

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #40
EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 21, 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/tjeFYYu4ZHQ?feature=share>

Live stream following closed session: <https://youtube.com/live/m5UYEsuSbWI?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. Acknowledgements
 - A. EHS State Track Participants
 - B. EHS Bass Fishing Team
3. Recognition of Visitors
 - A. Kay Pemberton - Love the Ham – lovetheham.org
4. Financial Report
Baker reported a net fund balance of \$56,569,161.05 and Operating funds net total of \$18,211,462.79. Reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$1,674.02 and approve the bills as listed:
Education Fund – \$484,116.79
Little Hearts Daycare - \$7,368.37
Operations, Building & Maintenance Fund – \$272,877.56
Transportation Fund – \$183,112.04
Tort Fund – \$402,877.11
Capital Improvements - \$110,162.82
Total - \$1,460,514.69
Altman made a motion and seconded by Thompson to approve the financial report and to reimburse the imprest account in the amount of \$1,674.02 and payment of bills in the amount of \$1,460,514.69.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

5. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes – June 23, 2025, Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes and June 30, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

B. Fundraisers:

Group	Event	Reason	Date
EHS Football & Basketball Cheer	Cheer Clinic	Raise funds for cheer expenses for both squads	Clinic - September 7, 2025 Performance - September 12, 2025
EHS Band Boosters	Brilliance Items - Detergent, Laundry Pods, Scent Crystals, Dish Pods	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	September 15-26, 2025
EHS Band Boosters	Trash Bags	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	September 15-26, 2025
EHS Band Boosters	Calendar Days	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	September 15, 2025 - March 15, 2026
EHS Band Boosters	Butterbraids	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	November 17, 2025 - December 1, 2025
EHS Band Boosters	Flavored Popcorn	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	November 17, 2025 - December 1, 2025
EHS Band Boosters	Monicals Frozen Pizzas	Raise funds for band trip to Florida	January 12-23, 2026

C. Approval of Donation from St. Louis Community Foundation for Little Hearts Early Childhood Center

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

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

6. Superintendent's Report

A. 21st Century Grant After-School Summer Program Status

B. Southside HLS Project Update

C. The “Torch” has been paused due to a reduction in funding for one of our grants.

7. New Business

A. Approval of Lease Agreement between Tri-Bar Investments and Unit 40 School District/Little Hearts Early Childhood Center

Altman made a motion, seconded by Boone to approve the Lease Agreement between Tri-Bar Investments and Unit 40 School District/Little Hearts Early Childhood Center for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027, at a cost of \$3,125.00/month.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

B. Approval of Fuel Bid

Boone made a motion, seconded by Wear to accept South Central FS's bid to provide Unit #40 Fuel for 2025-26.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Thompson

Motion Carried

C. First Reading of Press Policy Updates: 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:80, 2:130, 2:240, 3:30, 4:50, 4:55, 4:180, 7:40, 7:90, 7:130, 7:140, 7:300, 7:325, 8:80

D. Approval of Agreement for Professional Services

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Boone to approve the Professional Services Agreement with BLDD Architects to develop a Ten-Year Safety Survey Report as required by the Illinois School Codes, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.12, for Central Grade School, Early Learning Center, East Side Preschool, South Side Grade School, West Side Grade School, and Effingham Junior High School facilities for a cost of \$51,185.00.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

E. Approval of Little Hearts Early Childhood Center Parent Handbook Updates

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Willenborg to approve the LHECC Parent Handbook Updates for the 2025-26 School Year

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

F. Appointment of FOIA and OMA Officers for Unit #40

Altman made a motion, seconded by Boone to appoint Andrew Johnson, Kelsey Baker, and Chelle Beck as Unit #40 FOIA and OMA Officers.

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 6:52 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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- B. 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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- C. 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)
- D. 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/(c)(21)

9. Return to Open Session

Thompson made a motion, seconded by Altman to adjourn and return to open session at 8:17 PM.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

10. Personnel List

EMPLOYMENT:	
Jiletta Patton	8th Grade Volleyball Coach
Sydnee Lewis	JH B-Team Volleyball Coach
Joseph Buscher	4-Hr. Bus Driver
RECLASSIFICATION:	
Lori Koester	Varsity Assistant Softball Coach
Garrett Wolfe	6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
VOLUNTEER:	
Kammy McKenna	HS Girls Assistant Tennis Coach
Lisa Sigg	HS Assistant Cheer Basketball Coach
Jacy Boatman	HS Assistant Volleyball Coach
Andrew Donaldson	5th/6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
RESIGNATION:	
Jackie Jones	Cook at EJHS
Erica Schumacher	Speech Language Pathologist

Lauren Meyer	LH Instructor
Kathy Cramsey	Assistant Transportation Director
Andrew Donaldson	6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Altman made a motion, seconded by Thompson 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. Approval to Add Extracurricular Activities at EJHS in 2025-26 and 2026-27

Altman made a motion, seconded by Thompson, to allow 5th-grade students to run EJHS Cross Country to start with the 2025-26 School Year. Bass Fishing, Wrestling, and Golf will be considered at a future meeting.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

12. Review of Closed Session Minutes

Altman made a motion, seconded by Wear to keep closed session minutes closed and destroy electronic recordings prior to January 2024.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

13. Adjourn

Boone made a motion, seconded by Altman to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Roll call vote

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

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: none

Motion Carried

Date of Minutes: Monday, July 21, 2025

Date of Approval: _____

President

Secretary

EFFINGHAM COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #40

Effingham, Illinois

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: July 21, 2025

Time: 6: 52PM

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