

May 28, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes  
Lostant Community Unit School District #425  
Thursday,  
May 28, 2025  
5:30 p.m. FY 25 Regular Meeting - Board Reorganization

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – REGULAR MEETING**

Greg Ruff, B.O.E. President, called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Present: Chambers, Chambers, Ruff, Cooper, Popplewell, Lawless, Mertel, and Freitag.

Present via Zoom: None

Present via Telephone: None

Absent: None

Recording Secretary: Bob Ketcham, Superintendent

Audience Members: Dr. Sandra Malahy, Courtney Klobuchar.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE/RECOGNITION**

- a. IESA State Bowling Tournament Qualifiers - Henlee Skinner and Daniel Ricci
- b. State Track Qualifiers - Ziva Zachary, Natalie Moriarty, Drake Brooker
- c. Special thanks to Helena Corp and Mel Mertel for their donations to the athletic banquet and Co-Op programs.

**4. OATH OF OFFICE**

- a. Ashley Freitag and Shayla Chambers read the oath of office and were sworn into office.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Mertel to approve the updated May 28 agenda.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**6.1** Approve minutes from the April Regular Board Meeting, and Executive Session.

**6.2** Approve the Treasurer's Report.

**6.3** Approve Activity Account Report.

**6.4** Approve Imprest Account Report.

**6.5** Approve \$31,933.68 for May Disbursements.

**6.6** Approve April 2025 Payroll.

**ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

## 7. FINANCIAL REPORT

### 7.1 Fund Activity

The district is 83% through the school year. Revenues are 101.68 % and Expenditures are 82.77%.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
10	Education	101.53 %	81.23%
20	Operation & Maintenance	126.35%	87.97 %
30	Debt	100.89%	100 %
40	Transportation	81.93 %	78.83 %
50	Social Security & IMRF	97.06 %	76.12 %
60	Capital Projects	0.00%	0.00%
70	Working Cash	100.89 %	0.00%
80	Tort	100.98%	72.33%
90	Fire / Health Life Safety	101.16 %	0.00%
	Total	101.68 %	82.77 %

### ACTION ITEM

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Freitag to approve the financial report.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

No Discussion

### 7.2 Fund Transfers - None this month

## 8. REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### 8.1 Principal's Report

Mrs. Klobucher reviewed highlights of the May building events. Discussion took place on the district literacy plan and expenses that will be tagged to this grant.

### 8.2 Athletic Director's Report

No Discussions

### 8.3 Employee Reports

Nothing this month.

### 8.4 PTO Report

Nothing this month.

### 8.5 Committee Reports

Nothing this month

### 8.6 Roof Update

Dr. Malahy provided the board with a brief update as to the status of the roof.

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### 9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 9.1 PRESS Policy Update #118 - 1st Reading

No discussion

#### 9.2 Two Year Transportation Summary

Mr. Ketcham reported that this summary was a request of the board from last month's meeting. Discussion included looking at other organizations for transportation. Mr. Ketcham responded that when the area Superintendent's begin to talk on the renewal they will discuss other organizations. Discussion also took place on the idea of a transportation director to take over the management of having our own buses.

#### 9.3 Breakfast/Lunch Prices

Mrs. Klobuchar highlighted the increase in lunch/breakfast prices. Discussion included: do adults get bigger portions? Dr. Malahy reported that not all portions are the same.

#### 9.4 Committee Structure

The board organized committees for the 25-26 school year.

### 10. ACTION ITEMS

#### 10.1 2025-2026 Student-Parent Handbook

##### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to approve the 2025-2026 Student-Parent Handbook

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

#### 10.2 2025-2026 Extra-Curricular Co-Op Handbook

##### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Popplewell and seconded by Freitag to approve the 2025-2026 Extra-Curricular Co-Op Handbook

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

#### 10.3 Social Studies Curriculum

##### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Mertel and seconded by Chambers to approve the purchase of new Social Studies curriculum by Savvas

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

#### 10.4 Book Taco and Book Nacho

##### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Cooper to approve the purchase of Book Taco and Book Nacho to replace Accelerated Reader.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

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### 10.5 Tuition Reimbursement

#### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Mertel and seconded by Cooper to approve the tuition reimbursement for one class for Ashley Erwin to earn her ELL endorsement.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

### 10.8 CD Renewal

A motion by Popplewell and seconded by Chambers to renew CD's #89040/#85963/#89057 with Illini State Bank at the best possible rate.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Popplewell to adjourn to closed meeting at 6:34 pm to discuss: Ayes 7-0.

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

A motion by Freitag and seconded by Cooper to reconvene into open session at 6:41 pm. Roll call. 7-0

## **12. ACTION ITEMS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

### 12.1 Resignation

#### **ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Cooper to accept the resignation of Nicole Fundell as assistant girls basketball coach and boys track coach.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

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12.2 Resignation

**ACTION ITEM**

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Popplewell to accept the resignation of Holli Rapp as head girls basketball coach, head girls volleyball coach and girls track coach.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Popplewell, Freitag. Aye: 7; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

**13. DIRECT SUPERINTENDENT TO REPORT TO BOARD**

**14. ADJOURN**

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to adjourn at 6:43pm

Ayes 7-0.

  
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BOE President (Greg Ruff)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BOE Secretary (Lisa Cooper)

6-25-25  
Date

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