

Moline, Illinois

## **Notice of Meeting**

Members of the Board of Education

Ladies and Gentlemen:

You are hereby notified that there will be a Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 40, at 6:00 PM, on Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Bicentennial Elementary School, 1004 First Street, Coal Valley, IL 61240.

Dr. Brian Prybil  
Secretary, Board of Education

### **AGENDA AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Board of Education  
Moline, Illinois  
Monday, March 9, 2026

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83823466615?pwd=QbKFcYqo1PAadfDRTBzNKpVfOFs3nV.1>  
Passcode:080194

#### **1. Opening of Meeting - Roll Call**

A. Approval of any Board of Education Member Participating Remotely

#### **2. Approval of Minutes**

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2026

**MOLINE-COAL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 40**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**Monday, February 9, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Board Vice-President Audrey Adamson at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2026 at Washington Elementary 1550 41st Street, Moline, IL 61265.

**The following Committee members were present:**

Audrey Adamson, Board Member

Chet DeSmet, Board Member

Todd DeTaeye, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Human Resources

Ramona Dixon, Board Member

Jason Farrell, Board Member

Vince Gallo, Chief Financial Officer

Abigail Greenlee, Student Advisory Board Member

Keith Karstens, Director of Facilities

Geoff Manis, Board Member

Varun Mekala, Student Advisory Board Member

Dr. Brian Prybil, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Rachel Savage, Superintendent of Schools

Laura Sivertsen, Board Member

Erin Terstriep, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Special Education

Leonard Young, Educational Technology User Support Specialist

**The following committee member was absent:** Lindsey Hines, Craig Reid

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Chet DeSmet, seconded by Jason Farrell, unanimously carried, that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 12, 2026 be approved as presented and placed on file.

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION**

Public comment was deferred to the regular board of education meeting.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Tara Bahnks, Principal of Washington Elementary, spoke about the implementation of several initiatives to support families, including community dinners, a toy shop, Maroons Show

Up poster contest, food and clothing pantry, along with school supplies, and ESL classes. Mrs. Bahnks also reported that the school's attendance has improved significantly, with a 93.63% rate this year compared to 91.6% in 2023. The school is also working to address chronic absenteeism through targeted interventions and outreach programs.

Ms. Melissa Gravert, Director of Educational Outreach at WQPT PBS, spoke about the ESL classes that are offered, during this time free dinner and childcare are offered by United Way and hosted by Ciara Llave, On-Site Coordinator at Washington.

Ramona Dixon, Board Member, can you explain the Tier 1 attendance incentive program. Mrs. Bahnks stated that Ciara, Washington's on-site coordinator, reaches all students with a monthly attendance reward for students meeting the attendance goal. Ciara's also has a reward program for those 25 students/families on her current caseload.

Board Member, Jason Farrell, asked when the next community dinner will be held at Washington. Mrs. Bahnks replied that March 4th will be the next dinner.

Audrey Adamson, Board Member, thanked Aria, student at Washington Elementary, for her "Toy Shop" idea and what a great way to help her fellow classmates and hopes that it is continued after she moves onto Middle School.

Laura Sivertsen, Board Member, stated that she is teaching a 5th grade Junior Achievement class at Washington and what a great class she has the pleasure of hosting.

Geoff Manis, Board Member, stated that the community dinners are an inspiration and he would like to help out at the next event.

### **DISTRICT LEADERSHIP PACE GOAL PROGRESS UPDATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT CATEGORY - DR. PRYBIL AND MRS. TERSTRIEP**

Dr. Brian Prybil, Deputy Superintendent and Mrs. Erin Terstriep, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Special Education presented on the PACE category Environment.

The district is working to improve its environment by increasing staff capacity and reducing discipline referrals. The district has implemented Capturing Kids Hearts and the Boys Town program which is in both middle schools and the district is considering expanding it to elementary schools. The district is using data and feedback to adjust its goal and program implementation based on its progress.

Ramona Dixon, Board Member, asked if these two programs; Capturing Kids Hearts and Boys Town are aligned. Dr. Prybil replied that both programs have similarities.

Prybil there are a lot of similarities. Ms. Dixon asked if these two organizations have a tool that could measure metrics. Ms. Terstriep responded that Boys Town has an implementation survey that collects data. Dr. Prybil responded that Capturing Kids Hearts does have a comparison tool. Ms. Dixon appreciates that administration gives the board the goal and formats of the programs and that the district understands its ok to be flexible and adjust the goals.

A motion was made by Geoff Manis, seconded by Laura Sivertsen, unanimously carried, that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned. Time: 6:37 p.m.

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Vice- President

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Secretary

### **3. Public Comment and Participation**

### **4. Presentation - Amended 2025-2026 School District Budget - Mr. Gallo**

### **5. Special Recognition of Kelly Beem and Luann Lindauer for being named as finalists for the 2026 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching**

### **6. School Spotlight - Franklin Elementary**

### **7. Adjournment**

#### **NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION PRACTICES**

The Moline-Coal Valley Unit School District No. 40 does not discriminate against employees, students, or the general public in its programs or practices, including vocational education, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, disability, age, marital status, pregnancy status, citizenship status, military status, unfavorable discharge from the military service, national origin or ancestry in accordance with Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Moline-Coal Valley School District prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX, including in admission and employment. Moline-Coal Valley School District's nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures can be located on the District website under Board Policy. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, any individual who is in need of assistance or reasonable accommodations to be able to participate in a school district-related activity, including the employment application or interview process, should contact the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Special Education at the District administrative offices. Any individual who wishes to file a complaint of unlawful discrimination should contact the Superintendent of Schools or the Secretary of the Board of Education at the District administrative offices, 1900 52nd Avenue, Moline, IL 61265.