

The Budget Hearing for the Board of Education of Illini Central School District #189 was called to order in the ICGS Professional Development Room in Mason City at 6:30 p.m. on September 17, 2026.

President Hughes called the hearing to order with the following answering present on roll call:

- Mr. Brock Boyd, Vice President
- Mr. Brian Hughes, President
- Mr. Dennis Hull
- Mr. Kent Renken
- Ms. Nancy Robertson

Board member absent:

- Ms. Amilee Bradshaw, Secretary
- Ms. Chelsey Lemme

Administrators present were:

- Dr. Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent
- Ms. Cassy Carey, GS Principal
- Ms. Kyra Fancher, MS Principal
- Ms. Annie Baugher, HS Principal

Visitors: Liz Heubner, Leann Price, Erika Brock, Kristi Bruce

Dr. Durbin presented the FY27 Budget.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Hull to adjourn the hearing at 7:40 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

The Regular Meeting for the Board of Education of Illini Central School District #189 was called to order in the ICGS Professional Development Room in Mason City at 6:40 p.m. on September 17, 2026.

President Hughes called the meeting to order with the following answering present on roll call:

- Mr. Brock Boyd, Vice President
- Mr. Brian Hughes, President
- Mr. Dennis Hull
- Mr. Kent Renken
- Ms. Nancy Robertson

Board member absent:

- Ms. Amilee Bradshaw, Secretary
- Ms. Chelsey Lemme

Administrators present were:

- Dr. Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent
- Ms. Lori Avart, Special Education Coordinator
- Ms. Cassy Carey, GS Principal

Ms. Kyra Fancher, MS Principal
Ms. Annie Baugher, HS Principal

Visitors: Liz Heubner, Leann Price, Erika Brock, Kristi Bruce

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Robertson to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on August 20, 2026.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Durbin discussed the delayed Mason County tax disbursements.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Hull to approve the bills from September 2026.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Boyd – aye, Hughes – aye, Hull – aye, Renken – aye, Robertson – aye Motion carried 5-0

There was no Correspondence or Public Comment.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Durbin shared the theme she chose for this year - “Believe. Belong. Become.” She discussed the implementation of Cougar Shoutouts for staff to recognize other staff members, CPR training for 30 staff members in October, Who We Play For heart screenings for our students, a new law regarding college credit salary advancement, and a health insurance cooperative that could provide better and more affordable coverage for our employees.

High School Principal Report

Ms. Baugher shared enrollment data. She also reported on club sign up day, a safety presentation, PBIS students of the month, college and career readiness field trips, Freshmen Orientation, Open House, and high school grades data.

Middle School Principal Report

Ms. Fancher gave an enrollment update and discussed Open house, 6th Grade Orientation, math and ELA data meetings, and the revamped middle school PBIS for students to meet more attainable monthly goals. She also reported on the Day of Awesomeness for the middle and high school staff.

Grade School Principal Report

Ms. Carey also shared enrollment data, with numbers holding steady, except for pre-k enrollment, which is down. She reported that Megan Nissen and Rachel Golden will be presenting at the Pump Up Primary conference again, this year’s grade school theme of “Our Team is Second to None,” the positive addition of Ms. Heubner to the staff, and the implementation of the Cougar Crew that celebrates teachers and staff.

Athletic Director Report

Dr. Durbin reviewed Mr. Flaherty’s report with the board. He has been busy working through scheduling issues and learning the new projector system in the gym. He provided fall participation numbers. He is exploring the possibility of offering eSports to our students beginning this spring. This would require some up-front costs for technology equipment, but it would provide us with an opportunity to engage another group of students who might not already be involved in extracurricular activities.

FOIA Report

- a. Justin Skelton - Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) Renewal Application Packet and

Email Attachment with Finalized Application Information (8/19/26)

- b. Justin Skelton — All formal civil complaints, court summonses, or active litigation documents served upon or filed against the district and Any and all finalized settlement agreements, release of claims, or structured payout agreements executed from August 2025 to present (8/24/26)
- c. CT Mills (Public Info Access LLC)—Phone contact information for district employees (9/1/26)
- d. Justin Wenig--Payment Records for All Vendor Entities from January 1, 2026, to Present (9/9/26)

A motion was made by Robertson, seconded by Boyd to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

9.1 Action to Approve the List of Early Graduates

9.2 Action to Create an Earth Club Student Account

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Boyd, seconded by Hull to approve the Illini Central CUSD #189 FY2027 Budget.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Hughes – aye, Hull – aye, Renken – aye, Robertson – aye, Boyd – aye
Motion carried 5-0

Dr. Durbin gave an update on the District Strategic Plan, and shared progress and upcoming goals.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Robertson to approve “Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds from Capital Projects to Debt Services.”

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Hull – aye, Renken – aye, Robertson – aye, Boyd – aye, Hughes – aye
Motion carried 5-0

The board did not enter into closed session.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Hull to accept the resignation of activities staff Evan Ewins, 6th grade boys basketball coach.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Hull to approve the employment of activities staff Evan Ewins, high school assistant boys basketball coach.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Robertson – aye, Boyd – aye, Hughes – aye, Hull – aye, Renken – aye
Motion carried 5-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Boyd to approve Evan Ewins as a volunteer for middle school boys basketball.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Hull to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 5-0.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the ICGS Professional Development Room in Mason City, IL.

Brian Hughes, President
Illini Central CUSD 189
Board of Education

Amilee Bradshaw, Secretary
Illini Central CUSD 189
Board of Education