

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

Tuesday, November 14, 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
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

President Pratt called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. All board members were present except Powers and White. Also present were Joshua Nichols, Ryan Steins, Yvonne Vicks, Anna Willis, Janet Crownhart, Andrew Full, Jessica Meusel, and Jenny Apple.

President Pratt opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Board Committee Reports: Katie Pratt presented information from the Strategic Planning committee meeting. The plan has consisted of five priority areas with Smart Goals. She feels this plan is ready to be adopted at the next regular scheduled meeting.

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

- Minutes of the September 19, 2023, open & closed regular board meetings; and
- Delete audio recordings dated April 21, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

The next order of business was the presentation of the Annual Financial Audit by Ryan Steines of Winkel, Parker & Foster, CPA PC. According to the report, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of Amboy Community Unit School District #272 as of June 30, 2023, and its revenue received and expenditures disbursed during the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education.

A motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Brokaw to approve the Annual Financial Audit Report as of June 30, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Nichols reviewed the financial reports. The district has received \$9,292,127 (73%) for the year plus \$140,189 in sales tax revenue and used \$3,422,071 (23%).

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

Principals Jessica Meusel, Janet Crownhart, and Andrew Full summarized their curriculum and school improvement, school activities, and PBIS, as presented.

Superintendent Nichols reported on the following: 1) The old junior high demolition continues with the building down and working on gravel lot. 2) The board agreed to Fliplock devices on classroom and other doors for building security in all buildings. 3) Brian Lampe has been busy getting the district ready for the transition from cooling to heating the buildings. 4) One FOIA request from Allium Data for insurance plans. 5) Illinois Association of School Boards Policy Section 6: Instruction has been provided and needs to be reviewed for the November board meeting.

The first reading of the 2023-2024 revised high school student handbook was received. This changes the athletic code appeal process to model the school discipline process.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Montavon to approve the School Maintenance Project Grant, as presented. This will allow the district to access \$50,000 in additional state revenue to use toward the secured entrance project at Central School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by Payne to approve the quotes from Sterling Commercial Roofing, Inc. for the Central School gym and High School crow's nest, as presented. The first quote replaces the gym roof with shingles and add four metal ladders on top of Central School. The second quote replaces the crow's nest roof. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Brokaw to adopt the resolution authorizing the sale of the 2001 Dodge Ram, as presented. This will declare the truck as surplus then eventually accept sealed bids to dispose of it. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:23 p.m., a motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Payne to move to executive session for the purpose of discussion of 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 7:47 p.m., a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Stenzel to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Brokaw to approve the suspensions of students 10-19-23-1 through 10-19-23-17, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Payne to accept the resignation of Dustanie Bellows as Cafeteria Cook, effective September 13, 2023. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Montavon to approve the following personnel pending successful criminal background checks, proper licensure, and submission of pre-employment requirements: the contract of Joshua Nichols as Superintendent from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029, as presented; Angel Warner as Paraprofessional at Central School, effective October 2, 2023; Mike Kolton as Varsity Academic Bowl Coach, Luke Payne as 5th/6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, and Reaine Wilson as Junior High Track Assistant Coach. Motion carried with four yea votes. One vote was abstained by Payne.

President Pratt announced upcoming date:

Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Junior High School

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Stenzel to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsa Payne, Secretary

Katie Pratt, President

Approved: _____

- B. Delete Audio Recordings
- 3. Action: Financial Reports
 - A. Review of Financial Reports
 - B. 2023 Tentative Tax Levy and Set Public Hearing Date
 - C. Current Expenditures & Payroll
- 4. Discussion: Reports
 - A. Principal Reports

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



Curriculum and School Improvement

- Student of the Month was Alexis Ketchum!!
- Ms Scriven attended the Transitional English Workshop on November 3rd at SVCC.
- Mrs. Carlson attended the Transitional Math Workshop on October 27th at SVCC.
- Ms. Bus took 13 students to the ISU Future Teachers Conference on November 3rd.
- Mr. Kolton held a Parent night for students who are interested in trade schools or job experience after high school on Nov 13.

School Activities

- During homeroom this month, students have been working on the next few social-emotional learning (SEL) lessons and videos of building expectations as well as Digital Citizenship Videos.
- Ag sales team - 1st place team at the Section 2 FFA contest & 7th place team at the District 1 FFA contest. The team was made up of Anna Carlson, Grace Althaus, Jake Dinges, and Tanner Welch.
- LTS - 13 FFA members from Amboy attended the Section 2 FFA leadership training school at SVCC in early October. The leadership event was organized by the Section 2 officers, and 3 of those officers were Emma Dinges, Natalie Pratt, and Brysen Full.
- 11 FFA members attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. 2 former graduates, Mason Ely & Lauren Althaus, received their American FFA degrees. Emma Dinges travelled to the convention with the Illinois FFA Association & represented the state FFA as one of its delegates at the national convention.



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



- Fall play, "I Only Have Fangs for You" took place on November 10th, 11th, and 12th. The cast, crew, and staff did a great job!
- Veteran's Day Celebration was held on November 10th in the High School Gym. Thank you to Mrs. Meusel for organizing the event and PE classes for helping to set-up and take down the chairs.

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
November 14th, 2023
Submitted by: Andrew Full**

Curriculum and School Improvement:

- On Monday, October 30th a faculty meeting was held and Ms. Vicks presented to the faculty FastBridge, which we are looking at to be our benchmark/progress monitoring platform.
- On Monday, November 6th a faculty meeting was held to discuss the strategic plan and state designation on IIRC.
- On Monday, November 6th faculty and staff traveled to SVCC to go over the reunification plan in case of a tragic event.
- On Wednesday, November 8th the SIP Team met with Anji Garza to discuss the following topics: strategic plan, RtI/benchmarking, SEL resources, curriculum implementation, and significant 24.
- On Tuesday, November 14th grade level teams met for two class periods during the day.

PBIS:

- On Monday, November 6th, we held our monthly PBIS celebration/assembly and the following awards were handed out:
 - o Students of the Month-
 - 5th Grade- Cozy Schoenholz and Brison Fenwick
 - 6th Grade- Vern Patterson and Caidie Phelps
 - 7th Grade- Cooper Welch and Camryn Noble
 - 8th Grade- Abbi Fox and Charlotte Patterson
 - P.E.- Kaylee Zimmerman and Mason Payne
 - o Clipper P.R.I.D.E.- Noah Lopez, Cozy Schoenholz, Levi Atkinson, Vanessa Gross, Rylen Koch, Enrique Lara Alonso, Amelia Nichols, Avery Wittenauer, Jacie Blaine, Richard Contreras, Amylia Bump, Landon Carter, Bella Daly, Brenna Fields, Abel Valdez, Charlie Schoenholz, and Pele Maxfield.

- Staff Shout-Out Winners- Brad Dunlap and Sean Shepard
- Speech Team Awards and Performance

School Activities:

- On Friday, October 27th the speech team traveled to Henry for the IESA Speech contest. Caidie Phelps and Kylee Zellhofer placed first.
- Young Authors started on Tuesday, November 7th with 10 participants and Ms. Vicks as the sponsor.
- On Friday, November 10th the district held its annual Veterans Day Program. Thank you to Mrs. Meusel for organizing this event.
- On Friday, November 10th the AJHS students attended the fall play preview.
- On Friday, November 10th and Saturday, November 11th the 7th grade boys basketball team competed in the Ladd Tournament and finished ____.
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Amboy Central Elementary School
Principal Report
Jessica Meusel
November 2023

School Activities:

- Thank you to the Amboy Fire Department and Amboy High School Impact volunteers for teaching our students about fire safety. Our students learned a lot and received information to take home and share with their parents.
- On October 25 our kindergarteners went to Tanner's Orchard for their class field trip, fun was had by all.
- On October 27 students and staff dressed up as scarecrows to celebrate our Fall Party. In the afternoon we welcomed parents to our classrooms to enjoy games and treats.
- On October 31 students who met their individual reading goal played a Candy Dice Game in their classrooms.
- On November 6 we had an all school assembly to recognize our smarties of the week, update our school reading goal, and learn about kindness. Top readers from each grade level earned the opportunity to step into a Clipper Cash wind tunnel and grab as much cash as they could carry. We even had 2 teachers participate. Everyone loved it!
- On November 10 we held our district wide Veterans Day Assembly. Special thanks to our veterans, music department, student speakers, and staff for their involvement.
- Our parent engagement committee along with the help of our Central PTC is planning a family movie night at Central School on Friday, December 1. Families are invited to come watch *The Grinch* and enjoy free cookies, popcorn, hot cocoa, and grinch punch. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the movie will begin at 6:30 p.m.

School Improvement:

- Central School staff participated in data meetings to discuss individual student progress and identify areas to target for improvement.
- On November 6 our staff attended reunification training. Central Staff also participated in a data review of our Illinois School Report Card and 5 Essentials Survey. We also discussed our district wide strategic plan and the steps involved in a trauma informed action plan.
- Central School scored a 78.45 overall score on our Illinois School Report Card which received a commendable designation. We were only **3 points away** from earning exemplary. Exemplary schools are the top 10 percent of schools in Illinois. This is AMAZING!!! Thank you to the Central School staff for their dedication and thank you to our students for their hard work.

PBIS:

- November's character trait is kindness. Mrs. Selover is visiting classrooms to present a lesson on kindness. We are having a Kindness Counts competition for the month of November. Students earn hearts when they demonstrate acts of kindness, the grade level with the most hearts will be recognized.
- On October 27 students participated in our school-wide PBIS celebration. Students rotated through Pumpkin Bowling, Halloween Jingo, Scarecrow Tag, and Sweet Treat Station. It was a well orchestrated afternoon of fun. Special thanks to our teachers and PBIS committee for organizing the event!

- B. Superintendent Reports
- C. FOIA Requests
- D. Board Policy Review
- 5. Discussion: First Reading of the Illinois Association of School Boards Policy Revisions
- 6. Action: 2023-2024 Revised High School Student Handbook
- 7. Action: Bus Purchase
- 8. Action: Amboy CUSD #272 Strategic Plan
- 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