

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 7:00 p.m. on March 13, 2025.

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

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

Board members absent:

Ms. Angela McGinnis, Secretary

Administrators present were:

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

Visitors:

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on February 20, 2025.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

#### Financial Report

Dr. Durbin reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Investments Report. \$1,000,000 was moved from our investments to our checking account to cover construction costs.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the bills from March 2025.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye      Motion carried 6-0

There was no correspondence or public comment.

#### Superintendent Report

Dr. Durbin reported on several career fairs that she and administrators have attended to recruit future staff. She attended a mentoring session that focused on finances. The future of federal grants is uncertain, and state funds for special ed and transportation may not be as reliable as they have been. The district will have to rely more on local funds.

#### Grade School Principal Report

Ms. Carey gave an positive enrollment update with an increase of students from last year. She shared that the pre k and kindergarten teams just attended the annual Pump up Conference and the staff came back with a lot of excitement and new ideas. She also reported on learning walks organized by Kortnie Cooper and a mobile planetarium organized by Sarah Martin.

#### Middle School Principal Report

Ms. Fancher reported on a trip to Skyzone for the quarterly PBIS incentive that included 100 out of 140 students. The annual wax museum is scheduled for tomorrow. She also reported that she and the middle school staff are working to refine next year's MTSS program and plans are under way for the upcoming IAR testing.

#### High School Principal Report

Ms. Baugher shared that the high school staff is also working on revamping MTSS and will pilot new initiatives this quarter to see if they are beneficial for next year. Transition day for 8th grade students moving to 9th grade will take place after spring break. ACT and pre-ACT are scheduled for on April 9 the Reverse Career Fair for seniors will take place on April 30.

#### Food Services Director Report

Dr. Durbin reviewed Ms. Harrison's report. She highlighted grants and funding she has utilized. She also shared that meal participation, particularly breakfast participation, has increased from last year.

A motion was made by Entwistle, seconded by Brooks to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- 7.1 Action to approve date for 2025 Commitment to Graduation Ceremony as Wednesday, May 21, 2025
- 7.2 Action to approve the Consolidated District Plan for 2025-2026

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

The Board heard an update on the building addition project. The APR renovation is moving along nicely with an anticipated finish date at the end of March. The construction crew is working through final punch list items and working to fix leaks in the new roof.

A motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Entwistle to approve the Facilities Use Agreement.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 4-2.

A motion was made by Karker, seconded by Entwistle to approve Photographic Arts by GPI as the school photographer for the 2025-2026 school year.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Karker – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Karker, seconded by Renken to approve a contract with “N” Focus Photography for sports photography for the 2025-2026 school year.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Brooks to approve a proposal from Byrne & Jones Sports Construction to resurface the track for \$125,000.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, Boyd – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to go into closed session at 7:44 p.m. pursuant to:

Personnel 5 ILSC 120/2 c. (1)  
Collective Bargaining 5 ILSC 120/2(c)(2)

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to come out of closed session at 8:11 p.m..

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to accept the resignation of non-certified staff Jervon Benton, custodial.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to accept the resignations of certified staff Jeff Dunker, Industrial Arts teacher, at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year; Amie Shields, middle school special education teacher, at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year; and Tony Thomas, middle and high school p.e. teacher, at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Karker to approve the rehire of non-tenured teachers as listed: Kaitlyn Lynn, Madelyn Thomas, Kathy Banister, Andrew Crause, Breanna Damarin, Spring Hyde, Sarah Lindsay, Krista Stringham, Christopher Ciaccio, Sarah Fry, Evan Hopkins, Lynne Kosek, Amy Saladino, Julie Toland, Sallie Anderson, Jullian Castillo, Adrian Gonzalez, Madyson Harper, Julia Hischke, Lynsey Means, Kristin Moellenbrink, Jean Siefert, Madison Skelton, Shane Snider, Dominic Vilatte, Rebecca Willis, and Keaton Wort.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Renken – aye, Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to approve the employment of Amie Shields, personal care aide for high school track for the 2025 season; Amanda Hunt, custodial; and approve Keaton Wort, volunteer high school baseball coach.

The motion was put to a roll call vote as follows: Hughes – aye, Karker – aye, Boyd – aye, Brooks – aye, Entwistle – aye, Renken – aye                      Motion carried 6-0

A motion was made by Renken, seconded by Entwistle to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

The motion was put to a voice vote and the motion carried 6-0.

**The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mason City Public Library.**