

**AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #272  
AMBOY, ILLINOIS**

Thursday, January 18, 2024  
6:30 PM

Amboy Junior High School  
Cafeteria  
240 N Metcalf Avenue  
Amboy, IL 61310

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
  - A. Roll Call
  - B. Action: Public Hearing on Transfer of Funds
  - C. Open Forum
  - D. Board Committee Reports
2. Action: Consent Agenda Items
  - A. Minutes

2

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.  
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

President Pratt called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. All board members were present. Also present were Joshua Nichols, Judi Callison, Phil Callison, Yvonne Vicks, Laurie Nauman, Janet Crownhart, Andrew Full, Jessica Meusel, and Jenny Apple.

President Pratt opened the public hearing on the 2023 Tax Levy. Superintendent Nichols presented the 2023 tax levy. The levy proposes a 6.0% increase over last year's extension. Local property taxes represent between 80 and 85% of the district's revenue. There were no comments or questions.

A motion was made by Stenzel and seconded by Powers to adopt the resolution for the 2023 Tax Levy, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Montavon and seconded by White to direct the Board Secretary to file the Certificate of Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Brokaw and seconded by White to direct the Board President and Board Secretary to file the Certificate of Compliance for the Truth-In-Taxation Act. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Payne to close the public hearing on the 2023 Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

The floor was opened to comments from the public for open forum. Yvonne Vicks presented the Junior High School Fall Data from STAR and LRIA tests. The presentation provided a grade-by-grade breakdown in math and reading. Vicks also presented the Junior High School report card information from the 2023 Illinois State Report Card.

Board members that went to the Triple I Conference in Chicago shared what they had learned from the sessions they attended.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by White to approve the consent agenda, as presented:

- Minutes of the November 14, 2023, open & closed regular board meetings; and
- Delete audio recordings dated June 16, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Nichols reviewed the financial reports. For revenue, the district has received 89% of the anticipated amount for the year and \$38,243 in sales tax. This is roughly 100% of the anticipated local revenue and 37% of the anticipated state revenue. For expenses, 39% has been used. The operating fund's expenditures are where they were anticipated with roughly 42% of the school year completed. Nichols noted that the budget will need to be amended due to the purchase of the additional bus. Tort is over budget but will transfer an expense from Tort to Education. Some of Tort expenses have to be moved to Education because we can't levy enough to cover all of the Tort expenses.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by White to approve the current expenditures and payroll, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Janet Crownhart, Jessica Meusel and Andrew Full highlighted areas from their presented Principal reports.

For his Superintendent report, Nichols discussed: 1) Flip Lock devices are installed. 2) License plates are in and on the electric buses. 3) Demolition update.

Three FOIA requests were received. First request was from SmartProcure requesting purchase order information from August 22, 2023 to current. This request was complied in full. The second request was from Science of Reading in Illinois wanting names of the universal/core curricula currently used to teach reading in K-3, grade levels these are used if there are multiple reading curricula, the dates the reading curricula were purchased, and if there are plans to purchase different literacy curricula in the future. This was responded in a timely manner. Then the third request was from Patrick Lee of Long Grove, IL for our latest Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and environmental testing on November 27. No such record exists as we do not do this type of testing on a regular basis. This request was complied with.

The review of Section 6: Instruction for board policy is completed. Policy 6:30 will be cleaned up and sent to the Illinois Association of School Boards to be posted as such. The next Section of review is Section 1: School District Organization. Superintendent Nichols mentioned looking at adding a policy to Section 4 for Facility Naming.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Montavon to adopt the Illinois Association of School Boards policy revisions, as presented. Superintendent Nichols pointed out a few of the ones that were updated. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by White and seconded by Powers to adopt the resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of the District, as presented. These taxes need to be abated since we will be using sales tax dollars to pay for these bonds. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Brokaw to adopt the resolution that sets a public hearing for January 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Junior High School to discuss transfer of funds, as presented. This will allow us to transfer the sales tax funds (\$120,000) from Capital Projects to Debt Service to cover the abated taxes. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Powers to approve the naming of the Central School gym after George Mason. Quite a few letters have been received requesting this action. Naming portions of the building or grounds is coming up more frequently with schools. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:41 p.m., a motion was made by Montavon and seconded by White to move to executive session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting; and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:57 p.m., a motion was made by Payne and seconded by Stenzel to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by White to approve the suspensions of students 12-14-23-1 through 12-14-23-20, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Powers and seconded by Montavon to accept the resignations of Patrick Carrie as Custodian, effective November 15, 2023 and MaryKaren Tunk as Bus Aide, effective December 15, 2023. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Payne and seconded by Stenzel to approve the following personnel pending successful criminal background checks, proper licensure, and submission of pre-employment requirements: Jamie Parks as Cafeteria Cook at the Junior High and High School, effective November 16, 2023; MaryKaren Tunk as 240-Day Custodian at the High School, effective December 5, 2023; Catherine Saddler as Bus Aide, effective December 18, 2023; and Lexi Hilliker as Agriculture Teacher at the High School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

President Pratt announced upcoming date: Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, January 18, 2024 - Junior High School – 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made by Montavon and seconded by Payne to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elsa Payne, Secretary

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Katie Pratt, President

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

- B. Confidential Executive Session Minutes
- C. Delete Audio Recordings
- 3. Action: Financial Reports
  - A. Review of Financial Reports
  - B. Current Expenditures & Payroll
- 4. Discussion: Reports
  - A. Principal Reports

6

**Amboy Central Elementary School**  
**Principal Report**  
**Jessica Meusel**  
**January 2024**

**School Activities:**

- On January 8 we had an all school assembly to recognize our smarties of the week and get an update on our reading progress. We have earned 9,434 points. Our school goal is 20,000.
- LRIA testing will take place January 16-19 in our third and fourth grade classrooms.
- Central School has new speakers and a big screen tv in our gym! The students and staff love it! We utilize this system monthly to meet as a school. We celebrate our accomplishments, set goals, and build our sense of community. Mr. Payne has lots of ideas on how he can incorporate this new tech into his daily lesson plans. It is a much needed upgrade! Thank you!

**School Improvement:**

- On our January 3 Institute Day teachers worked on report cards and met within their task force teams to keep our school wide initiatives moving forward.
- Central School staff participated in problem solving meetings on January 10. During these meetings, staff members collaborate to brainstorm and create informal plans to provide additional support for students.

**PBIS:**

- Teachers reviewed and retaught our Central School PBIS expectations.
- January's character trait is integrity. Mrs. Selover is visiting classrooms to present a lesson on integrity.
- We had several community members purchase items from our Amazon wish list for our Clipper Cart. We are grateful for the support!



**Amboy High School  
Principal's Report  
January 2024  
Submitted by: Janet Crownhart**



### **Curriculum and School Improvement**

- Student of the Month is Emma Dinges.
- Mr. Kolton started to meet with Freshmen, sophomores, and Juniors to go over course options for next year. Parents will be invited on January 25th to also go over course options for their students for next year.
  - 8th-grade students will hear from Mr. Kolton on January 22nd, and 8th-grade parents are invited to discuss course options on January 22nd at 6 pm.
  - Sophomore students visited WACC on January 10th to learn about the programs available to Juniors and Seniors.
- Deb Cleary applied for and was awarded money from the Maggie & Amos Grant for new cameras for her art classes.
- The National Honor Society will be tutoring students in the library on MWF during homeroom to help those who need extra support during the school day.
- Mrs. Cleary has been approved to teach and has started the semester teaching Art Appreciation Dual Enrollment through SVCC.

### **School Activities**

- Final Exams were held on December 18, 19, and 20.
- Homeroom Material
  - SEL lessons this month focus on motivation and positivity.
  - Prep videos were shown on the appropriate way to write an email and how young people should be safe online

### **Looking Ahead**

- Scholarship opportunities for juniors and seniors will be available soon. Students should start asking for letters of recommendation.
- Seniors will be encouraged to share their plans for after graduation. We are making a "Senior Spotlight" board to highlight their plans.



**Amboy Jr. High School  
Principal's Report  
January 18th, 2024  
Submitted by: Andrew Full**

**Curriculum and School Improvement:**

- On January 3<sup>rd</sup> during our Teachers Institute Day, teachers were given time for grade posting in the morning and then served lunch by the administrative team. In the afternoon a faculty meeting was held to discuss the following topics: SLO's, Significant 24, SEL, Discipline, and Student Conversations.
- On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mrs. Bulfer met with teachers to start the process of having an official mentor programming in the district.
- On January 8<sup>th</sup> a faculty meeting was held to discuss the 7<sup>th</sup> grade hosting a movie day for the AJHS student body.

**PBIS:**

- On Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, we held our monthly PBIS celebration/assembly and the following awards were handed out:
  - o Students of the Month-
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Gillian Schneider and Levi McLaughlin
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- Kylee Zellhofer and Blake Mumm
    - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade- Addison Bump and Owen Dallam
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade- Nicho Warner and Gianna Dempsey
    - P.E.- Gunner Christoffersen and Jason Hemmen
  - o Clipper P.R.I.D.E.- Abel Dempsey, Alice Klein, Tinley Helms, Eli Lewis, Teagan Moore, Teagan Partridge, Maddix Beyer, Caylee Hummel, Gabby Miller, Reagan Miller, Sarah Buckley, Madison Phillips, Hunter Roberts, Aubrey Gabbard, and Sydney Whelchel
  - o Staff Shout-Out Winners- Noah Hansen and Yvonne Vicks
  - o Boys Basketball was recognized
  - o Cheerleaders were recognized
  - o Speech Team Awards
  - o Grade Level Competition

**School Activities:**

- On Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup> students went through the Significant 24.
- Mr. Kerley has started a Jazz Band Club that will meet once a week and has around 15 students signed up to participate.
- Scholastic Bowl has started with Yvonne Vicks as the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade coach and Noah Hansen as the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade coach.
- Girls basketball has officially started with Adri Whitney, Trese McNinch, and Lindsey Kaleel as coaches. There are around 40 girls out for basketball with 1 from Ohio.
- AJHS drama club has chosen the play *Law and Order: Nursery Rhyme Unit* to perform. Auditions have been completed and cast list post for students to view their parts. They have also starting looking for help with backstage parts.
- Thank you to Nicole Arand from Sharp Custom Painting for the amazing mural of the old jr. high school.
- Thank you to Brian Lampe and Arly Kaecker for putting on the stair stickers over break.

- B. Superintendent Reports
- C. FOIA Requests
- D. Board Policy Review
- 5. Action: Discipline Improvement Plan
- 6. Action: Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Amboy
- 7. Action: Bus Lease Quote
- 8. Action: Central School Secured Entrance Bids
- 9. Action: Executive Session
- 10. Action: Return to Open Session
- 11. Action: Student Discipline
- 12. Action: Personnel - Resignations
- 13. Action: Personnel - Hiring
- 14. Upcoming Dates, Miscellaneous Items, Board Remarks and Adjournment