

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #40
EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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 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/QLm5xWiaYtA?feature=share>

Live stream following closed session: <https://youtube.com/live/u49zYb-kPY0?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: Erica Boone, Brandon Duncan, Chad Thompson, Desha Wear, Jill Wendling, and Jane Willenborg
Members absent: Andrew Altman
Members in attendance remotely: none
Staff present: Andrew Johnson, Kelsey Baker, Michelle Morrissey
2. Recognition of Visitors - None
3. Financial Report
Baker reported a net fund balance of \$13,341,238.23 and Operating funds net total of \$12,699,962.16. Reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$5,576.37 and approve the bills as listed:
Education Fund – \$540,666.07
Little Hearts Daycare - \$13,287.82
Operations, Building & Maintenance Fund – \$270,076.22
Bonds & Interest - \$5,094.88
Transportation Fund – \$39,356.60
Tort Fund – \$34,549.47
Capital Improvements - \$13,424.57
Total - \$916,455.63
Thompson made a motion and seconded by Duncan, to approve the financial report and to reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$5,576.37 and payment of bills in the amount of \$916,455.63.
Roll call vote
AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried
4. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes – September 15, 2025, Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes; September 15, 2025, Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes; September 30, 2025, Special Meeting and Closed Session Minutes; October 7, 2025, Special Meeting and Closed Session Minutes.
 - B. Cafeteria Report: Enclosed

C. Student Teachers:

Student	Type	Unit 40 Teacher	Grade/Subject	School	Date
Kyle Webb	Short Term Field Experience: Practicum	Jessica James	Life Skills	EJHS	Spring 2026
Madalyn Dunbar	Short Term Field Experience: Practicum	Cathy Hayes	Grade 3	Central	October-December 2025
Lauren Hosfield	Short Term Field Experience: Practicum	Charlie Huber	Art Grades 9-12	EHS	October - December 2025
Sullymar Rivera-Perez	Short Term Field Experience: Practicum	Jim Whittier; Brittany Goldstein; Erica McNeely	ESL	Central; SS; EJHS	Fall 2025
Seth Hinson	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Lisa Lauritzen	Special Education	ELC	Spring 2026
Kayce Glenn	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Christa Koester	Grade 2	SS	Spring 2026
Gracie Gresens	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Amy Minor	Grade 3	Central	Spring 2026
Lanie Tedrick	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Josh Morton	Grade 4	Central	Spring 2026
Nick Kimble	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Ryan Ervin; Sarah Wyckoff	Social Studies	EHS	Spring 2026
Molly Smith	Extended Field Experience: Student Teaching	Stephanie Tracy	English	EHS	Spring 2026

D. Fundraisers

Group	Event	Reason	Date
EJHS Library - Book Club	Sale of Suckers and Assorted School Supplies	Support library incentives and book club activities	Yearlong on Fridays during study hall
EHS Spring Musical	Hot Cocoa Packets (Hot-Cocoa Grams)	Raise funds for the Spring Musical account	January 12-16, 2026

EJHS Musical	Free Will Donations	Offset production costs	November 6-9, 2025
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- E. Disposal of Equipment (JH Weight Equipment): Enclosed
Boone made a motion, seconded by Wear, to accept the Consent Agenda.
Roll call vote
AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried
5. Correspondence: None
6. Superintendent's Report
A. Foundation Report: Enclosed
B. Enrollment: Total enrollment is 2,338 as of September 30, 2025. This number is 22 more students than in September 2024.
C. Audit Information: Enclosed
D. Anti-Vaping Campaign Statement/Press Release
7. New Business
A. Tentative Tax Levy Approval
Wear made a motion, seconded by Boone, to adopt the October 2025 tentative tax levy as presented and to set a levy hearing for Monday, December 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm.
Roll call vote
AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried
- B. Discussion about Intergovernmental Agreement with CORE & LLC as U40 Becoming the Fiscal/Administrative Agent for the CORE Academy
- C. Approval of Effingham U40 Foundation Directors
Wear made a motion, seconded by Boone, to approve Kathleen Henderson and Jennifer Hess as Effingham U40 Foundation Directors.
Roll call vote
AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried
8. Adjournment to Closed Session
Duncan made a motion, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn to Closed Session at 6:31 PM.
Roll call vote
AYES: 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. Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.
- C. Student disciplinary cases.

9. Return to Open Session

Wear made a motion, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn and return to open session at 7:39 PM.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

10. Personnel List

EMPLOYMENT:	
Billy Hodge	JH Boys B-Team Basketball Coach
Jordan Andruch and Jessica Reeder	21st Century Program Co-Directors
Aaron Adams, Abbey Armstrong, Brooke Bayles, Tracie Beard, Ryan Ervin, Julie Flack, Jenni Fritcher, Sara Mette, and JaLana Robison	21st Century Program Site Supervisors
Ashley Delks, Alex Estes, and Jill Feldhake	21st Century Program Lead Instructors
Kayla Blair, Paige Gillmore, April Hardiek, Raylen Hardiek, Seth Hinson, Stacey Huston, Barb Jamison, Leslie Koester, Kali Ort, Celeste Stombaugh, and Amy Wernsing	21st Century Program Facilitators
Gina Hewing and Leia Klein	21st Century Program Facilitator Assistants
Courtney Bushue, Regina King, and Lori West	21st Century Program Food Services
Cindy Curry and Nathan Delks	21st Century Program Bus Drivers
TRANSFER:	
Chelsea Wakefield	3 Hr. Cook @ EHS
RESIGNATION:	
Kylie West	Custodian
Ana Macias	Paraprofessional
RETIREMENT:	
Esther Thompson	Custodian

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

Roll call vote

AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried

11. Adjourn

Duncan made a motion, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Roll call vote

AYES: Boone, Duncan, Thompson, Wear, Wendling, Willenborg
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none
Motion Carried

Date of Minutes: Monday, October 20, 2025

Date of Approval: _____

President

Secretary

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #40

Effingham, Illinois

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: October 20, 2025

Time: 6:31

A motion was made by Duncan, and seconded by Thompson, 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" - 6	"Nays" - 0
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Motion: Carried