

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting Convened

The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in regular session on October 27, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Quincy Senior High School, Cafeteria, 3322 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois, in said school district.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Ali, 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 Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

President Ali declared a moment of silence and reflection.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Ali.

Questions and Comments

President Ali 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.

Renee Mitchell questioned why the board doesn't engage with speakers in open session. She also spoke out against masking and believes if masks are required in school, schools should be providing them.

Jennifer Bock-Nelson expressed her concern about the high dropout rate after reading the United Way of Adams County Community Needs Assessment. She pointed out that in almost every category, Adams County is higher than the Illinois average and what is especially disconcerting was the 17% dropout rate of our black students compared to 6% overall in Illinois. Jennifer said she was glad that QHS realized the online academy was working for some students and that they decided to continue it this year. She is hopeful the school district and community can address some of these discrepancies and dropout rates.

Gary Wallace spoke out against critical race theory. He stated he has been bringing some awareness to the community and plans to continue to keep people informed.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Treasurer's Report – September 2021*
- b. Minutes –September 22, 2021*
- c. Check Register and JH/SH Activity Fund Reports*
- d. Acknowledge receipt of the Freedom of Information Log: September 19 through October 22, 2021 (Information Only)*

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

Reports of the Superintendent

We wrapped up our first quarter with conference champs in golf, cross country, boys and girls in both, and soccer. Marching band had an amazing season and a lot of those students along with our community are looking forward to the musical coming up. With parent teacher conference week, it's another stressful time for teachers as many of them work through the evenings so they can get their parent teacher conferences in. An invitation is extended to all community members that committee meetings are always open and offer an opportunity for open dialogue and a voice in education.

Building Committee

The Building Committee did not meet.

District Improvement Committee-New Members

It was moved by Member Arns and seconded by Member Whitfield to approve the following members to be added to the District Improvement Committee: Sheldon Bailey, Emily Pool, Janet Silas, and Dennis Williams. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee did not meet; however, Ryan Whicker, Chief of Business Operations, shared information regarding six inactive bank accounts. Mr. Whicker recommended closing these inactive bank accounts. The result of closing these accounts will result in revenue or a balance already included in the education fund.

It was moved by Member Nichols and seconded by Member Whitfield to close the six inactive bank accounts. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Human Relations Committee

The Human Relations Committee meeting minutes from September 29, 2021 were shared.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet; however, Mr. Whitfield, chair of Policy Committee, shared that the district's diversity and inclusion team has proposed a hate speech and action policy to address ongoing concerns of keeping hate speech out of the classroom. This proposed policy will go through the Policy Committee at the next Policy Committee meeting.

Contract, Software License and Hosting Agreement with Transfinder

It was moved by Member Ali and seconded by Member Whitfield to approve the contract, software license and hosting agreement with Transfinder (Doc. Reg. No. 3716). On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Workers' Compensation Settlement

It was moved by Member Ali and seconded by Member Petty to approve the Workers' Compensation Settlement at a cost not to exceed \$158,776.86. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following member Abstained: Member Arns; and the following member were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Executive Session

At 6:46 p.m., it was moved by Member Arns and seconded by Member Petty 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, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; g) student disciplinary cases; h) the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; i) pending, probable, or imminent litigation; j) attorney/client privilege; 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 Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Resumption of Rules

It was moved by Member Arns and seconded by Member Nichols to resume the conduct of the regular meeting under rules. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Student Discipline

It was moved by Member Nichols and seconded by Member Petty to adopt the recommendation regarding pre-expulsion agreements for four QJHS students and two QHS students. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Personnel Addendum

It was moved by Member Whitfield and seconded by Member Arns to approve the Personnel Addendum. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

At 7:28 p.m., it was moved by Member Petty and seconded by Member Arns that the regular meeting adjourn. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Ali, Arns, Nichols, Petty, and Whitfield; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Member Brock and Member McNay. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

/s/ Sayeed Ali
President

/s/ Kim Wert
Secretary