

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD MEETING  
January 29, 2026, 7:00 p.m.  
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 Committee of the Whole meeting on January 29, 2026. President Edmund called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a roll call attendance.

- **Members Present:** Lance Edmund, Chad Humphrey, Carrie Boelens, Culley Medley, Jared Brewer, and Becky Blackert
- **Members Absent:** None
- **Also Present:** Jenna Bibb, Superintendent; Bob Reagan, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Heather Pine, Elementary Principal; and members of the public.

**Public Participation:**

A member of the public asked the Board if any of them had personally contacted legislators. She then shared that she spoke with Dan Swanson who urged them to contact Travis Weaver to advocate for Cambridge Schools.

**Executive Session**

At 6:05 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Medley to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, student discipline, or to fill a vacancy. A roll call vote was held: Aye: Humphrey, Boelens, Medley, Brewer, Blackert, Edmund, . Nay: None. Motion carried.

At 6:41 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Medley, seconded by Mrs. Boelens, to exit executive session. A roll call vote was held: Aye: Boelens, Medley, Brewer, Blackert, Edmund, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Edmund and Mrs. Bibb shared that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current deficit budget and anticipated deficit budget for next year. The three options discussed were to reduce costs, spend reserves, or raise taxes. Following the last Board meeting, Mrs. Bibb was asked to gather information on specific options for reducing costs and covering reserves through Working Cash bonds. She presented information on historic finance trends of the District's Education and Working Cash funds. At the request of board members, she also shared enrollment trends and EAV comparisons with local districts. After discussion, Mrs. Bibb shared recommendations to evaluate all vacancies as they occur and determine what positions need to be replaced, avoid RIFing certified teaching positions, potentially reduce some non-certified positions, evaluate any new programs to determine if they need to continue, ensure the accuracy of the student information system to ensure the district is maximizing EBF funds, explore alternatives to the school lunch program, and analyze special education funding and billing. A board member requested that she gather some information about elementary class sizes in the surrounding area as the board continues to evaluate the information and make a plan going forward.

At 7:35 pm, a motion was made by Mrs. Boelens, seconded by Mrs. Blackert, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

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President

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Secretary