

REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 20, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Cambridge Elementary Classroom #19  
312 South West Street  
Cambridge, Illinois 61238

The Cambridge Community Unit School District #227 Board of Education met for the regularly scheduled meeting on March 20, 2025.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Mr. Humphrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a roll call attendance. Members present were Lance Edmund, Chad Humphrey, Culley Medley, Carrie Boelens, Dianne Jeffries, and Jarrett Schmoll. Also present were Jenna Bibb, Superintendent; Heather Pine, Elementary Principal; Bob Reagan, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; and community member Becky Blackert.

**Executive Session:**

At 7:01 pm, Mrs. Boelens made a motion to move to 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. Mr. Edmund seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

At 7:25 pm, Mrs. Boelens made a motion to return to open session. Mrs. Jeffries seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Edmund, Jeffries, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Boelens, seconded by Mrs. Jeffries to approve Becky Blackert to fill the vacant board position. A Roll Call vote was held. Aye: Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey, Edmund, Jeffries. Nay: Non. Motion carried. Mr. Humphrey administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Blackert and she was welcomed to the Board of Education.

**Consent Agenda:**

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

- a. Minutes of the February 20, 2025 meeting,
- b. The bills through March 20, 2025,
- c. Revolving Fund through February 2025,
- d. Treasurer's Report for February 2025,
- e. Grade School Activity Report and the Junior/Senior High School Activity Report for February 2025.

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

**Public Participation:**

Mitch Vincent addressed the Board as a follow-up from his prior visit. He requested to see the previously donated 10 Commandment plaque, which Mrs. Pine brought to the Board Room. He also requested to see the Weight Room to see it before he appropriated the steel for the roof. He asked the Board of Education for their opinion on the abolishment of the Department of Education. Mr. Vincent requested a follow-up after the Policy Committee meets to review his previous requests.

**Administrative Reports:**

Mrs. Pine, Elementary Principal, shared information about:

- National Breakfast Week took place the week of March 3<sup>rd</sup> and they exceeded their goal by serving 119 breakfasts one day that week. She thanked Ms. Alice and her kitchen staff for organizing such fun activities for the students.

- The Bingo for Books family night was a success with 84 people attending. Every child who attended went home with at least 1 new book.
- The Fannie May fundraiser is complete and produced a profit of \$3,998 this year.
- Preschool screening will be conducted on March 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. The program has 24 openings for next year and will be screening 20 students.
- The Cambridge Parents Club is planning the next two events. They will host a parent information night on online safety for children on April 8<sup>th</sup>. On Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, they will host a fun Mother/Son Night feature a reptile and dinosaur theme with a live reptile show!
- The elementary school will conduct IAR state testing April 7<sup>th</sup> - April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- They are finalizing information for Kindergarten Round Up that will be April 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30 pm. We are planning to have a signing day for future 2038 graduates.

Mr. Reagan, Jr/Sr High Principal, shared information about:

- Teachers have been working on creating assessments and working with presenters from the ROE.
- Junior High Students will be taking the IAR the week following Spring Break.
- TESTING DAY - APRIL 10 -- SENIORS will have a "Career Day", a time to visit colleges or job shadow. JUNIORS will be taking the ACT at the Methodist Church. GRADES 9, 10 will be taking the Pre-ACT at the school.
- The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony organized by Mrs. Akers was held Monday, March 17 at 6:30 pm. It was a great event with a keynote from Mrs. Pine.
- Congratulations to Kenley Medley on being elected as Vice President of Blackhawk Association of Student Councils District Conference.
- Congratulations to Olivia Brown and Addyson Bennett for being named Student of the Quarter for 3rd quarter.
- Congratulations to Danielle Moore, Cambria Harreld, Addison Stone, Hannah Ames, Weslee Herrick and Livvy Edmund who all placed at the Monmouth College LTC Art Festival.
- The National Technical Honor Society had their luncheon on Monday. They inducted 8 seniors into the society.
- 8th grade girls attended BHC for the Women in Mfg Summit and the boys attended the Rock Island Arsenal Visitor Center.
- Freshmen students attended the Quad City Youth Conference and many of our SALT members volunteered at the event.
- He shared participation numbers for spring sports.
- Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory was a success despite having to change our performances due to high winds and storms on Friday night. We have a great crowd for the Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon performances. A big thank you to Stephanie Taylor for creating our stage so Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Akers could focus on staging, music and choreography.
- The music department had a very successful day at IHSA solo and ensemble contest coming home with several division one and division two ratings as well as our sax quartet of Brenden Vinavich, Jack Gibson, Austin Woodbury and Brodin Palmer earning Best of the Day from their judge.
- JH students will be attending IESA solo and ensemble at Rockridge on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Gruber who was nominated for the Golden Owl Award.
- "Give Mental Illness the Boot" sponsored by FFA and The Gray Matters Collective was held on Tuesday evening.
- Drive Your Tractor To School Day was today.
- Mrs. Miller and our students represented Cambridge as she presented a session at the Cultivating Connections Agriculture Workshop!

Mrs. Bibb, Superintendent, shared the following updates including:

- The Henry-Stark Executive Board received an update on the Kewanee building project, with a projected completion date of June 2026.

- The new Ag Complex continues to make progress. Interior painting has started, and casework is being delivered in April. Sewer and drainage work will take place over Spring Break.
- The District Office Transformation project is being finalized. She will share our work with other superintendents. Dr. Hansen, coach, has submitted proposals for IASA and Triple I conferences. If selected, Mrs. Bibb and Dr. Baney, from Kewanee, would be a part of the panel.
- Upcoming meetings include Building Committee and Transportation Committee meetings on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and a Co-op Council meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- District Leadership Team (DLT) Update:
  - Goal #1: Curriculum & Instruction - *Encourage academic success by providing quality course offerings.*
    - The CES ILT (Instructional Leadership Team) and CHS SIT (School Improvement Team) met to begin working on a district-wide instructional framework.
  - Goal #2: Human Resources - *Retain and recruit quality staff equipped to enhance student learning.*
    - The Staffing Evaluation is underway. The goal is to evaluate and identify the need for additional support staff K-12.
    - The Staff Retention team is compiling their findings to assess the feasibility and impact of different strategies.
  - Goal #3: Building & Grounds - *Identify and address necessary facility upgrades to support and enhance student learning.*
    - The Engie Facility Audit is almost complete.
    - We have a parent/community/staff survey to gauge priority areas and ways we might gain support from the community.
- Miscellaneous Items:
  - The Civil Rights Data Collection report has been completed and certified.
  - She shared that we have received two FOIA requests this month. One was for data about vendors over \$500 for the year and the other was for postal equipment leases and purchases.
- Lastly, she shared an expenditure update by funds now that we are 67% through the fiscal year.

#### **Correspondence:**

Mr. Humphrey shared a letter from John Roehrs, substitute bus driver, that he will not be renewing his bus license.

#### **Old Business:**

None.

#### **New Business:**

Mr. Edmund, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, made a motion to approve the IHSA Membership for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

The Orion-Sherrard-Cambridge Soccer Cooperative Agreement was presented for approval for the FY26 and FY27 school years. Mr. Reagan answered questions about the status of the cooperative and how student transportation is working. Mr. Edmund made a motion to approve the Cooperative Agreement as presented. Mrs. Jeffries seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Medley, Humphrey, Edmund, Jeffries, Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Jeffries made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Single Audit. Mrs. Boelens seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Humphrey, Edmund, Jeffries, Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Reagan shared recommendations for employment. Mr. Medley made a motion to approve the following employments: Jamie Hixson and Ryan Wexell as Volunteer Junior High Track Coaches. Mr. Edmund seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Edmund, Jeffries, Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey. Nay: None. Motion carried.

**Executive Session:**

Mrs. Boelens made a motion at 7:54 pm to move to 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. Mr. Medley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Jeffries, Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey, Edmund. Nay: None. Motion carried.

At 9:10 pm, Mrs. Boelens made a motion to return to open session. Mr. Medley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey, Edmund, Jeffries. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Boelens made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding to provide a written understanding of the District's payment to identified Union members as a result of errors in processing TRS contributions. Mrs. Jeffries seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. Aye: Jeffries, Blackert, Boelens, Schmoll, Medley, Humphrey, Edmund. Nay: None. Motion carried.

At 9:11 pm, Mr. Humphrey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Edmund seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

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President

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Secretary