REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 16, 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 regularly scheduled meeting on July 16, 2026. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with a roll call attendance.

- **Members Present:** Lance Edmund, Chad Hymphrey, Jared Brewer, and Becky Blackert
- **Members Absent:** Carrie Boelens, Culley Medley, and Lindsey DeDecker
- **Also Present:** Jenna Bibb, Superintendent; Bob Reagan, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Heather Pine, Elementary Principal; Susan Sullivan, Board Secretary, representatives from Omni Energy and two teachers.

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

- Minutes of the May 21, 2026 regular meeting.
- The bills through July 16, 2026.
- Revolving Fund through June 2026.
- Treasurer's Report for June 2026.
- Grade School Activity Report and the Junior/Senior High School Activity Report for May and June 2026.
- Disposal of Building Contents.
- Approval Granting the Expenditure of Funds for FY27.
- 2025-2026 FOIA Report.

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

Mrs. DeDecker arrived at 7:03 pm.

Personnel Consent Agenda:
A motion was made by Mrs. DeDecker, seconded by Mrs. Blackert, to approve the personnel consent agenda. Items approved under the personnel consent agenda were:

- Resignation(s)/Retirement(s):
  - Al Steider, High School Teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year
  - Kaye Maertens, District Treasurer, effective June 30, 2026
  - Lori Foley, Elementary Teacher
- Employment:
  - Al Steider, Technology Director
  - Dawson Anderson, Field Maintenance
  - Travis Fransene, Junior High Baseball Coach
  - Travis Fransene, Substitute Bus Driver
  - Susan Sullivan, District Treasurer
  - Faith Houk, Elementary Dishwasher
  - Jaime Camacho, Jr., Second Shift Custodian

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

Public Participation:
There were no public comments.

Reports:
Omni Energy: After discussion at the Board Retreat to consider a large-scale building renovation project, Alan Churchman and Scott Graves from Omni Energy shared with the Board a timeline proposal. They

shared the importance of creating a leadership team, raising awareness in the community, gathering stakeholder input, and gathering information on finances and project scope.

Board Retreat: As a follow-up to the June Board Retreat, Board members discussed the proposed goals to narrow them down to five goals. There was a discussion about the sports cooperative as well as participation in sports and other extracurricular activities. Mrs. Bibb will review the proposed goals and send out to the Board members for feedback.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Bibb shared an overview of updates that the Policy Committee reviewed, including OMA and FOIA changes, vacation and sick days for non-certified staff, and a language change regarding extracurricular drug testing. There were no questions for the committee.

Superintendent Jenna Bibb shared the following report:

- **Notable Meetings Attended**: Superintendent Bibb highlighted several recent meetings and professional development sessions:
    - Mrs. Bibb, Mrs. Pine, and Mr. Reagan met with Dara Carr for a 26-27 Planning Meeting to develop this year's plan for implementing Professional Learning Communities.
    - At the Henry-Stark Executive Board Meeting, tentative billings for the upcoming year were received, indicating a 33% increase in expenses.
    - Mrs. Bibb also attended the IATD Transportation Claims Workshop and the IASA Budget Basics Workshop.
- **Start of School**: The schedule for the start of the school year was outlined, beginning with Teacher Institute Days on August 13th and 14th. The Back to School Night will take place on August 13th from 5:00 to 6:30 pm, with an invitation extended to Board members to assist in serving hot dogs. The first day of student attendance is scheduled for August 17th.
- **Staffing and Transportation Updates**:
    - Following an unexpected teacher resignation at the grade school, Mrs. Pine will adjust internal staffing to cover the open position.
    - The district has not yet been successful in hiring new bus drivers; however, the administration is currently working on Plans B and C to ensure transportation needs are met.
- **Upcoming Events**: The Board was reminded of the following upcoming dates:
    - **August 13th**: Back to School Picnic from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.
    - **August 20th**: Regular Board Meeting and E-Learning Public Hearing at 7:00 pm.
- **Historical Year-End Revenues and Expenditures**: Superintendent Bibb presented the year-end financial figures for Fiscal Year 25-26 and prior years, detailing the revenue, expenditures, and net differences across the district's primary funds.

Unfinished Business:
The Board discussed options for attending the Joint Annual Conference this year. Options discussed included attending Friday and Saturday only, attending on a rotating schedule, or sending a partial representation of the Board. In order to save money, the Board plans not to attend this year.

The Board discussed a potential junior high wrestling cooperative with Orion. Orion administration is willing to accept Cambridge students in their program pending conference approval, with costs prorated based on participation. Suggestions include adding an Out-of-District Athletic Fee to offset costs and having families provide transportation. The Board requested that administrators find out the total program cost at the Junior High and High School levels and also conduct a survey of interest the first week of school. No action was taken.

New Business:
The Board reviewed the tentative budget developed for FY27, which projects estimated education fund revenues of $5,027,327 and expenditures of $5,295,617; building fund revenues of $447,451 and expenditures of $446,704; transportation fund revenues of $403,387 and expenditures of $446,704; and the use of designated Fund 90 monies for Health, Life, and Safety projects. The tentative budget will be displayed at the Unit Office for 30 days prior to a budget hearing and adoption in September. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Blackert, to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Cambridge CUSD #227 Tentative Budget. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Brewer, Blackert, DeDecker, Edmund, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Reagan and Mrs. Pine provided an overview of changes to their respective handbooks. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Edmund, to approve the 2026-2027 Elementary and Jr/Sr High School Handbooks. Motion carried 4-1.

The Policy Committee provided an overview of updates from the March 2026 PRESS Update and recommendations for the Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. DeDecker, to accept this as a first reading of the enclosed policies. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed the proposed schedule for regular board meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. A motion was made by Mrs. DeDecker, seconded by Mrs. Blackert, to approve the schedule of regular meetings as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed proposed adjustments to athletic admission fees and official rates. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to approve the athletic admission fees and official rates as presented. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Blackert, DeDecker, Edmund, Humphrey, Brewer. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a quote of $16,410.00 for new lockers in the Varsity Boys' Locker Room, with the Village of Cambridge agreeing to reimburse $15,000.00 of the cost. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Blackert, to approve the locker purchase as presented with reimbursement from the Village. A roll call vote was held. Aye: DeDecker, Edmund, Humphrey, Brewer, Blackert. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board considered an early graduation request for a student with special circumstances. A motion was made by Mrs. DeDecker, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to approve the request for early graduation. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed a new quote for the renovation of the bleachers within the scope of the School Maintenance Grant. The matching portion of the costs will be covered by the 1% School Facility Sales Tax revenues. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Edmund, to approve the bleacher quote as presented. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Edmund, Humphrey, Brewer, Blackert, DeDecker. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Executive Session
None.

Action Items Resulting From Closed Session
None.

At 8:51 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was held: Aye: Humphrey, Brewer, Blackert, DeDecker, Edmund. Nay: None. Motion carried.

President   Secretary