

The Tax Levy Hearing for Illini Central School District #189 was called to order at the Mason City Public Library at 7:00 p.m. on December 19, 2024.

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

- Mr. Brian Hughes, President
- Ms. Laura Karker, Vice President
- Ms. Angela McGinnis, Secretary
- Mr. Brock Boyd
- Ms. May Brooks
- Mr. Scott Entwistle
- Mr. Kent Renken

Board members absent:

Administrators present were:

- Dr. Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent
- Ms. Cassy Carey, GS Principal
- Ms. Kyra Fancher, MS Principal
- Ms. Lori Avart, Special Education Director

Visitors: Dennis Hull, Karen Hull

Dr. Durbin shared a tax levy presentation. She explained the reasons for the increase in EAV and the estimated 4.66% tax rate.

Public Comment: None

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to adjourn the hearing at 7:09 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

The Regular Meeting for the Board of Education of Illini Central School District #189 was called to order at the Mason City Public Library at 7:09 p.m. on December 19, 2024.

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

- Mr. Brian Hughes, President
- Ms. Laura Karker, Vice President
- Ms. Angela McGinnis, Secretary
- Mr. Brock Boyd
- Ms. May Brooks
- Mr. Scott Entwistle
- Mr. Kent Renken

Board members absent:

Administrators present were:

- Dr. Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent
- Ms. Cassy Carey, GS Principal

Ms. Kyra Fancher, MS Principal
Ms. Lori Avart, Special Education Director

Visitors: Dennis Hull, Karen Hull

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on November 19, 2024.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

Financial Report

The Board heard an FRIS Report update.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the bills from December 2024.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye Motion carried 7-0

There was no correspondence or public comment.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Durbin reported that she is preparing for the upcoming compliance visit. She shared that she and Ms. Fancher participated in the Reimagine Mason City Christmas Parade, and she attended the Methodist Church Uplift event. After hearing a suggestion at that event, she plans to host a daytime open house for community members that cannot attend on January 10 or cannot drive in the dark.

Middle School Principal Report

Ms. Fancher discussed the Caught Being Awesome campaign and the PBIS Riverman hockey game. Middle school will participate in Grinch Olympics on the last day before break.

Grade School Principal Report

Ms. Carey reported on the November students of the month, the 4th grade Kindness Club, and Book Blast. She discussed the growth in benchmark scores and Raising Student Achievement Conference she attended with four teachers.

Special Education Director Report

Ms. Avart reported an increase in needs from move-ins and initial evaluations. The district has fewer special ed teachers in the grade school than in the past, but she is recommending a teacher to begin next semester. Pre k held screenings and are nearly at capacity. Vision and hearing screenings will be held in January and February.

Transportation Director Report

Dr. Durbin reviewed Mr. Francis's report and gave an update on the number of students that the district transports. He has been working to add bus drivers.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by McGinnis to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- 9.1 Action to approve the second reading of policy updates as recommended by IASB
 - a. 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
 - b. 2:110 Qualification, Term, and Duties of Board Officials
 - c. 2:120 Board Member Development
 - d. 2:140 Communication To and From the Board
 - e. 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

- f. 4:30 Revenue and Investments
 - g. 4:40 Incurring Debt
 - h. 4:60 Purchases and Contracts
 - i. 4:150 Facility Management and Building
 - j. 4:160 Environmental Quality of Building and Grounds
 - k. 4:170 Safety
 - l. 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
 - m. 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
 - n. 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
 - o. 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
 - p. 5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
 - q. 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
 - r. 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
 - s. 5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct
 - t. 5:150 Personnel Records
 - u. 5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline
 - v. 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
 - w. 6:60 Curriculum Content
 - x. 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development
 - y. 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
 - z. 6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program
 - aa. 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
 - bb. 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students
 - cc. 7:160 Student Appearance
 - dd. 7:165 School Uniforms
 - ee. 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
 - ff. 7:200 Suspension Procedures
 - gg. 8:10 Connection with the Community
- 9.2 Action to approve addition to High School Course Description Guide
- 9.3 Action to approve 1-year contract with Panorama for \$20,270.00
- 9.4 Action to approve the purchase of Vulcan convection gas oven from Johnson HVACR & Foodservice Equipment for \$10,000.00
- 9.5 Action to approve surplus property listing
- 9.6 Action to approve the creation of Kindness Club account in the grade school activity fund

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye Motion carried 7-0

The Board heard an update on the building addition project. The punch list was completed. There are a few items that still need to be finished, but work is under way to move into offices and classrooms. APR construction will begin over the weekend and should be complete in April.

The Board also heard an update from the Athletic Committee. After discussing current and future practices regarding volunteer coaches, it was determined that the district needs more community involvement and more people invested in programs will benefit students.

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to approve 2024 Tax Levy Resolution (2024 taxes payable in 2025).

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Brooks to approve a quote for \$43,200.00 from Reliable Environmental Solutions, Inc. to remove asbestos in the laundry room, shop classes, and shop.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – no, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye Motion carried 6-1

A motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Renken to approve Vision 2030 Resolution.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to go into closed session at 7:51 p.m. pursuant to:

Personnel 5 ILSC 120/2 c. (1)

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to come out of closed session at 8:06 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the employment of certified staff Rebecca Willis, grade school special education teacher; and Madyson Harper, middle and high school p.e. teacher, both with a January 6, 2025 start date.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to accept the resignation of non-certified staff Rebecca Willis, paraprofessional.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the employment of activities staff Evan Hopkins, 6th grade volleyball coach.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, McGinnis – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to approve Joel Peterson as volunteer middle school volleyball coach; and approve Trenton Dietrich as volunteer high school boys basketball coach.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Renken to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 7-0.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mason City Public Library.

Brian Hughes, President
Illini Central CUSD 189
Board of Education

Angela McGinnis, Secretary
Illini Central CUSD 189
Board of Education