

REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
September 18, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Cambridge Agriculture Complex Conference Room\*  
***The location of the Regular Board of Education meeting has been changed from Cambridge Elementary School to the Cambridge Agriculture Complex Conference Room.***  
300 South West Street  
Cambridge, Illinois 61238

The Cambridge Community Unit School District #227 Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled meeting on September 18, 2025.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Mr. Edmund called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a roll call attendance. Members present were Lance Edmund, Chad Humphrey, Culley Medley, and Becky Blackert. Also present at the meeting were Jenna Bibb, Superintendent; Bob Reagan, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Heather Pine, Elementary Principal; and guests, Morgan Wirt and Amelia Vincent.

At 7:00 pm, Mr. Edmund called the Fiscal Year 26 Budget Hearing to order. He called a Roll Call for the Public Hearing. Members present were Lance Edmund, Chad Humphrey, Culley Medley, and Becky Blackert.

He announced time for Public Comments for the Budget Hearing. Hearing no comments, Mr. Edmund closed the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

Mrs. Boelens arrived at 7:03 pm.

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Blackert, seconded by Mr. Edmund, to approve the consent agenda. Items approved under the consent agenda were:

- a. Minutes of the August 14, 2025 meeting,
- b. The bills through September 18, 2025,
- c. Revolving Fund through August 2025,
- d. Treasurer's Report for August 2025,
- e. Grade School Activity Report and the Junior/Senior High School Activity Report for August,
- f. FOIA Report.

A roll call vote was held. Aye: Humphrey, Boelens, Medley, Blackert, Edmund. Nay: None. Motion carried.

**Public Participation:**

Morgan Wirt introduced herself as the candidate for kindergarten teacher. She thanked the Board and administration for the opportunity to student teach and be hired at Cambridge Elementary School.

**Committee Reports:**

Henry-Stark – No report

**Administrative Reports:**

Mrs. Pine, Elementary Principal, shared the following report:

- **Band:** Thirteen students are participating in the 5th-grade band this year.
- **Preschool Family Fun Night:** Eighteen families, totaling about 75 people, attended a family fun night at the park. This event was a great way for families to meet each other and for parents to see how their children interact with their peers. Ms. Alice was thanked for cooking and serving a hot dog dinner, and the preschool teachers were recognized for organizing the event.
- **Run, Hide, Fight Drills:** Students and staff participated in active threat drills over the past two weeks. They did a great job. Administrators and Nurse Candy are creating "go bags" for each classroom to be used in emergencies. The bags will include a small first-aid kit, a window punch, a blanket, suckers, a class list, and emergency protocols.

- **Cambridge Parents Club (CPC):** The CPC held its first meeting of the school year. Two events are planned for the first semester: a fall family event on October 23rd and a Mother-Son Night tentatively scheduled for November 7th.

Mr. Reagan, Jr/Sr High Principal, shared the following report:

- **Academics & Student Life:**
  - Freshmen health students are learning CPR with the goal of certifying 100% of high school students.
  - Both the AIWood and Cambridge student councils have met to plan for Homecoming.
  - High school PE students participated in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb to pay tribute to the FDNY by climbing steps that represent the 110 stories of the World Trade Center.
  - Junior dual credit students visited Western Illinois University for an orientation, a campus tour, and lunch.
  - The teachers have begun their undercover dress-up days for the school year.
  - The Osco Church was thanked for providing Whitey's ice cream to teachers and staff earlier in the school year.
- **Gray Matters:**
  - The Gray Matters organization is sponsoring "Glow Through the Gray!" night for the volleyball game against Wethersfield on September 24th.
  - A thank you was extended to the DeMay and Blackert families for their memorial donation to the organization.
  - For Suicide Awareness Month, Gray Matters decorated the glass hallway with positive reminders from staff and members.
  - Lifesavers were handed out at lunch to remind students to "be a lifesaver" by being kind, helpful, and a friend.
- **Music Department:**
  - The marching band performed in three parades: the Atkinson Heritage Days, the Orion Fall Festival, and the East Moline Labor Day Parade.
  - Rehearsals have started for the fall play, *Les Miserables*, with show times scheduled for November 1st and 2nd.
  - A popcorn and coffee fundraiser is currently taking place.
- **Homecoming 2025:**
  - The theme is "Spartans Night Out".
  - The Cambridge Junior High and High School dress-up days are as follows:
    - Monday, September 29th: Pajama Day
    - Tuesday, September 30th: Country vs. Country Club
    - Wednesday, October 1st: Twin Day
    - Thursday, October 2nd: Spartan Spirit Day
    - Friday, October 3rd: Class Color Day (Seniors-Black, Juniors-White, Sophomores-Pink, Freshmen-Blue, JH-Red, Staff-Purple)
  - Community events on Friday, October 3rd, include the AIWood parade at 5:00 PM followed by a Spartan Cheerleader Dinner, pep rally, coronation, and bonfire at Cambridge High School. Saturday, October 4th will include the Cambridge parade, a Junior class pork chop dinner, the Homecoming football game, and the Homecoming dance.

Mrs. Bibb, Superintendent, shared the following:

- **Meetings Attended:** At the ROE Superintendent Meeting, she received updates on ISBE's Proficiency Benchmark changes and various funding and legislative matters. She also received an update on the new Wings Academy at the Henry-Stark Executive Board Meeting, noting that they hope to go out for bids in October and begin renovations in November. Mrs. Bibb and Mrs. Blackert shared an update and shared key takeaways from the IASB Super Saturday New Board Member Event.
- **Updates:** The #FN5GL challenge is continuing, spotlighting school spirit. She shared a positive report on the new Galva bus route now that it has been in progress for several days.

- **Enrollment Trends:** The school's 6th-day enrollment data has been updated. These trends, which show a decrease in total enrollment to 437 students for the 2025-2026 school year, are consistent with regional and statewide trends due to declining birth rates and population shifts.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Homecoming festivities are scheduled for the week of September 29th.
  - ROE Health Life Safety Walkthroughs are scheduled for October 9th.
  - The Board Policy Committee will be convened to review the newest Press Update.
  - Those attending the Joint Annual Conference can view the schedule, and Mrs. Bibb requested dining recommendations to help with the itinerary.

#### **Correspondence:**

Mr. Edmund read the following letter of correspondence. Mr. Medley made a motion to accept the letter of correspondence. Mrs. Blackert seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- a. Don Hulin - Letter of Retirement as Substitute Bus Driver

#### **Old Business:**

Mrs. Bibb gave updates on the adjustments made since the Fiscal Year 26 Tentative Budget was presented in August. She shared that this is an estimate based on the information at this time and may end up changing due to unexpected expenses or revenue. She shared that superintendents are continuing to hear warnings about financial challenges ahead. Mrs. Boelens made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 26 Budget as presented. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Boelens, Medley, Blackert, Edmund, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Boelens made a motion to approve the Press Policy Issue #118 Updates. Mr. Edmund seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **New Business:**

Mrs. Bibb presented information about a transition to a new food cooperative, LaSalle County Co-op, run by ROE 35, after the disbanding of our local food cooperative, Northwest Illinois School Food Co-op. Mr. Medley made a motion to approve the resolution to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the LaSalle County Area Purchasing Cooperative. Mrs. Blackert seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Medley, Blackert, Edmund, Humphrey, Boelens. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bibb presented the annual Teacher and Administrator Salary Report. This is a required annual report that includes itemized salary and benefit compensation report for all teachers and administrators. The report must be: 1) presented to the Board of Education at a regularly scheduled school board meeting, 2) sent to the Regional Office of Education, and 3) posted on the school district website by October 1<sup>st</sup>. No action taken.

Mr. Humphrey made a motion to approve the following employees:

- i. Morgan Wirt – Kindergarten Teacher, pending licensure
- ii. Bruce Bibb – Substitute Bus Driver, pending licensure

Mrs. Boelens seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Blackert, Edmund, Humphrey, Boelens, Medley. Nay: None. Motion carried. The Board officially welcomed Miss Wirt to the Cambridge School District and expressed their appreciation for her.

#### **Executive Session:**

None.

At 7:37 pm, Mrs. Boelens made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Medley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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President

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Secretary