

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF CALHOUN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #40
OF CALHOUN AND GREENE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS**

A regular meeting, of the Board of Education in Calhoun Community Unit School District #40, consisting of Calhoun and portions of Greene Counties, Illinois was called to order by Board President Luke Fraley, Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Calhoun Elementary School Library.

Upon roll being called the following board members were present: Jackie Baalman, Luke Fraley, Amanda Gress, and Nate Sagez. Adam Gerson, Angie Tepen and Hannah Nelson was absent.

Others in attendance were: LeaAnn Klaas, Cheri Burris, Christie Lorsbach, Tara Smith, and Rachel Bick.

A motion was made by Jackie Baalman, seconded by Amanda Gress that the Board of Education approves the agenda inclusive of:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call of Members
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approve Agenda
- V. Recognition of Visitors, Guests & Public Comments
 - *To preserve sufficient time for the Board to conduct its business, it is our public policy that each individual may speak for a maximum of 5 minutes unless prior arrangements have been made to speak longer.*
- VI. Consent Items
 - a. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 - b. Previous Board Minutes
 - i. Regular Meeting – September 19, 2023
 - ii. Budget Hearing – September 19, 2023
 - c. Expenditures
 - d. Financial Reports
 - e. Activity Accounts Report
 - f. Transportation Report
- VII. Committee and Administrative Reports
 - a. Calhoun Elementary School
 - b. Calhoun High School
 - c. Superintendent
 - i. District Services/Maintenance Report
- VIII. Action Items Prior to Executive Session
 - a. Consider Approval of
 - i. Crisis Plan
- IX. **Executive Session** – For the purpose of discussion regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s); legal counsel, collective negotiating matters or deliberations; board vacancies; evidence or testimony presented in a hearing where authorized by law; purchase or lease of real property; sale or purchase of securities, investments or investment contracts; security procedures; student disciplinary cases or any matter involving an individual student; litigation; self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics; minutes of meetings lawfully closed; internal control weaknesses, potential fraud risk areas; establishment of reserves, settlement or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)
- X. Action Items Following Executive Session

a. Consider Approving Personnel Recommendations

XI. Other Business

XII. Communication and Announcements

- a. October 20 – CHS Blood Drive
- b. October 25 – PTO Meeting
- c. October 29 – Halloween Carnival
- d. November 8 – NHS Induction
- e. November 20 – School Board Meeting
- f. Correspondence

XIII. Adjourn

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jackie Baalman, seconded by Nate Sagez that the Board of Education approves items on the consent agenda which includes:

i. Consent Items

- a. Adoption of Consent Agenda
- b. Previous Board Minutes
 - i. Regular Meeting – September 19, 2023
 - ii. Budget Hearing – September 19, 2023
- c. Expenditures
- d. Financial Reports
- e. Activity Accounts Report
- f. Transportation Report

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carried.

Reception of Visitors / Public Comment:

Rachel Bick spoke to the Board regarding a new rule from USDA for providing school wide free breakfast and lunch. The required free/reduced percentage dropped from 40% to 25%. She asked the Board to do a financial review to see if the school district would benefit from this change.

Principals Report:

Calhoun Elementary School Principal Christie Lorschach Report

The School Improvement Team has updated all goals to align with the district Strategic Plan.

The staff participated in a Teacher’s Institute with Jerseyville on Tuesday, Oct. 10th. The takeaways from the training were how to better care for ourselves as educators as we are the leading profession with the highest burnout rate.

We have started 5th /6th and 7th /8th grade girls' basketball seasons. There was a highlight of positive sportsmanship for the Jr. High team on the IESA Facebook page. Kuddos to our players, coaching staff and fans.

Using the current and past NWEA Map testing data, along with the IAR data, staff have developed SMART goals for increased academic achievement for all students in grades PreK-8.

Last Thursday, an all school assembly was held at CEJHS. Our school-wide character education program centers around a 45-minute assembly called The NED Show. NED is a loveable cartoon character whose name is an acronym for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best. Teachers love that NED is simple, relatable and kid-focused.

We are currently working with Jersey 100 to host the author, Mr. Kevin Lovegreen. He has written many books geared around the character, Lucky Luke, who participates in many outdoor activities. The content and adventures of these stories directly connects to our students and their experiences.

There has been a family involvement committee developed within the building to begin the process of investigating how we can build better relationships between the school and families, as well as the school and community. The first meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 16th.

The fencing company has contacted us and should start construction on the new fencing on the west side of the school this week.

We would like to thank Mrs. Debbie Eilerman for her time as a long term sub for Mrs. Murphy. We are excited to welcome a new Warrior to the family and look forward to Mrs. Murphy's return on Monday, Oct. 30th.

Calhoun High School Principal Cheri Burris Report

I am excited to announce that Calhoun High will be having its first Career Fair tomorrow from 8:30-11am. We will have 20-25 people from various career areas including college bound, military, and trades careers. Please stop in to check it out if you get the chance.

CHS Blood Drive on Oct. 20 from 9am-2pm. Led by STUCO.

Three of my staff are currently working on their Education Admin. degrees. Another is working on her Doctorate.

The last home football game will be October 20th. We will also be recognizing our Seniors in Cheer, Football, and Band.

Volleyball is 26-0! Regional play begins Oct. 23rd.

Some academic units at this time: Physics is studying acceleration and free fall. STEM launched their rockets today. Biology has started the Cell unit. Anatomy & Physiology will be attending a cadaver lab on Oct. 27th. Chemistry is delving into the elements. Ag Construction has started working with concrete and will be replacing our No Parking signs at the front of the school. College Prep English is working on their first draft of a Compare and Contrast Essay. The Compare and Contrast of The Knight's Tale V. A Knight's Tale. A writing outline will be used to make sure they include all necessary elements. A PIE (Point, Information, Explanation) format is also used. The Special Education Geometry class is learning about the different types of triangles, symbols used in geometry, and how to recognize/define these triangles. Coding is learning how to write a code so that there is interaction when the mouse is used to click on a specific spot. The Web Design II class is getting ready to begin actual work on the district webpage. Mr. Grimes classes have been sanding and painting the parameter shelves for the library. They made tables for the elementary classroom. They also designed/created the new Warrior Way sign for the school year.

Superintendents Report: N/A

District Services/Maintenance Report: N/A

A motion was made by Jackie Baalman, seconded by Amanda Gress that the Board of Education approves the Crisis Plan as presented

Board polled:

Baalman – yes

Nelson – absent

Fraley – yes
Gerson – absent
Gress – yes

Sagez – yes
Tepen – absent

Motion carries.

Executive Session:

A motion was made at 5:46 p.m. by Jackie Baalman, seconded by Amanda Gress that the Board of Education enters into executive session.

For the purpose of discussion regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s); legal counsel, collective negotiating matters or deliberations; board vacancies; evidence or testimony presented in a hearing where authorized by law; purchase or lease of real property; sale or purchase of securities, investments or investment contracts; security procedures; student disciplinary cases or any matter involving an individual student; litigation; self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics; minutes of meetings lawfully closed; internal control weaknesses, potential fraud risk areas; establishment of reserves, settlement or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carries.

A motion was made at 6:08 p.m. by Amanda Gress, seconded by Jackie Baalman that the Board of Education returns to Open Session to continue meeting and take any appropriate action.

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carries.

A motion was made by Jackie Baalman, seconded by Nate Sagez that the Board of Education approves personnel recommendations as presented for the 2023-24 school year.

Leave of Absence: Alan Shofner, Bus Driver

Substitutes: Paraprofessional – Sarah McKinnon and Turi Clough
Support Staff – Sharon Nance

Postings: CHS Head Baseball Coach
Substitutes; all positions

*All new hires are subject to completion of background check, EHR (Faith’s Law) check, fingerprinting and any other required classes and/or trainings.

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carries.

Informational Items:

- October 20 – CHS Blood Drive
- October 25 – PTO Meeting
- October 29 – Halloween Carnival
- November 8 – NHS Induction
- November 20 – School Board Meeting
- Correspondence

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Nate Sagez, seconded by Angie Tepen that the Board of Education adjourns the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Board polled:

Baalman – yes	Nelson – absent
Fraley – yes	Sagez – yes
Gerson – absent	Tepen – absent
Gress – yes	

Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education