

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

Thursday, October 19, 2023  
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. Open Forum
  - C. Board Committee Reports
2. Action: Consent Agenda Items
  - A. Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.  
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM**

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, Anna Willis, Janet Crownhart, Andrew Full, Jessica Meusel, and Jenny Apple.

President Pratt opened the public hearing regarding the 2023-2024 budget. The tentative budget that was presented in August has been on display as required by law. Superintendent Nichols discussed that he updated it to cover additional 1:1 Paraprofessionals. The floor was opened to comments and/or questions from the audience. There were none. There were no comments and /or questions from the board. President Pratt declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by White and seconded by Payne to adopt the 2023-2024 budget, as presented, and to establish the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending on June 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt opened the floor for public comments. Superintendent Nichols talked on behalf of Mayor John Schamberger in regards to the City buying our ground on Appleton Street for a park with a splash pad. The City will maintain it and the memorials will remain. Katie Pratt shared that the Strategic Planning Committee went over the last priority area at the last meeting.

A motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Powers to approve the consent agenda item(s):

- Minutes of the August 3, 2023 open finance meeting;
- Minutes of the August 17, 2023 open & closed regular board meetings; and
- Delete audio recordings dated March 5, 2022 & March 22, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

For his financial report, Superintendent Nichols shared that the district has received \$7,136,967 or 56% of the anticipated revenue for the year and \$88,764 in sales tax revenue. The district has used 16.54% or \$2,448,837 this fiscal year. The operating funds' expenditures are where they were anticipated.

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

Principal Full, Principal Crownhart, and Principal Meusel reviewed their reports that contained curriculum and school improvement, school activities, building activities, and PBIS. Meusel highlighted that Willy Wonka is the Book-It theme for the year. Crownhart announced that Homecoming went well, the vape sensors are not going off much during the day, and Pathways is looking at adding Health Care to the program. Full shared that the Jeannie King, Math Teacher, is looking to do a Coding Club. Yvonne Vicks announced that 12 students came to first Gaming Club.

Superintendent Nichols reported on the following: 1) A security vestibule project at Central School 2) Discussed whether or not budgeted items need a vote in the future. It was decided no. 3) One FOIA request was received from Janine Asmus for names of any certified librarian in the district. We do not have a certified librarian in the district. 4) the next IASB policy to review is Section 6: Instruction.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by White to approve the quote from Schimmer Chevrolet Inc. for a 2019 Dodge Grand Caravan, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Montavon to approve the bid from Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet for a 2022 4x2 Chevy Silverado Truck, as presented. This replaces the old maintenance truck that will be declared surplus. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:02 p.m., a motion was made by Montavon and seconded by White to move to executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 8:03 p.m., a motion was made by Powers and seconded by Payne to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by White to approve the suspensions of students 9-19-23-1 through 9-19-23-23, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Montavon to accept the verbal resignation of Cindy Niles as Bus Driver, effective August 22, 2023. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Powers to approve the following personnel, pending successful criminal background checks, proper licensure, and submission of pre-employment requirements: Emily Tompkins as Lunchroom Supervisor at Central School and Courtney Thompson as Paraprofessional at the Junior High, both effective September 11, 2023; and Amy McCoy as Part-Time 240-Day Custodian at the High School, effective September 18, 2023 and Bus Driver, effective October 10, 2023. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt announced upcoming dates:

Northwest Division Hybrid Meetings-Wednesday, October 4, Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico CUSD 3, 6:00 p.m. in-person or 7:00 p.m. Zoom.

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, October 19, 2023, Junior High, 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business to bring before the board, a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Montavon to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. 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. Presentation of Audit by Ryan Steines of Winkel, Parker & Foster, CPA PC
  - B. 2023 Annual Financial Audit Report
  - C. Review of Financial Reports
  - D. Current Expenditures & Payroll
- 4. Discussion: Reports
  - A. Principal Reports

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**Amboy Central Elementary School**  
**Principal Report**  
**Jessica Meusel**  
**October 2023**

**School Activities:**

- Thank you to Central PTC for a wildly successful Donuts with Dudes. Students and family members enjoyed donuts and a fall photo booth.
- On October 2 we had a school assembly to recognize our smarties of the week, introduce our character trait: respect, and highlight our top readers.
- Third graders went on a field trip to Lowell Park for Outdoor Stewardship on October 5.
- First quarter ended on October 13 and report cards will be sent home on October 20.
- Third and fourth grade students completed the LRIA assessment in math and reading during the week of October 16. This assessment mirrors the IAR test students will take in the Spring.
- On October 16 the Amboy Police Department came to Central School to talk about school safety and read the book *I'm Not Scared . . . I'm Prepared Because I Know All About Alice*.
- Fourth graders had a pumpkin painting party with Mrs. Goslin on October 18. Thank you to Jim Travi and the Amboy Lions Club for donating pumpkins for our fourth graders.
- Thank you to all of our community members that purchased Prep, Freeze, and Cook meals for our Central PTC fundraiser.
- We have 29 third and fourth grade students signed up for an after school science club. Special thanks to Lee County Ag in the Classroom and Amboy High School Education Pathway students for bringing this engaging educational opportunity to our students.

**School Improvement:**

- During our October 16 school improvement day, staff members participated in Crisis Go training, task force meetings, and strategic planning.
- Paraprofessionals reviewed the paraprofessional handbook and Lani Lawson techniques.
- Kindergarten teachers entered KIDS assessment data.

**PBIS:**

- October's character trait is respect. Mrs. Selover is visiting classrooms to present a lesson on the importance of respect.



**Amboy High School  
Principal's Report  
October 2023  
Submitted by: Janet Crownhart**



**Curriculum and School Improvement**

- Student of the Month was Austin Shugars!!
- 32 sophomore and junior students took the PSAT/NMSQT on October 12th. This test not only helps to prepare them for the SAT but also allows them to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.
- Freshmen students took the PSAT9 on October 18th. Students who meet or exceed on the test for the ELA and/or Math portions will be allowed to be exempt from that subject final exam in December.
- 1st Quarter ended on October 13th. Progress reports were mailed out on Wednesday, October 18th.
- FFA participated in the section land use contest at Sauk Valley on September 21st. Amboy placed as the top team. Jose Lopez was 2nd overall individual, Tanner Welch 3rd, Anna Carlson 5th, and Jason Dickinson 7th.
- FFA participated in the section ag sales contest on October 3rd and our team placed first overall as well. The team was Anna Carlson, Grace Althaus, Jake Dinges, and Tanner Welch.
- FFA sent 14 students to the leadership training school at SVCC on October 4th.
- FFA received a grant of \$3500 from the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Committee to get new welding jackets, gloves, and 2 new machines.
- Mrs. Hemmen attended a seminar on Child and Adolescent Anxiety by Karen Young on September 26th at the Dixon Elks put on by Florissa, ROE 47, KSB, Nami, Sinnissippi, and the Health Department.
- Mrs. Sachs and Mrs Dunklau attended the Special Education Summit at SVCC on September 27th.



**Amboy High School  
Principal's Report  
October 2023  
Submitted by: Janet Crownhart**



**School Activities**

- Picture Retakes were held on September 27th.
- Mr Kolton hosted a parent night on September 25th to explain the steps of the college process, from choosing the right school to financial aid and FAFSA information, to scholarships and applications.
- The band participated in the Autumn on Parade in Oregon on October 8th. The flags and poms took 1st place in the color guard division, drum line took 5th, drum major took 3rd, and overall performance we took 4th out of 7 bands.
- During homeroom this month students have been working through our new video-based social-emotional learning (SEL) lessons. They are covering topics that include Being present, having goals, and seeking help. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors were able to connect their College Board accounts to Khan Academy. All students have worked on portions of Xello that pertain to them to help them narrow future career choices.
- The October SIP day was busy
  - Students participated in the armed intruder drill led by Deputy Kellen of the Lee County police department and assisted by Officer Hart of Amboy PD.
  - Speaker, Freddie Almazan, whose message was to inspire students to move forward after setbacks. There are always negative things that happen in life, but we can't let those negative things define who we will become.
  - Videos were shown to students about the change in tardy policy, reminders about Chromebook care, and discussions about 2nd semester schedules.

**Looking Ahead**

- Final exams will be held on December 18th, 19th, and 20th.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held on November 20th and 21st.



**Amboy Jr. High School  
Principal's Report  
October 19th, 2023**  
Submitted by: Andrew Full

**Curriculum and School Improvement:**

- On September 18<sup>th</sup> all faculty and staff listened to and participated in a training with speaker Lani Lawson.
- On September 21<sup>st</sup> grade level teams met for two class periods to discuss students of the month recipients, field trips, student behaviors, and upcoming events.
- On Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> Mr. Olson, Mrs. Henkel, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Vicks attended the special education summit held at Sauk Valley Community College.
- On Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> a faculty meeting was held to discuss housekeeping items and Mr. Hansen presented ClassCraft, which is a classroom management system.
- On Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> students went through our annual lockdown training with law enforcement. Thank you, Lee County and Amboy Police Departments, for helping out.

**PBIS:**

- On Monday, October 16<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- Ali Althaus and Greyson Henkel
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- Kylie Vaupel and Cooper Fox
    - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade- AJ Aune and Norah Shearer
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade- Makayla Burt and Abel Valdez
    - P.E.- Aubrey Gabbard and Maddex Moeller
  - o Clipper P.R.I.D.E.- Kaiya Kaleel, Levi McLaughlin, Dominic Broker, Ryan Gascoigne, Madison Lohmiller, Jack McCoy, Blake Mumm, Mason Payne, Alexis White, Owen Dallam, Parker Zimmerly, Faith

Fenwick, Abigail Fox, Jason Hemmen, Tyler Mahar, Leah Bodmer, Gunner Christoffersen, Addison Blaine, Emma Richardson, and Tinley Whitney.

- Staff Shout-Out Winners-
- Volleyball teams were also recognized for their great seasons.

**School Activities:**

- Congratulations to the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> girls volleyball team for placing third and the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team for placing fifth at the RRVC tournaments.
- Boys basketball has started with the coaches being: Luke Payne- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>, Chris Payne- 7<sup>th</sup>, and Trese McNinch- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. There are 53 boys participating.
- The AJHS ELA Department held their ELA Glow Night on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. They had a great turnout and Clayton Zimmerman won the door prize.
- On Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> AJHS held their 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter PBIS Celebration and students went roller skating at White Pines, watched a movie, and spent time building relationships with other students/faculty/staff.
- On Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> the AJHS Choir will be singing the National Anthem for opening night at the Rockford IceHogs game.
- Art Club and Unplugged Gamers Club continue to meet.

- B. Superintendent Reports
- C. FOIA Requests
- D. Board Policy Review
- 5. Discussion: First Reading of the Revised High School Student Handbook
- 6. Action: School Maintenance Project Grant
- 7. Action: Roofing Quotes
- 8. Action: Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment (Maintenance Truck)
- 9. Action: Executive Session
- 10. Action: Return to Open Session
- 11. Action: Student Discipline
- 12. Action: Personnel - Resignation
- 13. Action: Personnel - Hirings
- 14. Upcoming Dates, Miscellaneous Items, Board Remarks and Adjournment