

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Centralia City Schools Board of Education, District No. 135, Marion, Clinton, Jefferson and Washington Counties, Illinois, held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., in the Administration Bldg., 400 South Elm St., Centralia, IL 62801.

Members Present: Ron Johnson, Greg Dodson, Derek Harlan, Sue Williams  
Mike Middleton, Blake Griffin and Renae Bauer by phone

Members Absent:

Also Present: Supt. Craig E. Clark, Christina Becker, Stacey Woodrome,  
Hollie Thomas, Jill Williams, Steven Stilt, and Ryan Brendel

Board President Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**MOTION #1:**

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment and performance of specific personnel.

Adjourned to closed session at 6:01 p.m.

Reconvened to open session at 7:01 p.m.

**MOTION #2:**

It was moved by Griffin and seconded by Dodson to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes of regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.
2. Approval of bills for \$1,017,646.29
3. Approval of February payroll.
4. Approval of out-of-district trip:
  - a. CJHS Band to Mt. Carmel Grade School on March 1st for Solo/Ensemble Contest.
  - b. CJHS Band to Casey Middle School in Mt. Vernon on March 15th for an Organizational Contest.

**MOTION #3:**

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Griffin to approve the Treasurer's Report.  
Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC**

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

## CURRICULUM REPORT

Mrs. Marshall presented an overview of this year at Schiller School assisted by Morale Team members. Statistics shared improved morale among staff and a positive atmosphere for students also.

## UNEFINISHED BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

### MOTION #4:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to employ Ryan Brendel as Assistant Principal at Centralia Junior High for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion carried.

### MOTION #5:

It was moved by Harlan and seconded by Dodson to approve the purchase and installation of a rooftop HVAC unit for Schiller School for \$14,245.00.

Motion carried.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Semester Enrollment Report
2. Building Celebrations
3. Other

Jordan:

- SAFE presented Internet Safety lessons to students on Monday, January 13th, and Tuesday, January 14th.
- On Friday, January 17th, our “Orphans in the Classroom” program kicked off. Players visit classrooms and present SEL-related lessons. Each Friday, players visit classrooms and present SEL-related lessons for our students.
- On Tuesday, January 21st, all students completed a tornado drill. Through drill practice, students grasp necessary crisis steps, enabling calm and suitable responses, and improving overall school safety. All safety drills have been completed for the school year.
- Jordan Elementary School sponsored our annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, January 23rd. We did not meet our goal this year, but had 16 donors. Thanks to Carolyn Queen who worked at the sign-in desk during this event.
- A Jordan PTO Meeting was held on Thursday, January 23rd at 6:00 PM in the conference room. Plans were discussed for our upcoming Spring Fling Carnival in May.

- SEL monthly lessons were presented to students on Tuesday, January 21st, and Tuesday, January 28th, and focused on being a team player. Students practiced their new skills in both whole-group and small-group activities.
- On Wednesday, January 29th, the 2024 Miss Marion County Fair Queen, Preslee Harris, visited Jordan Elementary School and donated a book that will be used by our SEL staff.
- FFA students from Centralia High School presented lessons on dairy to 3rd-grade students on Thursday, January 30th. Students were treated to ice cream following the lessons.
- “Jordan Stars” for January were honored during an assembly on Thursday, January 30th. These students were able to “stop, think, and act responsibly” during the month.
- Jake, from the Centralia Recreation Complex, presented an informational program to 2nd-grade students about their upcoming swimming lessons and water safety on Friday, January 31st.
- Our January “Expectations Celebration” was held on Friday, January 31st. Students who met the behavior criteria participated in a Glow Party in our new gymnasium. Thanks to Blake Freels for donating his DJ equipment. The students had a great time.
- Black History Month activities are taking place in classrooms during February.
- Our American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge kicked off on Monday, February 3rd. Our goal is to raise \$2,700 for the American Red Cross. This program is led by Mrs. Jourdan and Mrs. Osborne. Through this program, students will learn about taking care of their hearts and will participate in cardio-pumping challenges in PE. In addition to raising money for the American Heart Association, our school will earn money for PE equipment.
- The Jordan PTO Gourmet Kettle Corn Company fundraiser was a big success. Kettle corn will be delivered on Wednesday, February 12th.
- Mrs. Blair, our STEAM teacher, is currently teaching art lessons to students. Students are learning about famous artists and the style of artwork the artist produced. Students will then create their artwork in the style of the artist they have studied. Artwork will then be displayed at our Title I Family Fine Arts Festival in April.
- Our US Presidents’ Week Celebration will take place during the week of February 17th through February 21st. This week will consist of various themed days celebrating US Presidents.
- Mrs. Laurie Miller is presently seeking participants for the Girls on the Run program. Girls on the Run is a positive development program for girls in 3rd through 5th grade. The program combines life skills lessons with training for a 5K run. The program instills confidence and equips girls with tools to empower them for a lifetime of healthy living. The program will begin on Thursday, March 6th, and will meet at Jordan Elementary School on Mondays and Thursdays after school.
- 3rd grade students are gearing up for the IAR in March. Students have been practicing with the online resources to be prepared.

CMS:

**December 3rd, Teacher Celebration:**

Teachers participated in an apple nacho bar to kick off December and to get ready for the grueling schedule before the Christmas break.

**December 9th-December 20th, Ten Days of Christmas:**

CMS celebrated their ten days of Christmas with a different activity each day. Students dressed up each day and participated in holiday activities.

**December 9th-10th, Two teachers honored:**

Ms. Lacey and Ms. Helm traveled to the raising student achievement conference held in December. These teachers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to student learning. Both teachers received a scholarship to attend.

**December 16th, Cub Luncheon:** To celebrate our students who have demonstrated R2S2 (respect, responsibility, safety, self-control). These students attended a pizza party and were permitted to invite a friend.

**December 16th, Physical Education Scavenger Hunt:**

CMS students participated in the 5th annual P.E. scavenger hunt. The P.E. department hid Christmas pictures throughout the school and students competed with their classmates to find all of the items and declare themselves as the winner.

**December 18th, Christmas Program:**

CMS students under the direction of Mr. Webster and Ms. Stacey orchestrated the Christmas program. The theme for this year's program was "Christmas Around the World". Students sang songs to represent other cultures and to celebrate the different cultures, some which exist among our student body.

**December 20th, PBIS Celebration:**

Schoolwide Bingo. Each child had a bingo card and they participated virtually in several games of Bingo. Every child eventually had the opportunity to win a prize. Special shout out to Mr. Trace Witthaus for donating items for the students to win.

December

**January 13th, R2S2:**

Schoolwide review of expectations for appropriate behavior (hallway, classroom, buses, restroom, cafeteria, playground).

**January 22nd, Cub Luncheon:**

Students who have demonstrated that they are role models for their peers were honored with a luncheon and they were permitted to bring a friend to dine with them.

**January 31st, Classroom Spelling Bee:**

All 4th and 5th grade teachers conducted a classroom Spelling Bee to determine which students would represent their respective classrooms in the upcoming school-wide Spelling Bee to take place on February 13th.

## CJHS:

- Teacher Institute: CJHS employees were provided a workshop on Title IX on January 6.
- 8 th Grade Night: 8 th grade girls' basketball, boys' basketball, & cheerleaders were honored before the boys' basketball game against Marion on January 22.
- Metal Detectors: On January 30, CJHS began utilizing metal detectors at both the front entrance & the back entrance, where bus students enter the building. Mr. Boldt is in charge of the front entrance & Mrs. Hollenkamp is in charge of the back entrance. Several teachers, staff members, & the SRO help in the process. So far, the transition has been smooth.
- Spring Musical: Students were selected to participate in the spring musical, which is scheduled for May 1 at New Hope Church.
- Brain Games: Mr. Morris took 5 th – 8 th graders to Rend Lake College on January 28-29.
- Winter Dance: PAC put on the CJHS Winter Dance on January 31.
- Spelling Bee: Cayden Higgins & Nova Richeson are representing CJHS in the Marion County Spelling Bee Competition, which will be held at the CJHS Library on February 18.
- January Discipline: Overall discipline numbers were down compared to last year at this time: Jan 2024 Jan 2025

6th Grade 22      19

7th Grade: 66      30

8th Grade: 38      19

- January Faculty Meeting: On January 15, teachers and paraprofessionals met as a group in the library. Mrs. Hollenkamp & Mrs. Hughes spoke about PBIS concerns. Mr. Boldt went over E-Learning & the possibility of utilizing chrome books in 2025-2026. Teachers met in their grade levels to select the January Tigers of the Month.
- Tigers of the Month: The following CJHS students were selected as the January Tigers of the Month and were honored at the January 31 school-wide assembly:

6th Grade: McKenna Paulson, Jermaine Tabor Jr.

7th Grade: William Qualls, Willow Sheets

8th Grade: Aaronayzha Collins, Dierre Neal

- Girls' Basketball Team: The girls' basketball team finished the season with a regional loss against Salem. The varsity team finished with one win and the JV team finished with two wins. The following players were presented awards at the January Assembly:

Most Improved: Aaronyahzia Collins

Free Throws: Hanleigh Schmidt

MVP: Sydney Towns

Tigerette: Twanyai Dozier

- Boys' Basketball Team: The boys' basketball team won their third consecutive regional championship with a 63-31 victory at Salem on February 6. They will play Waterloo at Rend Lake College on February 15. The winner will go to the Final Four.
- Girls' Volleyball: The girls' volleyball team has been selected & started practices. They open up at the St. Peter Tournament on February 7-8.
- Scholar Bowl: The CJHS Scholar Bowl team has had four meets. The varsity has victories over Carlyle & Sandoval and JV defeated Salem.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MOTION #6:


It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion carried.


Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION #	1	2	3	4	5	6
JOHNSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WILLIAMS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HARLAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BAUER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MIDDLETON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DODSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GRIFFIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED  
Sue Williams, Board Secretary

APPROVED:

  
Ron Johnson, President

  
Sue Williams, Board Secretary