

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting Convened

The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in regular session on October 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Office, Room 214, 1416 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois, in said school district.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Arns, who directed the secretary to call the roll. On the call of the roll, the following members were present and answered to their names: Members Arns, Brock, Davis, Dodd, Petty, Sethaler, and Whitfield; and the following members were absent: None. Whereupon the President declared a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

President Arns declared a moment of silence in memory of long-time educator, Chuck Radel.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Arns.

Comments from the Public

President Arns opened the meeting to questions and comments to members of the Board, by members of the public and employees of the district, in compliance with state statutes. There were none.

Bicentennial Award

Chairman Chuck Scholz of the Adams County Bicentennial Commission presented information in recognition of the county's 200th anniversary. He highlighted Adams County's long tradition of public education dating back to 1825 and shared the Commission's theme, "*Educate, Celebrate, Commemorate*." Schultz explained that the Commission developed multiple historical timelines and will distribute wooden ruler timelines and digital history materials to all K–12 students throughout the county. He thanked Quincy Public Schools for its role in shaping generations of students and noted additional bicentennial resources, including a republished history book, an educational video, and local schoolhouse tours. The Commission presented the district with a certificate in honor of QPS's long-standing contributions to education in Adams County.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Member Davis and seconded by Member Sethaler to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Treasurer’s Report – September 2025*
- b. Minutes –September 24, 2025 and October 8, 2025*
- c. Check Register and JH/SH Activity Fund Reports*
- d. Acknowledge receipt of the Freedom of Information Log: September 20 through October 17, 2025 (Information Only)*

On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Arns, Brock, Davis, Dodd, Petty, Sethaler, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: None. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Reports of the Superintendent

Community Engagement Workshops

Our community engagement process continues this week as our Facilitating Team meets to prepare a series of workshops for the public. These sessions will provide an overview of where we are as a district and give Quincy residents the opportunity to share their ideas for the future of QPS. Our goal is to ensure every community member who wishes to participate has a chance to be heard.

OPENGATE Safety and Security Enhancements

The phased rollout of the additional safety software and monitoring systems will begin soon. The next installations will take place at the QHS bus entrance and QAVTC, followed by QJHS and elementary buildings. We hope to have the majority of these features up and running next week. A preschool background-check process is also being added.

QHS Theatre Update

You may recall the mold issue at the QHS Theatre at the start of the school year. It was recently confirmed that the compressor failures were caused by a lightning strike, which contributed to humidity issues and mold in certain areas. Our mechanical contractor is preparing documentation to submit to insurance, and we are hopeful that some of the remediation costs will be reimbursed.

Superintendent Search Input

The Superintendent Search Survey remains open through **October 28**. The QR code and survey link are available on the QPS website under “Superintendent Search.”

From the Superintendent

Dr. Lee shared that he has been meeting with a variety of community groups and leaders to discuss district priorities, including staffing, compensation, and long-term goals for QPS. These conversations have been positive and reflect strong community interest in moving the district forward together. The Superintendent noted that community feedback has been very positive and that there is strong momentum for continued improvement.

Compensation comparisons for teachers and administrators and how Quincy’s current pay structure affects the district’s ability to recruit and retain talent. In addition, statewide data shows that superintendent turnover is high, particularly in large unit districts, with approximately 80% of LUDA districts currently in transition or expected to be soon. Comparisons also indicate that Quincy’s superintendent compensation and contract days fall below many peer districts, which can

impact recruitment efforts. The Superintendent emphasized the importance of remaining competitive in order to attract a strong leader who will stay and guide the district forward. as we continue the formal search for our next superintendent; it is important to remain competitive in the current hiring climate to attract and retain strong leadership.

Building Committee

The Building Committee did not meet.

District Improvement Committee

The District Improvement Committee did not meet.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee was provided the monthly financial update, which noted that the district is 25% through the fiscal year and Education Fund expenditures are at 23.38% of the tentative budget through September 2025. Transportation and Tort Fund expenditures are higher at 45.23% and 53.03%, respectively, due to annual bus lease and insurance payments made in July. He reported that cash flow projections remain strong, with no concerns at this time.

Discipline Committee

The Discipline Committee did not meet.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet.

Executive Session

At 6:25 p.m., it was moved by Member Sethaler and seconded by Member Arns that the Board suspend the rules and go into executive session to discuss a) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District; b) collective negotiating matters between the School District and its employees or their representatives; g) student disciplinary cases; j) attorney/client privilege; and k) approval of certain closed session minutes for distribution to the public; or other matters appropriate for a closed meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Arns, Brock, Davis, Dodd, Petty, Sethaler, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: None. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Resumption of Rules

It was moved by Member Whitfield and seconded by Member Brock to resume the conduct of the regular meeting under rules. All in favor. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Student Discipline

It was moved by Member Brock and seconded by Member Arns to adopt the recommendation regarding pre-expulsion agreements for two QJHS students, and two students from The Academy, and the expulsion of one QJHS student and one student from The Academy. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Arns, Brock, Davis, Petty, Sethaler, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following member was absent: Member Dodd. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Student Discipline

It was moved by Member Sethaler and seconded by Member Arns to adopt the recommendation regarding the expulsion of one QJHS student. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Arns, Davis, Petty, Sethaler, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following member Abstained: Member Brock; and the following members were absent: Member Dodd. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Personnel Addendum

It was moved by Member Arns and seconded by Member Davis to approve the Personnel Addendum. All in favor. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

<div> PERSONNEL ADDENDUM QUINCY BOARD OF EDUCATION OCTOBER 22, 2025 </div> <div> PERSONNEL CODES \$\$ - New operating Fund Position (increase in FTE) B - Paid for by Booster Clubs C - Change in classification or position O - Other P - New Project Fund position PR - Replacement for Project Fund position R - Replacement for vacant Operating Fund Position S - Summer School </div>				
CERTIFIED				
APPOINTMENT				
1	PR	VONDA JACOBY – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
2	PR	ANDY NELSON – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
3	PR	JULIE LITTLE – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
4	PR	TARA KLUSMEYER – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
5	PR	WENDY VENVERTLOH – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
6	PR	MAISHA WADE – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
7	PR	SHARLA HEIGHTMAN – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
8	PR	AMANDA CRAMSEY – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
9	PR	BRENDA STALDER – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
10	PR	STEPHANIE LOOS – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT

11	PR	KELLEY LAWSON – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
12	PR	CAMILLE DONALDSON – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
13	PR	GREG WELLMAN – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
14	PR	CHRISTIAN MEYER – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, UP TO 4.5 HOURS/WK, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
15	PR	DANA LUDWIG – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – EXCEL CREDIT RECOVERY/OPEN LEARNING	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
16	PR	BRIAN MCINTYRE – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – EXCEL CREDIT RECOVERY/OPEN LEARNING	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
17	PR	ALEX EGGERT – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – EXCEL CREDIT RECOVERY/OPEN LEARNING	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
18	PR	KAYLA EPLEY – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – CLUB SPONSOR	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
19	PR	MADISON MEYER – QHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – CLUB SPONSOR	10/20/2025	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
20	PR	HAYLEY WOMACK - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
21	PR	STEPHANIE JOHNSON - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
22	PR	EMMA CUNNINGHAM - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
23	PR	MATTHEW ETZLER - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
24	PR	KIMBERLY HEILWAGEN - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
25	PR	MICHELLE GRIFFITH SCHEUERMANN - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
26	PR	EMILY BRANSTAD - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
27	PR	MICHEL ARMSTRONG-LEWTON - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
28	PR	LAUREN WITHIEM - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
29	PR	KATHRYN CUNNINGHAM - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
30	PR	EMILY STONE - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
31	PR	MADELYN ALBERS - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
32	PR	TERESA MCDOWELL - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
33	PR	GERALD DINCHER - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
34	PR	NICOLE BALE - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
35	PR	MARK BRASSFIELD - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
36	PR	ANDREA HEIDEN - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
37	PR	HEATHER LAIR - QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM	25-26 SCH YR	TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT
RESIGNATIONS (NONE)				
LEAVE OF ABSENCE				
38		TONI SMITH – TEACHER – QJHS		09/12/2025 – 10/17/2025
39		BRENDA CAWTHON – NURSE – ILES	UPDATE	09/11/2025 – 09/19/2025 (5.5 DAYS)

40		SHEILA BENZ – NURSE – DENMAN		INTERMITTENT, 08/28/2025 – END OF 25-26 SCH YR
41		CLARE SMITH – TEACHER - QJHS		12/10/2025 – 01/06/2026
42		JAMES COTTRELL – TEACHER – QJHS		10/02/2025 – 10/20/2025
43		SARAH SCHUCKMAN – TEACHER – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS		10/06/2025 – 11/17/2025
44		DANIEL LEFFLER – TEACHER – QHS		08/28/2025 – 01/05/2026
RETIREMENTS (NONE)				
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT				
CLASSIFIED				
APPOINTMENT				
45	R	LEIGHA RINEY – PARA – QJHS	09/25/2025	181 DAY, LEVEL C, STEP 0, \$17.00/HR
46	R	ANNA KAMMERER – BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE ASST.– ROONEY	10/14/2025	177 DAY, TIMESHEET, UP TO 17.5 HRS/WK, \$17.00/HR
47	R	SHANDON ALLEN - HEAD 7TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH – QJHS	25-26 SCH YR	STEP 0, 8.81%, \$3,110.72 STIPEND
48	R	ERIN HEDGES - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ASSISTANT – BOE	10/06/2025	TIMESHEET, PART-TIME UP TO 19.5 HRS/WK, \$20.00/HR
49	R	JENNIFER BAHENA – PARA – ECFC	10/06/2025	181 DAY, LEVEL A, STEP 1, \$16.55/HR
50	C/R	KARRIE CRAMSEY – AM/PM DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION	10/06/2025	176 DAY, STEP 0, 5 HRS/DAY, \$20.50/HR
51	C/R	CARTER MALLORY – AM/PM DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION	10/08/2025	176 DAY, STEP 0, 5 HRS/DAY, \$20.50/HR
52	R	STACY HARRIS - CAFETERIA COOK – QHS	10/14/2025	173 DAY, STEP 0, 6.5 HRS/DAY, \$16.05/HR
53	R	LISA STEHL - CAFETERIA COOK – QHS	10/20/2025	173 DAY, STEP 0, 6.5 HRS/DAY, \$16.05/HR
54	R	FRANK KAHS - NIGHT CUSTODIAN – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS	10/20/2025	260 DAY, STEP 0, \$23,240.40 (181 DAYS)
55	R	KATHLEEN HELSABECK – PARA – ECFC	10/20/2025	181 DAY, LEVEL C, STEP 0, \$17.00/HR
RESIGNATIONS				
56		CHRIS SMITH - RIDER – TRANSPORTATION	09/22/2025	WILL CONTINUE TO SUB
57		ROBERT (JASON) JOHANNESSEN – ASST. VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL COACH – QHS	08/01/2025	
58		RUBY CLARK – COOK – ECFC	10/14/2025	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE				
59		ANDREA JACKSON – PARA – ECFC		10/01/2025 – 11/13/2025
60		JUSTIN TRAMMEL – CUSTODIAN – QJHS	UPDATE	09/08/2025 – 09/29/2025
61		TERRI MORRIS – TRANSPORTATION	UPDATE	10/16/2025 – 10/30/2025
62		RUTH ROYSTON – CUSTODIAN – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS		11/12/2025 – 01/02/2026
63		SERA JARVIS – TEACHER – ROONEY		10/22/2025 – 11/09/2025
64		TIMOTHY ANDERS – CUSTODIAN – ILES		10/06/2025 – 10/20/2025
65		TERESA KLINGELE – CUSTODIAN – BOE	UPDATE	09/02/2025 – 11/06/2025
RETIREMENTS				
66		SCOTT MOORE – BUILDING MANAGER - ECFC	11/02/2026	REQUESTING RETIREMENT INCENTIVE/APPROVED

Executive Session Minutes

It was moved by Member Sethaler and seconded by Member Arns to approve the Resolution Authorizing Executive Session Minutes for Public Release from May 19, 2025 through October 8, 2025 and Authorizing Destruction of Records Closed Session more than Eighteen Months Prior to October 8, 2025 (Doc. Reg. No. 3989). All in favor. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

At 8:19 p.m., it was moved by Member Arns that the regular meeting adjourn. The motion carried with all in favor and the regular meeting was duly adjourned.

/s/ Shelley Arns
President

/s/ Kim Wert
Secretary