

July 30, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes
Lostant Community Unit School District #425
Wednesday
July 30, 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, Lawless, Mertel, and Freitag.

Present via Zoom: None

Present via Telephone: None

Absent: Ashley Popplewell

Recording Secretary: Bob Ketcham, Superintendent

Audience Members: Dr. Sandra Malahy, Courtney Klobuchar.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE/RECOGNITION.

Mr. Ketcham thanked the board and Dr. Malahy for the contributions to his dad's memorial fund.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Chambers to approve the updated July 30 agenda.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve minutes from the June Regular Board Meeting, and Executive Session.

5.2 Approve the Treasurer's Report.

5.3 Approve Activity Account Report.

5.4 Approve Imprest Account Report.

5.5 Approve \$233,933.47 for July Disbursements.

5.6 Approve June 2025 Payroll.

5.7 FOIA: Owen Wang of Illinois Valley Times asking if our math team will be attending the annual Mu Alpha Theta Convention. Request responded to.

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Mertel and seconded by Freitag to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

6.1 Fund Activity

The district is 100% through the school year. Revenues are 107.01% and Expenditures are 94.32%.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
10	Education	108.22 %	92.82%
20	Operation & Maintenance	126.57%	106.17%
30	Debt	100.93%	100 %
40	Transportation	93.45 %	103.35 %
50	Social Security & IMRF	99.24 %	90.74 %
60	Capital Projects	0.00%	0.00%
70	Working Cash	100.89 %	0.00%
80	Tort	101.32%	77.65%
90	Fire / Health Life Safety	101.16 %	0.00%
Total		107.01 %	94.32 %

ACTION ITEM

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

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

Information on CD interest was shared with the board.

6.2 Fund Transfers - None this month

7. REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7.1 Principal's Report

Mrs. Klobucher reminded everyone to complete the trauma-informed training module. Ruff asked Mrs. Klobuchar to explain the data chart that accompanies her report.

7.2 Athletic Director's Report

Mrs. Haynes reported that a softball parent meeting was held. Also reported that we have 13 players so far and that parents are very supportive. Discussion took place on the assistant baseball coach position and looks like 11 baseball currently.

7.3 Employee Reports

Nothing this month.

7.4 PTO Report

Nothing this month.

7.5 Committee Reports

Nothing this month

7.6 Business Manager Report

Dr. Malahy reported on the school roof and her meeting with the loss control auditor. She also reported on two items the auditor found - one is a circuit on the boiler, and the other is some hardware on playground equipment. The cobra tournament revenue/expenses was reported as well. She also mentioned it would be a good idea to transfer \$500,000 to a CD at Illini State Bank.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Transportation

The board engaged in a discussion on the future of district transportation

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Gym Floor Logo

Dr. Malahy led a discussion on the gym floor logo. She reported that next summer the floor will be sanded down and repainted and that would be the time to put a new logo down or keep the old one.

9.2 Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Mrs. Klobuchar led a discussion of a parent and family engagement policy.

9.3 CD

The board discussed moving money from the checking account into a new CD at Illini State Bank.

10. OTHER DISCUSSION

10.1 Discussion included

11. ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Semi Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Mertel to approve the semi annual review of closed session minutes of January 2025 through June 2025.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

11.2 Parent and Family Engagement Policy

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Freitag and seconded by Chambers to approve the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

11.3 CD #88105 Renewal

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Mertel to approve the renewal of CD #88105 at Illini State Bank

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

11.4 New CD

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Freitag to approve moving \$500,000 from the district checking account into a new CD at Illini State Bank.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Chambers to adjourn to closed meeting at 6:47 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 Lawless and seconded by Freitag to reconvene into open session at 7:17 pm. Roll call. 7-0

13. ACTION ITEMS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

13.1 Head Baseball Coach

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Lawless to approve hiring Brad Kuetzer as head baseball coach.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 5; Nay: None.

Abstain: Chambers

Motion passes.

13.2 Head Softball Coach

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Mertel and seconded by Freitag to approve the hiring of Lexi Verda as head softball coach.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 6; Nay: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes.

13.3 Assistant Softball Coach

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Lawless to approve the hiring of Jennifer Mertel as assistant softball coach.

Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Cooper, Lawless, Mertel, Chambers, Freitag. Aye: 5; Nay: None.

Abstain: Mertel

Motion passes

14. DIRECT SUPERINTENDENT TO REPORT TO BOARD

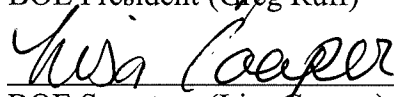
Include information about coop athletics financials in back pack night.

15. ADJOURN

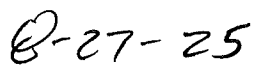
A motion by Lawless and seconded by Mertel to adjourn at 7:27 pm
Ayes 6-0.



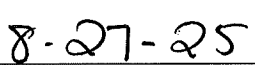
BOE President (Greg Ruff)



BOE Secretary (Lisa Cooper)



Date



Date