

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272 BOARD OF EDUCATION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM**

President Pratt called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. All board members were present. Also present were Joshua Nichols, Yvonne Vicks, Jeannine Otto, Janet Crownhart, Andrew Full, and Jenny Apple.

President Pratt opened the public hearing on the permanent transfer of funds. Superintendent Nichols explained that this allows us to transfer the sales tax funds (\$50,000) from Capital Projects to Debt Service to cover the abated taxes. There were no questions or comments from the audience or the board. President Pratt declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Powers to adopt the resolution authorizing an interfund transfer from the Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt opened the floor for public comments. Andrew Full and Yvonne Vicks presented the Junior High RtI Target Percentages winter data. Katie Pratt handed out a flyer/registration form for the Amboy FFA Alumni Trivia Night on March 7, 2026 and a flyer containing information for the Cultivating Connections In Agriculture conference on February 27, 2026.

Board Committee Reports: Drew Montavon shared information on the sessions he attended at the Triple I Conference in Chicago. It was announced that the Amboy Education Foundation's Wine & Cheese Gala is April 11, 2026.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Montavon to approve the following consent agenda items, as presented:

- Minutes of the December 18, 2025 open & closed meetings.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Nichols reviewed the financial reports. The district has received 89% of the anticipated revenue for the year and \$364,784 in sales tax revenue. This represents roughly 100% of the anticipated local revenue and roughly 46% of the anticipated state revenue. The district has used 56% this fiscal year. The operating funds' expenditures are as anticipated.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Brokaw to approve to open a Junior High School FFA activity account. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by White and seconded by Powers to approve the current expenditures and payroll, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Principals Andrew Full and Janet Crownhart summarized their presented reports covering curriculum and school improvement, school activities, and PBIS.

Superintendent Nichols pointed out a couple items from the maintenance report: 1) The new radios are up and running. 2) A couple more outside cameras on the bus garage and a hallway camera at Central School have been installed.

FOIA requests received: 1) Owen Wang, NW Illinois News requested copies of all vendor contracts over \$1,000. We do not organize our records this way, so there was nothing to share. 2) Illinois Retired Teachers Association asked for information on teachers that are retiring at the end of the year. We have none planned, so there was nothing to share. 3) Chris Miller, Public Info Access LLC, requested the dollar thresholds requiring approval. He was directed to our board policy and links were shared in a timely manner. 4) Owen Wang, NW Illinois News requested contracts/bargaining agreements for all active full-time aides. These documents are publicly available on the district's website, and a link was shared in a timely manner.

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by Payne to approve the Discipline Improvement Plan, as presented. We are in the top 20% of schools for using exclusionary discipline (suspensions). The state has us develop a plan to reduce the amount. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Montavon to approve to submit the School Maintenance Project Grant application, as presented. We are asking for \$50,000 to help offset the costs of the asbestos tile abatement and replacement project at Central School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by White to approve the quote from Southern Bleacher Company, Inc. for bleachers, as presented. This will replace the current bleachers with ADA-compliant raised bleachers, approximately 755 on the home side and 162 on the visitor side. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by White to approve the purchase of a 2024 Chrysler Pacifica Van, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Stenzel to approve the quote from Ideal Environmental Engineering, Inc. for the asbestos abatement project at Central School, as presented. This will remove and replace asbestos tile in the east hallway of Central School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:05 p.m., a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Powers to move to executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in an educational setting and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:37 p.m., a motion was made by Powers and seconded by White to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by Powers to approve the suspensions of students 1-22-26-1 through 1-22-26-6, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by White to approve to employ the following pending successful criminal background checks, proper licensure, and submission of pre-employment requirements: Ethan Knieser as Science Teacher at the High School, effective January 5, 2026; Katie Lahman as Certified School Nurse, effective January 5, 2026; Tyler Huggins as 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach; Hannah Riley as a substitute Van Driver; and the separation of employment of Elizabeth Murphy as Lunchroom Supervisor at Central School, effective January 13, 2026. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt announced upcoming dates: Regular Board Meeting-Thursday, February 19, 2026, 6:30 p.m., at Central School and School Board Retreat-Saturday, March 7, 2025, at the Junior High School.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Montavon to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsa Payne, Secretary

Katie Pratt, President

Approved: _____