

North Boone Community Unit School District #200

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Board of Education
District Office
6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, IL 61065
Tuesday, December 16, 2025
6:30 PM

I. Call to Order by the President

This meeting was called to order by President Nan Schilling at 6:30pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Secretary.

Members Present: Vice President Judy Hutchinson, Sarah Meyer, Ed Mulholland (via Google Meet), and Secretary Russell O'Donnell

Members Absent: Joe Haverly, Mary Maxey

IV. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mrs. Meyer to approve the agenda as presented.

Discussion: (None)

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

Audience to Visitors is a time for community members and District employees to express a point of view, not to debate an issue. There will be a sign-up card for the public to identify their name, address, phone number, name of organization represented (if any), and a brief description of the topic to be addressed. A District 200 administrative staff member will follow up within 48 hours (if requested) if the issue needs to be discussed further. Comments are limited to 5 minutes. If multiple individuals wish to address the Board on the same subject, the group is encouraged to appoint a spokesperson (See Board Policy 2:230)

V. Audience to Visitors

Mr. William Randall addressed the board regarding:

- Enrollment discrepancies in special education student counts.
- Concerns about stagnant enrollment despite additions to district facilities.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
December 16, 2025

- Proposed tax levy impacts on board members' property taxes, with specific dollar amounts outlined.
- Suggested levy abatement by utilizing budgeted sales tax proceeds and fund balance to maintain a flat debt service levy.

Mr. Glen Gratz and Ms. Kris Hall, tax assessors, addressed the board regarding:

- Support for approximately \$600,000 levy abatement to limit tax bill increases.
- Noted significant assessment increases in some townships contributing to tax increases.
- Urged property owners to verify eligibility for tax exemptions.

VI. Treasurer's Report and Financial Update

Dr. Mullikin reported the following:

- Ending fund balances aligned with historical trends; variances explained by timing of payments (e.g., medical insurance, IMRF).
- Debt service payments and capital outlay expenditures (notably Univent repairs and bus purchases) were highlighted.
- Noted receipt of prior year Boone County tax payments and Medicaid reimbursements.
- Consolidated bank accounts for better internal controls and reduced fraud risk; clarified that no fund balances were moved between funds, only account consolidation within the same fund.
- Bus procurement process underway with multiple RFPs for purchasing and leasing options.
- Chromebook pricing stable but expected to increase post-January.
- Audit ongoing; single audit delayed due to government shutdown.
- Server migration to Glacier will temporarily increase IT costs before reducing them.

Discussion: Mr. Mulholland raised the question of why there was no communication to the Board of Education concerning consolidating bank accounts. It was explained it is still in the same fund, but no longer in separate accounts in the fund.

VII. Committee Reports

- Policy Committee - Meeting held on December 2, 2025. The next meeting will be held on February 3, 2026, at 6:30 PM.
- Business Services Committee - Meeting held on December 9, 2025. The next meeting will be held on January 13, 2026, at 6:30 PM.
- Facility/Long Range Planning Committee - The next meeting will be held on December 18, 2025, at 6:30 PM.
- CIA Committee -. The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2026, at 4:45 PM.

VIII. Consent Agenda

The Board, on an individual basis prior to the meeting, has reviewed all of these items. All financial reports are available for review by the public in the Business Office. Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by the Board as one motion.

- A. Minutes of the Business Committee Meeting, November 12, 2025
- B. Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting, November 13, 2025
- C. Minutes of the Facilities/Long Range Planning Committee, November 13, 2025
- D. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, November 18, 2025
- E. Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting, November 18, 2025
- F. Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting, December 2, 2025
- G. Minutes of the Business Committee Meeting, December 9, 2025
- H. Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Meyer and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Discussion: (None)

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

IX. Old Business

A. High School New Course Offering -Animal Science

A motion was made by Mrs. Meyer and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the High School New Course Offering of Animal Science.

Discussion: Mrs. Hutchinson stated there were questions about the course brought forward from committee meeting. Mrs. Meyer stated all the questions were answered and the course description had been revised. Cost was also now included. Mr. Mulholland questioned who would be teaching the course. Mrs. Hutchinson clarified a science teacher who brought forth the class would be teaching.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

B. Tax Levy Adoption

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the 2025 Tax Levy, as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

X. New Business

A. December 2025 Bills

A motion made by Mrs. Meyer and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the bills, as presented.

Discussion: Mr. Mulholland asked what is Strive. Dr. Mullikin explained it was a driver's education program for a student with special needs.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

B. Operating Expenses and Fund Balance Report (105 ILCS 5/17-1.10)

Dr. Mullikin stated Public Act 103-0394, (Senate Bill 1994), became effective on July 28th, 2023, and is commonly referred to as Miller's rule. SB 1994 requires in the 2024-2025 school year and in each subsequent school year:

- any district that does not receive federal impact aid to calculate the combined, annual average expenditures of its operational funds for the previous three fiscal years, as reported in the school district's most recently audited annual financial reports.
- that school boards annually present a written report covering the annual average expenditures of its operational funds (education, transportation and operations and maintenance) for the previous three fiscal years at a board meeting.
- If a district's combined cash reserve balance of its operational funds exceeds 2.5 times annual average expenditures of its operational funds for the previous three fiscal years, the school board shall adopt and file with the State Board of Education a written operational funds reserve reduction plan by December 31. - Also requires the State Board

of Education to publish these plans on its Internet website. Requires: Public Act 103-0394 – Legislation

- Operating Funds combined - Education, Transportation, and Operations and Maintenance
- Calculation combining average annual expenditures of three Operating Funds for calculations into (Operational Funds)
- Annual presentation/report required
- Considers excess of 2.5 times annual average expenditures
- If excess exists added steps are required by law for a reserve reduction plan and publishing of information on ISBE website

Dr. Mullikin stated he had no concerns regarding compliance.

C. School Maintenance Project Grant

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mrs. Meyer to approve the school maintenance project grant for 2026.

Discussion: Dr. Mullikin stated we can annually apply for the \$50,000 matching grant fund. This year the money will go towards the Univent repairs.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

D. Cameras purchase

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve contracting Montel for the purchase and installation of cameras for the cost of \$30,492.81.

Discussion: Dr. Cascio stated the quotes were for the most urgent need areas. Mrs. Schilling stated, like most items, this has been brought before the appropriate committees and have been fully vetted and recommended to be brought forward to the Board of Education as action items.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Meyer, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

E. Board members conference experience share-out

Multiple Board of Education members attended the conference in Chicago and shared their experience. Topics included rural school advocacy (AIRSS), performance-based contracting for facilities, superintendent evaluation software, equity and educational leadership, student advisory board participation, and financial literacy for boards. Discussion on adding student representatives to the board as non-voting advisors was explored with plans to establish procedures.

XI. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cascio gave his report on the following items:

- Near completion of architectural firm selection.
- Reinstatement of school resource officer starting January 5, 2026, in partnership with Boone County Sheriff's Dept.
- Progress on Univent repairs across district facilities.
- Athletics updates: middle school and high school teams' records summarized.
- Curriculum Instruction and Assessment committee would like to expose students to skills and concepts related to career and trade skills development. They recently visited high schools to observe agricultural education teaching spaces.
- Recognition of high school as Special Olympics Illinois banner school. Fewer than five high schools in the State of Illinois hold this distinction.
- Update on community partnership discussions with Solutions Bank regarding athletic facility support.
- Reminder of upcoming winter break.

XII. Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Meyer and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to go in to executive session to discuss:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) at 7:44 pm.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
December 16, 2025

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mr. Mulholland, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer

Nays: None

Abstention: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to come out of executive session at 8:04 pm.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer

Nays: None

Abstention: None

** Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Mulholland could not hear the roll call and did not issue a response.

Motion carried.

XIII. Recommendations from Executive Session - None

XIV. Information Only

- A. FOIA Log
- B. Enrollment
- C. Student Activity Fund Reports

XV. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Hutchinson and seconded by Mrs. Meyer to adjourn at 8:05 pm.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Meyer, Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Schilling

Nays: None

Abstention: None

** Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Mulholland could not hear the roll call and did not issue a response.

Motion carried.

PRESIDENT



SECRETARY



APPROVED: 01/20/2024

