

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting Convened

The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in regular session on November 19, 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, and Sethaler; and the following member was absent: Member Whitfield. Whereupon the President declared a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

President Arns declared a moment of silence and reflection.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Arns.

IHSA State Qualifiers Recognition

QHS Athletics recognized several fall athletes who qualified for IHSA state competition, with Kris Klingele noting that reaching the state level reflects exceptional dedication and performance. Girls Tennis state qualifiers were Anika Reddy and Alex Hamby, coached by Mike Terry with assistants Rob Hernandez and Brian Holzgrafe. Girls Cross Country state qualifier Peyton Kuhl was recognized as well, coached by Laura McClelland with assistants Matt McClelland and Ryan Kappner.

Comments from the Public

President Arns opened the meeting to questions and comments to members of the Board, by members of the public.

Gabrielle Esselman (Bella Ease)

Gabrielle provided an update on student participation at Bella Ease across QHS, QJHS, and the Academy. The program is currently serving 19 students, including three enrolled in the GED program with another expected to begin in December. Bella Ease is also working with seven expelled students, with two additional students likely to start soon. Estimé highlighted strong peer connections forming within the group, helping students avoid social isolation and build positive friendships before returning to their home schools. Bella Ease is also supporting five distance-learning students who remain enrolled in QPS and are completing coursework through Edgenuity due to chronic truancy, with the goal of helping them return to school and graduate on time.

Attendance of Board Member Whitfield Telephonically

Member Whitfield joined the Board Meeting telephonically due to a work-related commitment, with all Board members in agreement.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Treasurer's Report October 2025*
- b. Minutes – October 22, 2025 and November 3, 2025*
- c. Check Register and JH/SH Activity Fund Reports*
- d. Acknowledge receipt of the Freedom of Information Log: October 18 – November 14, 2025 (Information Only)*
- e. QHS Music Students ILMEA All-State Convention Travel to Peoria 1/28/26-1/31/26*

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

Superintendent Dr. Lee reported that the OpenGate security system is operating effectively and that his recent visit to Iles, even with the added excitement of roller-skating and pajama day, went smoothly. He recognized Security Guards Tim Waterkotte and Anthony Oliver for their outstanding work and emphasized the vital role support staff play in fostering positive student connections. Dr. Lee continues to meet with community and faith leaders to increase awareness of QPS's financial challenges and ongoing teacher shortages, noting that the district remains significantly underfunded. These outreach efforts will continue as the district works to broaden understanding and support.

Staffing, Recruitment & Retention Update Director of Personnel, Lisa Otten reported that QPS still has nearly 30 teaching vacancies across multiple buildings, which continue to strain student learning, staff workload, and overall morale. Despite hiring more than 60 non-certified teachers through the Competency-Based Education Waiver in recent years, shortages persist, worsened by low starting salaries, mid-year resignations, and a drastic decline in qualified applicants. Some candidates withdraw because they cannot afford to live on teacher pay, leaving QPS to rely on long-term substitutes, class consolidation, purchasing planning periods, and limited online instruction to keep classrooms staffed. Recruitment efforts include teacher residency programs, partnerships with over 30 universities, hosting student teachers, early recruitment, even at the high school level, and collaboration with Golden Apple. Otten emphasized that attracting and retaining high-quality teachers must be a community priority if QPS wants to ensure strong learning outcomes for students.

Curriculum & Instruction Adjustments Director of Teaching and Learning, Kim Dinkheller outlined the district's instructional support plan for junior high geometry. Students are receiving instruction from a certified Illinois math teacher through Edgenuity, supported daily by a trained long-term substitute in the classroom. Additional measures include virtual tutoring, progress monitoring, adjustments for athletic eligibility, and ongoing parent communication. To further

strengthen learning, QPS is upgrading Chromebooks, using high school math-strong students as tutors, offering small-group review sessions, and improving the classroom setup. Dinkheller emphasized that while in-person instruction is always preferred, the district's priority is ensuring continuous learning and strong academic support.

Community Engagement Update Anna Oakley reported continued momentum in the Quincy Forward community engagement process. The committee is preparing for the first public workshop on Tuesday, January 27, to be held at QHS, with a target attendance of 100–200 community members. The session will include presentations on district needs and constraints, followed by community feedback. A rehearsal is planned in early January. Anna noted the group is gaining focus and energy, and the process is progressing well.

Building Committee

The Building Committee did not meet in November.

District Improvement Committee

Chairperson Arns reported that the District Improvement Committee reviewed the 2024–2025 Illinois School Report Card, which is publicly available on the ISBE website. The committee examined key indicators such as attendance, mobility, academic growth, and academic proficiency. Arns noted that ISBE made several updates to the report card this year and provides helpful explanatory videos and resources for families.

Finance Committee

Chief of Business Operations Whicker reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the levy and completed the annual bus bid process, recommending the purchase of 29 Thomas Built buses from Midwest Bus Sales after mechanics and drivers confirmed the quality of the low bid. The committee declined the bid for one 21-passenger wheelchair bus but recommended proceeding with a five-year lease for the remaining buses at an annual cost of \$665,864.80. Whicker also shared early levy estimates indicating a potential 7–8% EAV increase, noted the need for a Truth-in-Taxation hearing due to projected collections exceeding 105% of the prior year, and previewed upcoming bond refunding and public safety bond considerations expected to keep the tax rate near last year's 3.87.

Discipline Committee

The Discipline Committee did not meet in November.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet in November.

Resolution Regarding Estimated Amount Necessary to be Levied and Set Public Hearing

It was moved by Member Sethaler and seconded by Member Davis to adopt the Resolution Regarding Estimated Amount Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2025, set public hearing for December 17, 2025; and direct compliance with the Truth in Taxation law as necessary (Doc. Reg. No. 3993). 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.

IASB Delegate Resolutions

Member Petty shared the resolutions to be acted upon at the annual meeting of the IASB Delegate Assembly on Saturday, November 22, 2025. Member Petty was nominated to be the voting delegate for Quincy Public Schools Board, and she reviewed the proposed amendments to the Illinois Association of School Boards Constitution, noting that they primarily include minor updates related to nominations, membership, and aligning terms of office to two-year cycles. All amendments have been recommended for adoption by the IASB Resolutions Committee. In addition to the constitutional amendments, one new resolution will be considered at Saturday's Delegate Assembly. The resolution responds to Public Act 104-0010 (formerly SB191), which requires all newly purchased school buses to include three-point safety belts beginning July 1, 2031. Because the law is an unfunded mandate with potentially significant financial impacts on districts, the proposed resolution asks the legislature to provide funding options, extend compliance timelines, and allow for alternative approaches. The IASB Resolutions Committee has recommended adoption. ***A motion was made by Member Arns and seconded by Member Davis to direct delegate votes at the delegate assembly as follows: I move that Rachael Petty be granted the authority to vote on the IASB resolutions at the 2025 IASB Delegate Assembly with her independent discretion based on the consensus of the Quincy #172 School Board on 11/21/25 and any discussions had on each resolution at the 2025 IASB Delegate Assembly.*** 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.

PaCE Framework

Director of Teaching & Learning Kim Dinkheller provided an overview of the PaCE (Postsecondary and Career Expectations) Framework for middle and high school students. The framework outlines grade-level opportunities for students to explore careers, college pathways, and postsecondary planning, and was developed collaboratively by ISBE, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and the Illinois Community College Board. It is designed to ensure students begin career and college readiness activities as early as 6th grade, rather than waiting until they are earning high school credits. The framework also serves as a guide for parents and educators. The district will make the document accessible on the website under Teaching and Learning.

It was moved by Member Petty and seconded by Member Dodd to approve the PaCE Framework (Doc. Reg. No. 3994). 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.

Bus Bids

It was moved by Member Arns and seconded by Member Dodd to approve the Bus Bid for 29 buses to Midwest Bus Sales for an annual payment of \$665,864.80 over a five-year lease cycle (Doc. Reg. No. 3995). 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.

HLS Amendment for ECFC Roof and HVAC

Chief of Business Operations Whicker explained that the survey items presented reflect facility issues that have emerged over the past several years, including recurring leaks, staging concerns, and HVAC failures that have required temporary fixes. Because the maintenance budget cannot support major replacements, projects must be eligible for health and safety funds, which require documented urgency. Approval from the Board allows the architect to begin preparing estimates and justification for submission to ISBE. Once ISBE grants final approval, the district may use the appropriate funds. A full schedule for these projects will be developed as part of next month's building and grounds review and the upcoming bond discussion outlining projected needs over the next three years. ***It was moved by Member Dodd and seconded by Member Sethaler to approve the HLS Amendment for ECFC Roof and HVAC.*** 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.

HLS Amendment for QHS Building B,F, G, and H HVAC and Electrical Upgrade

The Board reviewed a Health/Life/Safety amendment for HVAC and electrical upgrades in QHS Buildings B, F, G, and H. The district will also continue improvements in Building E, including refreshed drop ceilings, LED lighting, and replacing the old Daikin system with the district's standard hot-water reheat HVAC system, which has been highly effective elsewhere. This step only seeks approval to proceed; no work will begin until the amendment is officially approved, allowing the district to sell approximately \$560,000 in bonds to fund the project. ***It was moved by Member Sethaler and seconded by Member Dodd to approve the HLS Amendment for QHS Building B, F, G, and H HVAC and Electrical Upgrade.*** 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.

Executive Session

At 6:50 p.m., it was moved by Member Brock 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; g) student disciplinary cases; 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 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.

Exit of Member Sethaler and Member Whitfield

Member Sethaler and Member Whitfield exited the board meeting at 6:51 p.m. which was duly noted by the board secretary.

Resumption of Rules

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

Personnel Addendum

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

| PERSONNEL ADDENDUM | | | | |
|--|------|---|-------------------------|---|
| QUINCY BOARD OF EDUCATION | | | | |
| NOVEMBER 19, 2025 | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| CERTIFIED | | | | |
| APPOINTMENT | | | | |
| 1 | PR | JESSICA LOOS – QHS EXCEL AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM | 10/29/2025 | TIMESHEET, 4.5 HRS/WK, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT |
| 2 | PR | MICHELLE WITTLER – QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM | 10/28/2025 | TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT |
| 3 | PR | ADAM WEIMAN – QJHS COMET CONNECTIONS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM | 10/28/2025 | TIMESHEET, \$30/HR, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT |
| 4 | R | LANTY MCGUIRE – SUPERINTENDENT | 01/05/2026 – 06/20/2026 | \$909.00/DAY (88 DAYS) |
| 5 | PR | ERIN HENKENMEIER - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ILES | 11/10/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 6 | PR | CHRISTINA BURTON - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ILES | 11/10/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 7 | PR | HOLLIE SHOWALTER - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ILES | 11/10/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 8 | PR | SASHA TURNER - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ILES | 11/10/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 9 | PR | HEATHER HUMPHREY - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ROONEY | 11/18/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 10 | PR | PAIGE SNYDER - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ROONEY | 11/18/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 11 | PR | CHANDRA CRAWFORD - TITLE 1 EXTENDED DAY TEACHERS – ROONEY | 11/18/2025 | TIMESHEET, 1 HR/DAY, \$30.00/HR, TITLE I ESSA GRANT |
| 12 | \$\$ | RANDA KORB – CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR - QAVTC | 11/14/2025 | PART TIME, TIMESHEET, \$30.00/HR, \$20.00/HR FOR TRAINING |
| 13 | \$\$ | AMY FISCHER – CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR - QAVTC | 11/19/2025 | PART TIME, TIMESHEET, \$30.00/HR, \$20.00/HR FOR TRAINING |
| RESIGNATIONS | | | | |
| 14 | | CHRISTOPHER HELSABECK – MS MATH TEACHER – QJHS | 10/31/2025 | |
| 15 | | ELIZABETH ALONZO – 5 TH GRADE CO-TEACHER – DENMAN | 11/17/2025 | |
| 16 | | HILLARY MARKS – 2 ND GRADE TEACHER – ROONEY | 11/06/2025 | |
| LEAVE OF ABSENCE | | | | |

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| 17 | | JAMES COTTRELL – TEACHER – QJHS | UPDATE | 10/02/2025 – 10/29/2025 |
| 18 | | TONI SMITH – TEACHER – QJHS | UPDATE | 09/12/2025 – 10/30/2025 |
| 19 | | MICHELLE STOUT – ACADEMIC LEADER – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS | | 11/27/2025 – 02/19/2026 |
| 20 | | CHAD STRUCK – COUNSELOR – QHS | | 11/03/2025 – 11/16/2025 |
| 21 | | LINDSAY STRUCK – TEACHER – BALDWIN | | 11/03/2025 – 11/16/2025 |
| 22 | | SARAH MILLER – TEACHER – ROONEY | UPDATE | 08/11/2025 – 02/16/2026 |
| 23 | | SARA DEVINE– TEACHER – BALDWIN | | 01/26/2026 – 03/30/2026 |
| 24 | | BETHANY OTTE – TEACHER – QHS | | 12/18/2025 – 02/17/2026 |
| 25 | | KAILEY RECKERS – TEACHER – DENMAN | UPDATE | 09/15/2025 – 12/01/2025 |
| 26 | | SERA JARVIS – TEACHER – ROONEY | UPDATE | 10/22/2025 – 11/10/2025 |
| 27 | | JESSICA THORSEN – TEACHER – ILES | | 12/01/2025 – 12/19/2025 |
| RETIREMENTS | | | | |
| 28 | | PAUL SHELOR - MUSIC TEACHER – QHS | END OF 25-26 SCH YR | |
| EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT | | | | |
| CLASSIFIED | | | | |
| APPOINTMENT | | | | |
| 29 | C/R | HEATHER MASON – PARA – ROONEY | 10/20/2025 | 181 DAYS, LEVEL A, STEP 0, \$16.20/HR |
| 30 | O | JACOB HOLLENSTEINER - ASST. VOLUNTEER TRACK AND FIELD JUMPS COACH – QHS | 10/20/2025 | VOLUNTEER COACH |
| 31 | R | OLIVIA WILLIAMS – PARA – ECFC | 10/27/2025 | 181 DAYS, LEVEL A, STEP 0, \$16.20/HR |
| 32 | C | RUTH ROSENKRANS – PT – ILES | 10/30/2025 | NO CHANGE IN SALARY, LOCATION CHANGE ONLY |
| 33 | C/R | MARY BROCKSIECK – PM DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION | 10/20/25 | 176 DAY, STEP 0, 12.5 HRS/WK, \$16.05/HR |
| 34 | C/R | RONALD MANLEY – DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION | 10/28/2025 | 176 DAY, STEP 0, 25 HRS/WK, \$20.50/HR |
| 35 | O | PAUL MOODY- ASST. VOLUNTEER WRESTLING COACH – QHS | 11/06/2025 | VOLUNTEER COACH |
| 36 | R | VICKIE SIMPSON – PARA – QJHS | 11/07/2025 | 181 DAY, LEVEL C, STEP 0, \$17.00/HR |
| 37 | \$\$ | JENNIFER MARTIN – PARA – BALDWIN | 11/07/2025 | 181 DAY, LEVEL A, STEP 9, \$17.05/HR |
| 38 | C/R | LINDSI BIAS – SSFL – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS | 11/17/2025 | 181 DAY, STUDENT SUPPORT LEVEL A, STEP 0, \$27.00/HR |
| RESIGNATIONS | | | | |
| 39 | | ANGELA BLANCHARD – SSFL – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS | 10/31/2025 | |
| 40 | | DAWN PATTON – DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION | 10/17/2025 | |
| 41 | | ANDREA JACKSON – PARA – ECFC | 11/07/2025 | |
| 42 | | LISA SEABOLD – SECRETARY – ILES | 12/19/2025 | |
| 43 | | TAYLOR VANDERMAIDEN – PARA – ECFC | 10/30/2025 | |
| 44 | | KINDELL WEBSTER – SECRETARY – QHS | 11/07/2025 | |
| 45 | | BEN HUFF – MECHANIC – TRANSPORTATION | 11/11/2025 | |
| 46 | | ANNE STRODE – TRANSPORTATION | 12/19/2025 | |
| 47 | | HANNAH NAUERT – CLASSIFIED NURSE – BALDWIN | 12/19/2025 | WILL REMAIN AS SUB NURSE |
| LEAVE OF ABSENCE | | | | |
| 48 | | KIM SHAFFER – PARA – ECFC | | 10/06/2025 – 10/20/2025 |
| 49 | | TAELOR SHEETS – PARA – ROONEY | | 12/11/2025 – 01/26/2026 |
| 50 | | TIMOTHY ANDERS – CUSTODIAN – ILES | UPDATE | 10/06/2025 – 11/03/2025 |
| 51 | | SHARON HUMPHREY – PARA – QHS | | 10/22/2025 – 05/29/2026 |
| 52 | | BRUCE EWING – CUSTODIAN - LINCOLN-DOUGLAS | UPDATE | 10/07/2025 – 11/17/2025 |
| 53 | | JOHANNA SHAW – DRIVER – TRANSPORTATION | | 10/20/2025 – 12/01/2025 |
| 54 | | ANDREA JACKSON – PARA – ECFC | UPDATE | 10/01/2025 – 10/28/2025 |
| 55 | | DEREK O'BRIEN – PARA – ILES | | 10/27/2025 – 12/01/2025 |
| 56 | | TERESA THOMPSON – FOOD SERVICE – QJHS | UPDATE | 08/12/2025 – 11/15/2025 |
| 57 | | NANCY WELLS – FOOD SERVICE – DENMAN | | 11/20/2025 – 02/25/2026 |
| 58 | | TERRI MORRIS – TRANSPORTATION | UPDATE | 10/16/2025 – 10/31/2025 |
| 59 | | SHARON LABROO – PARA – BOE | UPDATE | 10/08/2025 – 11/05/2025 |
| 60 | | LORI TEEL – STUDENT SUPPORT– QHS | | 12/09/2025 – 01/23/2026 |
| 61 | | SARAH SCHUCKMAN – PARA – LINCOLN-DOUGLAS | UPDATE | 10/06/2025 – 11/04/2025 |
| 62 | | VICKEY HAXEL – PARA – ILES | UPDATE | 08/11/2025 – 12/08/2025 |
| 63 | | TONI SMITH – TEACHER – QJHS | UPDATE | 09/12/2025 – 10/27/2025 (WITH RESTRICTIONS) |
| 64 | | RICHARD BLIVEN – TRANSPORTATION | | 10/22/2025 – 12/03/2025 |
| RETIREMENTS | | | | |
| 65 | | TERESA (TERRY) SPENCER – CAFETERIA COORDINATOR – QJHS | | 12/18/2026 |

Adjournment

At 8:13 p.m., it was moved by Member Petty and seconded 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