

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY26 BUDGET, PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SELL \$8,250,000 SCHOOL FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY BONDS AND OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #235 IN THE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY26 DISTRICT BUDGET

The meeting was called to order by President Schaley at 5:30 p.m., in the elementary cafeteria. The following Board members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. President Schaley declared a quorum present. Also present were Superintendent Day, J. Shultz, K. Lafary, B. Kugler, B. Helt, J. Hennings, Kevin Heid, Drew Postle from The Henderson County Quill Newspaper and several new staff members.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC REGARDING FY26 DISTRICT BUDGET

President Schaley asked the members of the audience if there were any comments or questions regarding the district's FY26 Budget. There were no questions to come from the audience.

ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING

President Schaley declared the budget hearing adjourned at 5:32 p.m. Motion by Higgins, seconded by Chockley. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

RECONVENED

The Board reconvened at 6:00 p.m, in the elementary cafeteria. The following Board members were present: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. President Schaley declared a quorum present. Also present were Superintendent Day, J. Shultz, K. Lafary, B. Kugler, B. Helt, J. Kirby, J. Hennings, Mallory Nelson, Kevin Heid, Drew Postle from the Henderson County Quill Newspaper, and Mallie Rodeffer.

President Schaley then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SELL \$8,250,000 SCHOOL FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY BOND

The Board conducted a public hearing concerning the intent of West Central CUSD #235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois to sell \$8,250,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety bonds for the purchase of increasing the Life Safety Fund of the district. Please see attached official minutes of this hearing.

It was moved by Gullberg, seconded by Chockley to adjourn the public hearing. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

After the official hearing ended, the Board continued their discussion of the Bonds with Kevin Heid from Stifel to answer any questions about the process and options. The Board discussed purchasing a bond for \$8,000,000 payable over 10 years and will move forward in October with the sale of the bond. The funds will be used to complete projects in the current 10-year Health Life Safety Survey. Those projects include, but are not limited to: HS Roof, MS Boiler, MS Windows, Elementary Playground and Elementary exterior doors.

GOOD NEWS ITEMS

- Our partnership with the Farm Bureau is appreciated. They sponsor events such as Safety Day and Ag Days for our elementary students.

- Several of our students participated in the Warren County Prime Beef Festival Special Persons Day. During this event, the students are invited to ride the carnival rides with their caregiver for free. We are very thankful for their partnership! They had a great time!
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- Our District. Our Legacy. Recognitions The following staff were recognized by their colleagues for what they do each day to build our Legacy at West Central: Amy Chandler, Andrew Foss, Ariel Dillard, Bryan Taylor, Connie Sue Torrance, EJ Santos, Emily Schaley, Jeannie Seitz, Judy Kelly, Karri Wallace, Katie Westfall, Kelsy Scott, Kilene Chapin, Mackenzie Johnson, Neo Coulter, Paige Leath, Payton Clark, Peyton Jack, Renata Conway, Stacey Kreps, Steve Arnold, Steve Boughton, Tom Williams and Tracey Richers.
- The Middle School Baseball team qualified for the IESA State Tournament! They will play on Friday, September 26 at 4:30 pm at Eastside Centre in East Peoria.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the agenda as presented. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present to address the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to approve the consent agenda including the following items:

- The minutes of the regular meeting of August 20, 2025;
- Closed session minutes of August 20, 2025;
- The Special Meeting of August 29, 2025;
- Closed session minutes of August 29, 2025;
- The payment of all bills;
- All activity accounts;
- The treasurer's report for August 2025;
- Approved the Delabar CTE Intergovernmental agreement;
- WCHS FFA Trip to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis

On roll call the following members voted aye: Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, and Clark. 7-0 Motion carried

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Day explained the District received five FOIA requests since the last meeting. Public Data Research and Data Branch were both requesting vendor information. The Galesburg Reporter sent three requests this month requesting any student was designated as a College Board AP Scholar (West Central does not offer AP courses, so there are no students that receive this recognition), names of all students who graduated 8th grade and the high school they would attend and contracts for all building principals. All requests were responded to in the needed timeline.

Superintendent Day provided an update to the Board on our 6th Day Enrollment. As of the 6th Day of School, we had 748 students enrolled in the District. The Board also received projected enrollment numbers for the next 5 years based on our current enrollment. If the current enrollment numbers stay

over the next 5 years, the District expects to have a K-12th grade enrollment of about 664 students, down about 42 students from current numbers.

The Board was given a short update on the Elementary Playground project. The playground committee is still working to finalize the equipment and starting the grant application process. The PTC Fall Festival is coming up on October 10 and proceeds will go towards the playground.

The Building and Grounds Committee provided the Board with an update after their meetings since the previous Board meeting. The Building and Grounds committee met with the District architect to learn about the process of project design, bidding and construction. The Building and Grounds Committee is scheduling a community meeting for area contractors to come and learn about the steps needed to complete projects for the school district, including insurance, bidding, bonding. The hope is to encourage more of our local contractors to participate in the bidding process for our upcoming projects.

REPORTS

The Board reviewed and heard reports from the Building Principals K. Lafary, B. Kugler and J. Kirby. District Technology Coordinator Jeremy Hennings and School Psychologist and Special Education Coordinator Mallory Nelson.

The Administrator and Teacher Salary Benefit Report for the 2024-2025 school year was presented. This is an annual requirement from ISBE and will be posted on our District website.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the FY26 District Budget as presented. The following are our unaudited fund balances, effective July 1, 2025: Education - \$8,638,063, Operations and Maintenance - \$2,568,727, Debt Services - \$101,713, Transportation - \$462,934, Municipal Retirement and Social Security - \$456,007, Capital Projects - \$53,028, Working Cash - \$1,110,527, Tort - \$348,295, and Fire Prevention and Safety - \$688,273. On roll call the following members voted aye: Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, and Gullberg. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Lenahan to approve the signatory name changes for the WCHS imprest account at Midwest Bank by removing Nancy Hull and adding Megan Rodeffer, and the activity account at The Bank of Stronghurst by removing Nancy Hull and adding Megan Rodeffer as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, and Higgins. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Lenahan to approve the request from Morghan Campbell to graduate at the end of first semester pending completion of all graduation requirements. On roll call the following members voted aye: Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, and Lenahan. 7-0 Motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board was reminded to contact President Schaley or Superintendent Day for requested future agenda items.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

Motion by Vancil, seconded by Clark to approve the personnel items as presented.

**West Central School District
School Board Meeting
Personnel Items for Board Approval
Monday, September 22, 2025**

Please note: the following new appointments are pending completion of all certifications, requirements, and clearance on the state required background investigation.

Personnel Changes

Name	Title	Salary
Volunteer:		
Brianna Fink	WCMS Cheer Coach	N/A
David Guile	WCMS Track Coach	N/A
New Appointments:		
Nick Allen	WCHS Head Baseball Coach	WCATS
Trey Goff	WCHS Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach	WCATS
Bailey Garner	WCHS Girls' Track Coach	WCATS
Conner Hill	WCHS Yearbook Sponsor	WCATS
Thomas Williams	WCHS Senior Class Rotating Sponsor	WCATS
Robert Fleming	WCHS Junior Class Rotating Sponsor	WCATS
Peyton Jack	WCHS Sophomore Class Rotating Sponsor	WCATS
Heidi Crane	WCHS Freshmen Class Sponsor	WCATS
Change of Assignment:		
Tabitha Cooper	District Bus Driver to District Cook	WCATS
Board acknowledges the following resignations/retirements:		
Robert Fleming	WCHS Senior Class Rotating Sponsor	
Adam Boyle	WCHS Speech Sponsor	
Bryce Bigger	WCMS 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach	
Ashley Dermer	District Paraprofessional	
Trey Goff	WCMS 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach	
Connie Sue Torrance	6% Retirement Incentive Approval	

On roll call the following members voted aye: Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, and Schaley. 7-0 Motion carried.

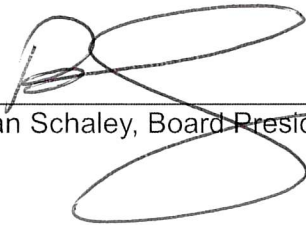
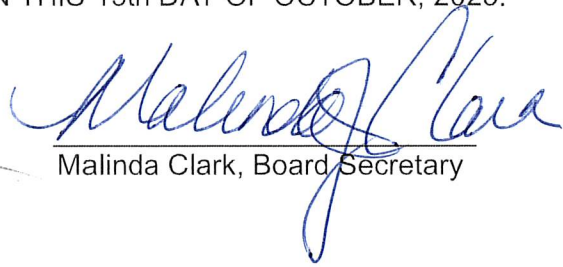
FUTURE MEETING DATE

The Board was reminded that the regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS WRITTEN THIS 15th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025.


Brendan Schaley, Board President
Malinda Clark, Board Secretary

MINUTES of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois, held at the West Central Elementary School Cafeteria, 1514 U.S. Route 34, Biggsville, Illinois, in said School District at 6:00 o'clock P.M., on the 22nd day of September, 2025.

* * *

The meeting was called to order by the President, and upon the roll being called, Brendan Schaley, the President, and the following members were physically present at said location: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley and Vancil

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: None

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent Whatsoever: None

At 6:00 o'clock P.M., the President announced that the next agenda item for the Board of Education was a public hearing (the "*Hearing*") to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds in the amount of \$8,250,000 for the purpose of conforming its existing facilities that house students to the building code promulgated by the State Board of Education of the State of Illinois, by altering, reconstructing and repairing said facilities and having equipment purchased and installed therein (the "*Life Safety Bonds*") and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

The President opened the discussion and explained that the reasons for the proposed issuance of the Life Safety Bonds were as follows: for the purpose of conforming its existing facilities that house students to the building code promulgated by the State Board of Education of the State of Illinois, by altering, reconstructing and repairing said facilities and having equipment purchased and installed therein.

Whereupon the President asked for additional comments from the members of the Board of Education. Additional comments were made by the following: None

Written testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Life Safety Bonds was read into the record by the Secretary and is attached hereto as *Exhibit I*. None

Whereupon the President asked for oral testimony or any public comments concerning the proposed issuance of the Life Safety Bonds. Statements were made by the following: None

The President then announced that all persons desiring to be heard had been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of the Life Safety Bonds.

Member Gullberg moved and Member Chockley seconded the motion that the Hearing be finally adjourned.

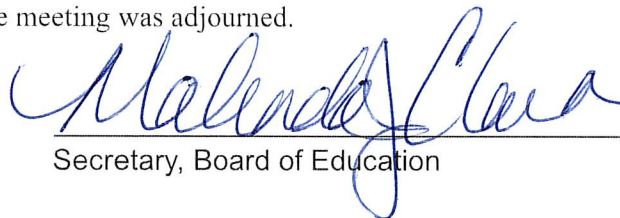
After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion. Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley and Vancil

The following members voted NAY: None

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and the Hearing was finally adjourned.

Other business not pertinent to the conduct of the Hearing was duly transacted at said meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.


Secretary, Board of Education

State of Illinois)
) SS
County of Henderson)

Certification of Minutes

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois (the "*Board*"), and as such official I am the keeper of the records and files of the Board.

I do further certify that the foregoing constitutes a full, true and complete transcript of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on the 22nd day of September, 2025, insofar as the same relates to a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$8,250,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board at said meeting were conducted openly, that said meeting was called and held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location where said meeting was held and at the principal office of the Board at least 72 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that at least one copy of said agenda was continuously available for public review during the entire 72-hour period preceding said meeting, that a true, correct and complete copy of said agenda as so posted is attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Acts and said Code and with all of the procedural rules of the Board in the conduct of said meeting.

I do further certify that notice of said public hearing was posted at least 72 hours before said public hearing at the principal office of the Board, that at least one copy of said notice was continuously available for public review during the entire 72-hour period preceding said public hearing and that attached hereto as *Exhibit B* is a true, correct and complete copy of said notice as so posted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature, this 22nd day of September, 2025.

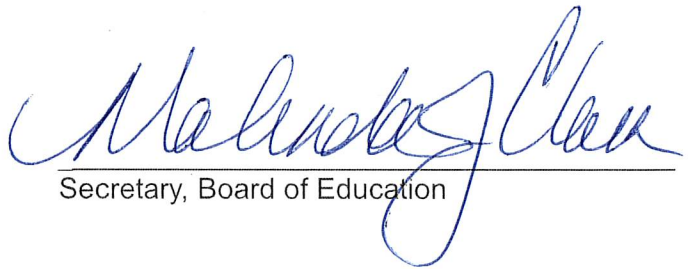

Secretary, Board of Education

Exhibit B

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 235, HENDERSON, WARREN AND
MCDONOUGH COUNTIES, ILLINOIS TO SELL \$8,250,000 SCHOOL FIRE PREVENTION AND
SAFETY BONDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Community Unit School District Number 235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois (the "*District*"), will hold a public hearing on the 22nd day of September, 2025, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. The hearing will be held at the West Central Elementary School Cafeteria, 1514 U.S. Route 34, Biggsville, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds in the amount of \$8,250,000 for the purpose of conforming its existing facilities that house students to the building code promulgated by the State Board of Education of the State of Illinois, by altering, reconstructing and repairing said facilities and having equipment purchased and installed therein.

By order of the President of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois.

DATED the 2nd day of September, 2025.

Mindy Clark
Secretary, Board of Education,
Community Unit School District Number
235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough
Counties, Illinois