

**AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #272  
AMBOY, ILLINOIS**

Thursday, September 25, 2025  
6:30 PM

Amboy Junior High School  
Cafeteria  
240 N Metcalf Avenue  
Amboy, IL 61310

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
  - A. Roll Call
  - B. Action: Public Hearing - 2025-2026 Budget
  - C. Open Forum
  - D. Board Committee Reports
2. Action: Consent Agenda Items
  - A. Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING OF THE  
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.  
AMBOY CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STAFF LOUNGE**

President Pratt called the finance meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. All board members were present except for Powers. Superintendent Nichols was also present.

The floor was open for questions or comments. Superintendent Nichols mentioned that Ms. Rose and Ms. Medlin would like to start a fund for fundraising for NAMI- North American Mental Illness Association. It was also noted that there will be Jr High FFA starting this year. Nichols also discussed Community Solar vs Future Green. Central School has had a lot of furniture replaced. We will surplus some of the old furniture and destroy any furniture that has been damaged or repaired repeatedly.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by White to authorize the administration to place on file, the tentative budget for the 2025-2026 school year, and further to set the 2025-2026 budget hearing for Thursday, September 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., at the Junior High School. Superintendent Nichols presented the tentative budget for the 2025-2026 school year. Nichols thoroughly went through each of the fund accounts. This is a deficit budget. This is intentional and based on our plan to lower balances. Operating funds projected deficit spending FY 26 **\$1,421,325**. FY 25 operating funds deficit of **\$204,351**. Operating fund reserves= \$6,507,404. Reasons for deficit: insurance, Central window project and Health Life Safety Plan, fuel is budgeted high, and revenue is projected conservatively. Debt service= \$1,440,635. Total budget= \$16,722,917. The district is doing well overall. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Nichols reviewed financial reports. Only the finance summary was provided as the district is still working through the new finance system.

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

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by Stenzel to approve the early graduation of student #2098, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by White and seconded by Brokaw to accept the resignation of Faith Sachs as Special Education Teacher at the High School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by White to approve the employment of Ryan Atherton as Bus Driver, effective July 1, 2025, and the extracurricular positions for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Stenzel questioned if we still need a teacher leader or if anyone else would have an opportunity for the position.

Nichols stated that Pete Ayling's old route will be getting added back. This will help with early pick up and late drop-off times.

Stenzel asked why printers are being removed from teachers' classrooms. Nichols stated there are central locations for the copier/printer. It is less maintenance and less cost to run one printer. Stenzel would like to see data on the cost effectiveness of removing printers in classrooms.

With the new cell phone policy in place for students, Stenzel questioned what the expectations are for teachers and support staff with cell phones. Nichols stated they are expected to not have their phones out during class time.

At 7:24 p.m. a motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Montavon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elsa Payne, Secretary

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Katie Pratt, President

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.  
AMBOY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

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, Katie Lahman, Janet Crownhart, Jessica Meusel, and Jenny Apple.

The floor was opened to comments from the public. There were none.

Board Committee Reports: The Amboy Education Foundation Sylvan Leffelman Shuffle had 287 runners during Depot Days.

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

- Minutes of the June 17, 2025 open & closed meetings;
- Keep all executive session minutes from November 19, 2024 through April 17, 2025 closed to the public; and
- Delete audio recordings dated January 18, 2024 and February 15, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Nichols reviewed the financial reports, as presented. The district has received 23% of the anticipated revenue for the year and \$55,449 in sales tax revenue. The district has used roughly 13% this fiscal year.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Brokaw to approve to open a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) On Campus activity account. This allows the club to raise and use funds. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call

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

Principals Jessica Meusel and Janet Crownhart reviewed their presented reports on school activities, curriculum and school improvement, PBIS, and building activities.

Superintendent Nichols shared information on the following: 1) The several building projects that have been completed. 2) HVAC hiccups. 3) Salary advancements.

FOIA requests: 1) SmartProcure requested purchase orders and vendor information. This was completed in a timely manner. 2) Justin Wenig, Starbridgetech, requested the same so we used the same reports provided to SmartProcure. This was completed in a timely manner.

Board Policy Review: Section 8 – Community Relations is now complete and that wraps up the two-year review cycle.

The first reading of the June 2025 Illinois Association of School Boards policy revisions were presented.

At 6:55 p.m., a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Powers to move to executive session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in an educational setting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:13 p.m., a motion was made by Powers and seconded by White to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Andrew Full entered the meeting while the board members were in executive session. He reviewed his presented Principal report.

A motion was made by White and seconded by Payne to approve the early graduation request of student #26107, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Montavon to accept the withdrawal of the intent to retire request from Jim Murphy, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Brokaw to approve the following personnel pending successful criminal background checks, proper licensure, and submission of pre-employment requirements: Francesca Bruzzino as Bus Driver, Julie Koch as Bus Aide, and Katie Henkel as High School Fall Play Director. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt announced the next regular board meeting is Thursday, September 25, 2025, 6:30 p.m., at the Junior High School.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made at 7:19 p.m. by Montavon and seconded by White to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elsa Payne, Secretary

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Katie Pratt, President

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

- B. Delete Audio Recordings
- 3. Action: Financial Reports
  - A. Review of Financial Reports
  - B. Current Expenditures & Payroll
- 4. Discussion: Reports
  - A. Principal Reports



**Amboy Jr. High School  
Principal's Report  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Submitted by: Andrew Full**

**Curriculum and School Improvement:**

- On Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> a faculty meeting was held to discuss fire drills, the new fresh fruit/vegetable program, and faculty/staff shout-out.
- On Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> Mr. Full attended the IESA Athletic Directors Workshop in Bloomington, IL.
- On Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> a faculty meeting was held to discuss Clipper PRIDE and Students of the Month Awards, Checkout Binders, ROE Inspection, Fire Drill Notes, and Intruder Drill.
- On Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> faculty/staff went through our annual law enforcement drill at SVCC. Thank you to Lee County Sheriff's Department, Amboy PD, and Sara Dail for their help.
- On Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> grade level meetings were held. Teams discussed students, behaviors, interventions, and filled out the SAEBRS reports for students.

**PBIS:**

- On Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, we held our monthly PBIS celebration/assembly and the following awards were handed out:
  - o Students of the Month-
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Carson Dinges and Darius McCaskill
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- Ruth Shearer and Emery Williams
    - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade- Levi McLaughlin and Michael Dallam
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade- Caidie Phelps and Mason Heath
    - P.E.- Shawn Hummel and Caidie Phelps
  - o Clipper P.R.I.D.E.- Wyatt Brokaw, Carson Dinges, Azlynn Martinson, Darius McCaskill, Tuc Bergfeld, Mila Burke, Annelise Considine, Oliver Machen, Ali Althaus, Lilly Dolan, Aimeelynn Moan, Kyzin Gries, Kaiya Kaleel, Kayden McCrary, Zachary Sibley,

Charley Henkel, Annabelle Leffelman, Eli Lewis, Teagan Moore, Madison Phillips, and Bailey Work-Sibley.

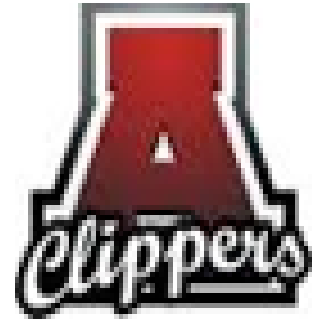
- Positive Office Referral- Olivia Malone
- Faculty/Staff Shout-Out Winners- Vanessa Goslin and Betsy Jones
- “Mint” to be here attendance awards were handed out.

**School Activities:**

- Congratulations to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball team on placing 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Montmorency 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade tournament.
- Congratulations to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball team on placing 1<sup>st</sup> at the Montmorency 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade tournament.
- Art Club has started with Mrs. Goslin supervising.
- Speech Team has begun with Ms. Vicks and she has 6 participants.
- On Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> students went through their dangerous intruder drill.
- Congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball team on placing 1<sup>st</sup> as the AJHS 6<sup>th</sup> grade tournament.
- Benchmark testing was completed the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>.



**Amoy High School  
Principal's Report  
September 2025  
Submitted by: Janet Crownhart**



### **Curriculum and School Improvement**

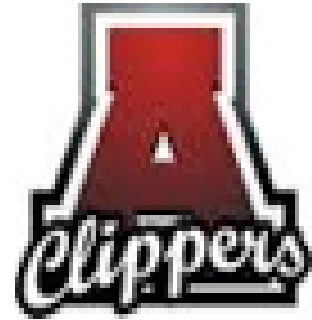
- Student of the Month was Ellie McLaughlin!
- During homeroom this month students have been working on the first few social-emotional learning (SEL) lessons. Students have watched videos about being themselves and why grades are important. Also, with homecoming week, we took some time to work on hallway decorations and Skits for skit night.
- Illinois State Board of Education has approved the Education, Nursing, Agri-Business, and Welding pathway programs. We are working on a schedule to continue to meet with students surrounding these pathways to make sure they have a chance to earn the endorsements if they choose.

### **School Activities**

- School pictures were taken on August 19th with Picture retakes available on Sept 24th.
- Homecoming was the week of Sept 15th
  - SIP day Monday, Sept 15th, with students having time to work on skits, hallway decorations and the announcement of the Homecoming court.
    - Freshmen: Sophya Fonderolli and Owen Eisenberg
    - Sophomores: Henry Klein and Addie Blaine
    - Juniors: Chase Huggins and Jay Lauzon
    - Seniors: Tucker McCoy, Gavin Eisenberg, Victor Lopez-Belmontes, Rylan McNinch, and Collin O'Malley. Kaitlyn Dempsey, Devyn Cheever, Ellie McLaughlin, Kiera Karlson, and Grace Althaus
    - Homecoming King & Queen Victor Lopez-Belmontes and Grace Althaus
  - Thursday, Sept 18th was skit night in the gym at 7pm with the announcement of King and Queen at the end of the evening.
  - Friday, Sept 19th was the Parade starting about 2:30 and then a home football game at 7pm with the introduction of the homecoming court and reunion classes starting about 6:30pm.



**Amboy High School  
Principal's Report  
September 2025  
Submitted by: Janet Crownhart**



- Saturday, Sept 20th was the high school dance in the AHS Clipper Cove
- Clipper PRIDE awards were handed out at the assembly on Sept 9th.
  - Keagen Altherr, Addson Blaine, Kodie Dempsey, Miguel Garcia-Meirndorf, Joivvee Hirsch, Chase Huggins, Logan Ketchum, Jose Lopez, Tyler Mahar, Aubrey Martinson, Sydney Noble, Ezra Parker, Carter Phelps, Liam Rieskamp, Lila Rieskamp, Birgen Tucker, Emma Work-Sibley, Parker Zimmerly
- Student council hosted a blood drive on September 16th. Hosting this blood drive allows students to earn scholarships provided by the Red Cross. We had great participation from the community. Thank you!
- Ms Rose and Ms Holldorf along with a group of active students have started a NAMI on Campus (National Alliance on Mental Illness) group.

### **Building Activities**

- Sept 8th, we held a fire drill in conjunction with the fire department. Thank you to Amboy Fire for working through that with us.
- September 15th the students in the morning participated in the Armed Intruder Trainings and drills. Thank you to Lee County Deputy Kellen and Amboy Chief Smith for your help with the trainings as well as the other Lee County Sherriffs Officers who showed up. In the afternoon our staff was trained in the reunification process. Thank you to all of those who helped.

**Amboy Central Elementary School**  
**Principal Report**  
**Jessica Meusel**  
**September 2025**

**School Activities:**

- Picture day was held on August 29.
- STAR Math, STAR Reading, and FastBridge benchmark assessments were administered throughout the week of September 8.
- We had our Book-It kick off assembly on September 2. Rockstars of the week were recognized for their excellence.
- The first round of Mrs. Goslin's Drawing Club began on September 14.
- Students and staff dressed up to show school spirit during Homecoming week.
- Central PTC has scheduled Donuts with Dad on Tuesday, Oct. 7 from 7:15-8:15 a.m. on the blacktop area by the playground. Coffee, donuts, milk, and juice will be offered as a free will donation. This is open to all VIP's for students from preschool through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- YWCA staff visited Central School on September 24 for body safety presentations.
- 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students completed mySAEBRS on September 22. Teachers are completing SAEBRS for their students the week of September 22.

**School Improvement:**

- During our September 15 school improvement day, staff members participated in reunification training. Lee County police officers presented ALICE training to our students by reading Julia Cook's book, *I'm Not Scared . . . I'm Prepared Because I Know All About Alice*.
- We held data meetings on September 17 to review our students' benchmark results.
- Teachers are piloting Benchmark Advance in ELA. We meet approximately every 2 weeks to check in with our pilot coach for support.

**PBIS:**

- Mrs. Selover is visiting classrooms to introduce the 7 habits of Leader in Me.
- Students have been earning Clipper Cash to reinforce their good behavior.

B. Superintendent Reports

C. FOIA Requests

5. Discussion: Radio Quote Information
6. Action: Illinois Association of School Boards Policy Revisions
7. Action: Illinois Vision 2030 Resolution
8. Action: Bullying Prevention Policy
9. Action: Executive Session
10. Action: Return to Open Session
11. Action: Student Discipline
12. Action: Early Graduation
13. Action: Personnel
14. Upcoming Dates, Miscellaneous Items, Board Remarks and Adjournment