

Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 16, 2026 6:00 PM Central

Richland County High School
1200 E. Laurel St.
Olney, IL 62450

The meeting was open to the public and viewable via live stream at <http://live.rccu1.net>

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – The regular meeting of the Richland County Board of Education was called to order by President Scott Snyder at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2026.

II. Roll Call

Dennis Anderson:	Present
Jake Anderson:	Absent
Cindy Bailey:	Present
Dusty Kocher:	Present
Cindy Lockley:	Present
Scott Snyder:	Present
Jeff Wilson:	Absent

Present: 5, Absent: 2.

III. Recognition and Comments from Employees and Public

III.A. The board recognized the RCHS Softball Team as the 2026 Regional Champions.

Matt Zuber, community member, spoke to the board on his continued concern of project costs and the need to use an independent reviewer for projects.

IV. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented - Policy 5:310 Compensatory Time-Off is for First Reading and Consideration (not Adoption). This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

IV.A. * Minutes of Previous Meetings

IV.A.1. * Regular and Closed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Thursday, June 25, 2026.

IV.B. * Closed Minutes

IV.B.1. * Approve Destruction of Audio Recordings of December 19, 2024

IV.C. * Communication

IV.C.1. * Thank You Note from Chuck Snyder

IV.D. * June FOIA Log – Document Registry 26-07-01

There were nine FOIA requests for the month of June. Six of the requests were from The Data Branch requesting service agreements/orders/purchase orders relating to a variety of vendors. One from Upgraid RE requesting utility statements/invoices for a 12month period. One from Judiciocracy requesting FOIA Compliance Documentation and one from SmartProcure requesting current staff contact information.

IV.E. * Approve Fundraisers – Fundraiser Requests submitted by Administrators.**IV.F. * Policy for Second Reading and Adoption – Document Registry 26-07-02****IV.F.1. * 2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure****IV.G. * Policy for First Reading and Adoption Consideration – Document Registry 26-07-03****IV.G.1. * 5:310 Compensatory Time-Off (Removal)****V. Financial Reports**

Motion to approve financial reports as presented. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Bailey, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

V.A. Treasurer's Report – The monthly treasurer's report was presented.**V.B. Balance Sheet – The monthly balance sheet was presented.****V.C. Approval of Bills and Payroll – The monthly bill listing to date in the amount of \$2,428,533.97 was presented for payment.****V.D. All Other Financial Reports****V.D.1. Comparison of Funds - June 2025 to June 2026****V.D.2. Monthly Financial Report – The monthly financial report was presented.****V.D.3. Financial Update/Review – Mr. Rusk reviewed the financial reports.****VI. Administrative Reports****VI.A. Superintendent's Report**

VI.A.1. Online Registration and Start of 2026-2027 School Year – Online registration began on July 13 and will run through July 20. Walk-in registration was supposed to be today from 10am-6pm but due to a Skyward outage, guardians were unable to register students today.

The board member training scheduled for July 15 was cancelled due to schedule conflicts.

Mr. Kocher brought up classroom teacher wish lists. He stated he was in favor of wish lists as long as they already have needed items. Mr. Fox said the district purchases all needs for the classrooms. Mr. Kocher would like to see a poll from the teachers regarding their needs and wants for the classroom. The board also expressed concerns about the school supply lists.

VI.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

VI.B.1. FY26 Budget Update – Mr. Rusk presented FY26 Budget Summary and current project payments.

FY26 Original Budget					
Fund	Fund Balance July 1, 2025	FY26 Revenue	FY26 Expenditures	Fund Balance July 1, 2026	Difference
10-Education*	\$25,768,189.00	\$26,830,026.00	\$27,489,927.00	\$25,108,288.00	-\$659,901.00
20-Operations & Maintenance**	\$2,997,941.00	\$1,902,000.00	\$1,874,959.00	\$3,024,982.00	\$27,041.00
30-Debt Service	\$257,114.00	\$2,871,769.00	\$2,831,140.00	\$297,743.00	\$40,629.00
40-Transportation***	\$953,209.00	\$1,552,700.00	\$1,544,989.00	\$960,920.00	\$7,711.00
50-IMRF/SS	\$806,282.00	\$1,083,050.00	\$1,081,989.00	\$807,343.00	\$1,061.00
60-Capital Projects****	\$1,029,516.00	\$865,000.00	\$840,000.00	\$1,054,516.00	\$25,000.00
70-Working Cash	\$1,410,650.00	\$217,170.00	\$0.00	\$1,627,820.00	\$217,170.00
80-Tort Immunity	\$13,753.00	\$1,728,400.00	\$1,727,679.00	\$14,474.00	\$721.00
90-Fire Prevention & Safety	\$213,878.00	\$177,170.00	\$75,000.00	\$316,048.00	\$102,170.00
					\$0.00
Total	\$33,450,532.00	\$37,227,285.00	\$37,465,683.00	\$33,212,134.00	-\$238,398.00

FY26 Amended Budget					
Fund	Fund Balance July 1, 2025	FY26 Revenue	FY26 Expenditures	Fund Balance July 1, 2026	Difference
10-Education*	\$25,881,928.00	\$18,159,176.00	\$27,489,827.00	\$16,551,277.00	-\$9,330,651.00
20-Operations & Maintenance**	\$2,997,941.00	\$1,902,000.00	\$1,874,959.00	\$3,024,982.00	\$27,041.00
30-Debt Service	\$257,114.00	\$2,871,769.00	\$2,831,140.00	\$297,743.00	\$40,629.00
40-Transportation***	\$953,209.00	\$1,552,700.00	\$1,544,989.00	\$960,920.00	\$7,711.00
50-IMRF/SS	\$751,065.00	\$1,083,050.00	\$1,081,989.00	\$752,126.00	\$1,061.00
60-Capital Projects****	\$974,994.00	\$17,428,429.96	\$13,190,902.00	\$5,212,521.96	\$4,237,527.96
70-Working Cash	\$1,410,650.00	\$217,170.00	\$0.00	\$1,627,820.00	\$217,170.00
80-Tort Immunity	\$13,753.00	\$1,728,400.00	\$1,727,679.00	\$14,474.00	\$721.00
90-Fire Prevention & Safety	\$213,878.00	\$177,170.00	\$75,000.00	\$316,048.00	\$102,170.00
					\$0.00
Total	\$33,454,532.00	\$45,119,864.96	\$49,816,485.00	\$28,757,911.96	-\$4,696,620.04

FY26 Final Budget					
Fund	Fund Balance July 1, 2025	FY26 Revenue	FY26 Expenditures	Fund Balance July 1, 2026	Difference
10-Education*	\$25,881,928.00	\$18,047,127.19	\$24,072,160.28	\$19,856,894.91	-\$6,025,033.09
20-Operations & Maintenance**	\$2,997,941.00	\$1,937,726.01	\$1,405,376.77	\$3,530,290.24	\$532,349.24
30-Debt Service	\$257,114.00	\$3,413,775.63	\$2,817,565.22	\$853,324.41	\$596,210.41
40-Transportation***	\$953,209.00	\$1,705,964.10	\$1,284,237.00	\$1,374,936.10	\$421,727.10
50-IMRF/SS	\$751,065.00	\$1,113,294.60	\$1,020,786.06	\$843,573.54	\$92,508.54
60-Capital Projects****	\$974,994.00	\$17,462,951.95	\$11,285,386.19	\$7,152,559.76	\$6,177,565.76
70-Working Cash	\$1,410,650.00	\$238,040.45	\$0.00	\$1,648,690.45	\$238,040.45
80-Tort Immunity	\$13,753.00	\$1,731,599.18	\$1,712,955.03	\$32,397.15	\$18,644.15
90-Fire Prevention & Safety	\$213,878.00	\$185,603.08	\$66,079.09	\$333,401.99	\$119,523.99
					\$0.00
Total	\$33,454,532.00	\$45,836,082.19	\$43,664,545.64	\$35,626,068.55	\$2,171,536.55

MEMO to Board of Education December 10, 2025 Original Budget of All projects (Total)							\$24,386,118.00
Geo Surfaces	Nevco	Athletic Building	RCMS-Solar	RCMS-Solar	South Building	Maint. Shed	TOTAL Revised Budget 6/24/2026
\$14,844,533.00	\$408,550.00	\$5,121,262.00	\$783,838.00	\$1,020,819.00	\$1,349,000.00	\$190,268.44	\$23,718,270.44
							TOTAL Left to Spend
\$4,285,283.00	\$81,706.00	\$4,520,795.36	\$603,838.00	\$530,819.00	\$1,349,000.00	\$190,268.44	\$11,561,709.80
							Diff. From Budget
							\$667,847.56
							TOTAL SPENT
							\$12,156,560.64
Total incentives for RCMS--\$803,352							
Total incentives for RCMS--\$587,956							
Year to Date Total of 1% Sales tax revenue into Fund 60 (Capital Projects)							\$774,802.76
Year to Date Total of EBF into Fund 60 (Capital Projects)							\$7,607,096.00
AR Bonds Directed into Fund 60							\$9,001,531.20
Information up to date 7/13/2026							
							TOTAL
							\$17,383,429.96
GEO Surfaces Original Amount \$14,546,959.61							
*Change Order #1 Deduct for Demo and Recycling on 12/10/2025 of \$30,000 making new amount \$14,516,959.61							
**Change Order #2 Backstop Extension on 2/13/2026 of \$34,800 making new GEO Amount \$14,551,759.61							
***Change Order #3 Tennis Courts on 5/11/2026 of \$200,000 making new GEO Amount \$14,751,759.61							
****Change Order #4 Relocate existing medium voltage on 6/17/2026 of \$80,587.50 making new GEO Amount \$14,832,347.11							
*****Change Order #5 Retaining Wall Unsuitable Soils on 7/1/2026 making new GEO contract \$14,844,533							

VI.B.2. Athletic Building Update by Courtney Huels from Poettker Construction.

Update on Athletic Complex were pictures provided by GeoSurfaces. Bleachers are scheduled to arrive the 1st week of August.

Mr. Rusk presented pictures of Summer Projects being completed, such as, RCMS Pickleball Courts, RCMS Basketball Goals, RCMS CTE Classroom, Entec automation controls for A/C, RCMS Pads in Gym, RCMS Sound Absorbers in Cafeteria, and RCES Flooring. The completion of the RCES outdoor classroom, thanks to GeoSurfaces for their gratis work on installing turf.

VI.B.3. State Assessment Data Update – Mrs. Rodgers gave an update on State Assessment Data for ACT scores.

VII. Unfinished Business

VII.A. Approve TimeClock Plus Agreement – Document Registry 26-07-04

Motion to approve the TimeClock Plus Agreement in the amount of \$15,873.75. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Bailey, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII. New Business

VIII.A. Approve Change Order with StraightUp Solar – **Document Registry 26-07-05**

Motion to approve the change order with StraightUp Solar for RCHS and RCMS to downsize scope of project. This motion, made by Cindy Lockley and seconded by Dennis Anderson, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.B. Approve Change Order with GeoSurfaces for Retaining Wall Unsuitable Soils – **Document Registry 26-07-06**

Motion to approve the change order with GeoSurfaces for Retaining Wall Unsuitable Soils in the amount of \$15,645.50. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Dusty Kocher, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.C. Approve 2026-2027 Bus Driver Handbook – **Document Registry 26-07-07**

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Bus Driver Handbook as presented. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.D. Approve 2026-2027 Educational Support Staff Handbook – **Document Registry 26-07-08**

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Educational Support Staff Handbook as presented except change the lookback period from 18 months to 12 months. This motion, made by Cindy Bailey and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

The main change in the handbook is that all wages will be earned hourly instead of annualized according to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

VIII.E. Approve RCCU1 Coach/Sponsor Handbook – **Document Registry 26-07-09**

Motion to approve the RCCU1 Coach/Sponsor Handbook as presented. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.F. Approve Temporary Facility Agreement for RCES Portable Building – **Document Registry 26-07-10**

Motion to approve the Temporary Facility Agreement for the RCES Portable Building as presented. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Bailey, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea,

Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.G. Approve Temporary Facility Agreement for RiseUp Alternative School – Document Registry 26-07-11

Motion to approve the Temporary Facility Agreement for RiseUp Alternative School as presented. This motion, made by Cindy Bailey and seconded by Dusty Kocher, Passed.
Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.H. Approve Superintendent to Fill Employment Vacancies Prior to August 20, 2026
Motion to approve Superintendent to fill employment vacancies prior to August 20, 2026. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Bailey, Passed.
Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VIII.I. Approve Change Order with HMC for Plumbing for Maintenance Building with tie in to South Building – Document Registry 26-07-12
Motion to approve change order with HMC for plumbing for Maintenance Building with tie in to South Building in the amount of \$30,000.00. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.
Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

IX. Enter Executive Session

Motion to enter executive session at 7:32 p.m. This motion, made by Cindy Bailey and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed.
Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

IX.A. 2(c)(1) To Consider Information Regarding Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Individual Employees

IX.B. 2(c)(11) To Discuss Matters of Possible or Pending Litigation

IX.C. 2(c)(21) To Discuss Matters of Closed Session Minutes

X. Exit Executive Session

Motion to exit executive session at 8:43 p.m. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Bailey, Passed.
Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XI. Personnel Action

Motion to approve all personnel action as presented; the reinstatement of 38 sick days to Megan Graves, RCMS Teacher, used beginning August 13, 2018, resignations of Julie Tabb as Bus Driver effective July 3, 2026, Nicolette Sanchez as Paraprofessional effective immediately, Ian Laughlin as RCHS Girls Head Basketball Coach effective immediately, Miranda Harmon as RCELC School Nurse effective August 7, 2026, Jessica Cooper as RiseUp Paraprofessional effective August 7, 2026, Hannah Steel as RCES Teacher Assistant effective July 16, 2026, the employment of Jessica Cantrell as RCHS Food Service Staff Member, Christopher Luthe as RCES Food Service Staff Member, Julie Hamilton as RCMS Food Service Staff Member, Karla Starwalt as RCES Paraprofessional, and Aylah Voyles as RCES Paraprofessional all effective August 11, 2026, Payton Williams as RCHS Science Teacher effective August 10, 2026 and the 2026-2027 volunteers of Caroline Glover for RCHS Girls Golf and Taylor Ferguson for RCHS Volleyball. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Cindy Lockley, Passed. Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. This motion, made by Dennis Anderson and seconded by Dusty Kocher, Passed.

Jake Anderson: Absent, Jeff Wilson: Absent, Dennis Anderson: Yea, Cindy Bailey: Yea, Dusty Kocher: Yea, Cindy Lockley: Yea, Scott Snyder: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Approved:

President: _____

Secretary: _____