Convention - Indianapolis, IN	October 30-31, 2025

Boone made a motion, seconded by Thompson to accept the Consent Agenda.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

E. Annual Library Services Report – Enclosed

6. Superintendent's Report

A. Enrollment - Total enrollment as of April 30, 2025, is 2,326. This is 8 students less than the previous month, and 45 more students than the previous year.

B. FOIA Information – Enclosed

C. Society for Academic Achievement (SAA)

7. New Business

A. Resolution setting forth and describing in detail claims heretofore authorized and allowed for proper school purposes which are presently outstanding and unpaid, declaring the intention to issue \$38,000,000 bonds for the purpose of paying claims against the District, and directing that notice of such intention be published as provided by law.

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Boone to approve the Resolution setting forth and describing in detail claims heretofore authorized and allowed for proper school purposes which are

presently outstanding and unpaid, declaring the intention to issue \$38,000,000 bonds for the purpose of paying claims against the District, and directing that notice of such intention be published as provided by Law.

Roll call vote

AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: Altman

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

- B. Resolution declaring the intention to issue \$19,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law.

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Duncan to approve the Resolution declaring the intention to issue \$19,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law.

Roll call vote

AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: Altman

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

- C. Approval of Central Grade School Kitchen Air Condition Installation Agreement

Altman made a motion, seconded by Boone to approve the Entec Agreement for AC Installation at Central Grade School for a total cost of \$12,170.00.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

- D. First Reading of Press Policy Updates: 2:260, 2:265, 4:15, 4:80, 4:120, 5:10, 5:20, 5:60, 5:100, 6:150, 6:235, 6:310, 7:10, 7:20, 7:50, 7:60, 7:70, 7:180, 7:185, 7:190, 7:200, 7:210, 7:250, 7:255, 7:270, 7:310, 7:315, 7:340, 8:30

- E. EIASE Representative

Boone made a motion, seconded by Thompson to approve Jane Willenborg as Unit #40 EIASE representative and Brandon Duncan as alternate.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

- F. Notice to Amend the FY25 Budget

Boone made a motion, seconded by Willenborg to approve the FY25 tentative amended budget as presented.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried

G. Approval of Project #3 Authorization with Holland Construction - Tabled

Altman made a motion, seconded by Wear to table project authorization #3 with Holland Construction to replace the existing gym floor, provide new gym bleachers, and renovate the existing library at Central Grade School.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

H. Approval of Project #4 Authorization with Holland Construction - Tabled

Wear made a motion, seconded by Altman to table project authorization #4 with Holland Construction to repave select existing parking lots and drives at Effingham High School and the Effingham High School Sports Complex, storm drainage, and storm detentions improvements.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

I. Approval of Project #3 Authorization with BLDD Architects - Tabled

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Duncan to table project authorization #3 with BLDD Architects to replace the existing gym floor, provide new gym bleachers, and renovate the existing library at Central Grade School.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

J. Approval of Project #5 Authorization with Holland Construction for a New K-2 Building – Tabled

Wear made a motion, seconded by Altman to table project authorization #5 with Holland Construction to construct a K-2 building, estimated cost to Holland Construction is \$139,992.00 for the \$43.2M project.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

K. Approval of MOU with ECTA for the Flex Teacher Position

Boone made a motion, seconded by Altman to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the ECTA for the Flex Teacher Positions for the 2025-26 school year.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

L. Approval of 21st Century Grant Summer School Agreement

Boone made a motion, seconded by Thompson to approve the 21st Century Grant Summer School Agreement with the Effingham Park District for the Summer of 2025.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

8. Adjournment to Closed Session

Altman made a motion, seconded by Boone to adjourn to Closed Session at 7:12 PM.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District.

B. Student disciplinary cases.

C. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

9. Return to Open Session

Boone made a motion, seconded by Altman to adjourn and return to open session at 9:47 PM.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

10. Approval of Personnel List

RESIGNATION:	
Tracie Riley	EHS Musical Director
Kelby McCoy	Summer Bridge Teacher 2025
Elizabeth Short	Summer Bridge Teacher 2025
Ana Macias	ESY Para 2025
Donald Kimura	Special Education Teacher at EJHS end of 24-25 school year
John Westendorf	Custodian at EJHS
Renee Dial	3-Hour Cook at EHS end of 24-25 school year
Jaci Brockett	Paraprofessional at EJHS
EMPLOYMENT:	

Lisa Beck, Jill Feldhake, Rebecca Quandt, Lisa Pals	EJHS Credit Recovery & Summer School 2025
Courtney Mathews	EHS Summer School Para
Tia O'Dell, Victoria Shupe, Leslie Koester	ESY Paras 2025
Lisa Thompson, Autumn Peddycoart	K-5 Summer Bridge Teachers
Kate Beals	K-5 Summer Bridge Parapro
Elizabeth Russell	K-5 Lead Instructor 21st Century Grant Summer Program
Becky Daugherty, Ana Macias, Kali Ort, Kenna Koester, Stacey Hollinshead, April Hardiek, Brittney Lindsey	K-5 Facilitators 21st Century Grant Summer Program
Aaron Adams, JaLana Robison, Ryan Ervin, Karla Greenwood	JH/HS Site Supervisors 21st Century Grant Summer Program
Ryan Ervin, Karla Greenwood, Sara Mitchell, Alexandra Estes, Jenny Wudtke, Haley Brown, Jeremy Rinkel, Dan Walker	JH/HS Lead Instructors 21st Century Grant Summer Program
Brooke Bayles	Special Ed Teacher at SS for the 25-26 School Year
Hailey Denton	English Language Arts Teacher and Yearbook Sponsor at EHS for the 25-26 School Year
Amy Kepp	English Language Arts Teacher at EJHS for the 25-26 School Year
Chrissy Brown	JH 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach and Fr. Girls Basketball Coach
Alexandra Tuttle	2nd Shift Custodian at EJHS
Kelli Robertson, Kelley Esker, Jeffrey McGee	Bus Drivers for the 25-26 School Year
TRANSFER:	
Jaiden Olinger	3 Hr Cook at EHS for the 2025-26 School Year
COACHES RECLASSIFICATION:	
Kenny Cornell	Fr/So Boys Basketball Coach for the 2025-26 School Year
Kyle Stortzum	7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2025-26 School Year
RETIREMENT:	
Kevin Mante	Director of Safety & Security
Rebecca Meyers	HS English Teacher end of 25-26 School Year
Barbara Kreke	Bus Driver

Altman made a motion, seconded by Boone to approve the personnel list as presented.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

11. Student Discipline

Altman made a motion, seconded by Wear to expel Student A from Effingham Unit #40 Schools beginning August 13, 2025, through the end of the 2025-26 school year and referred to an alternative education setting.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

12. Board Approval to Begin Preparing the 2025-2026 Budget

Boone made a motion, seconded by Thompson to approve for the District to begin preparing the 2025-26 budget to be approved in September 2025.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

13. Approval of Board Meeting Dates to be Held for the Next Two Years

Boone made a motion, seconded by Altman to approve the list of board meeting dates from May 2025 – May 2027.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

14. Adjourn

Boone made a motion, seconded by Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 PM.

Roll call vote

AYES: Altman, Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

Date of Minutes: Monday, May 19, 2025

Date of Approval: _____

President

Secretary

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #40

Effingham, Illinois

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: May 19, 2025

Time: 7:12 PM

A motion was made by Altman, and seconded by Boone, to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss:

- ☐ **The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).**
- ☐ Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
- ☐ The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the District is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the District is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).
- ☐ Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision with its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).
- ☐ Evidence or testimony presented to the Board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-24, provided that the Board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311.
- ☐ The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
- ☐ The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
- ☐ The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
- ☐ Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).
- ☐ **Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).**
- ☐ The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
- ☐ **Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).**
- ☐ The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the District or any intergovernmental risk management association or self-insurance pool of which the District is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
- ☐ Self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the District is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
- ☐ Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
- ☐ Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(28).

Closed Meeting Roll Call:

"Yeas" - 7	"Nays" - 0
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Motion: Carried