An overview of the school board meetings for Richland County CUSD #1

Quick Board Summary

November 18, 2025

The Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 pm at the Richland County High School

The regular meeting of the Richland County Board of Education was called to order by President Scott Snyder at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025. Scott Snyder, Dennis Anderson (Google Meet), Jake Anderson, Cindy Bailey, Dusty Kocher, Cindy Lockley, and Jeff Wilson were in attendance. Dennis Anderson disconnected with Google Meet at 9:38 p.m.
The meeting was viewable by the public via live stream at http://live.rccu1.net.

Recognition and Comments from Employees & Public

1. The RCES Legacy Team of Graham McDowell, Natalie Hubbard, Jase Lathrop, and Emmersyn Hightower presented to the board about the outdoor classroom and the collection of plastic bottle caps to make benches for the outdoor classroom.
2. The board recognized the Agronomy, Forestry, Environment & Natural Resources, Nursery & Landscape, and Parliamentary Procedure Teams, and National FFA Band Member for their appearance at the National FFA Convention.
3. The board recognized the RCMS Boys & Girls Cross Country, RCHS Boys & Girls Cross Country, Boys Golf and Football Teams for their season accomplishments.
4. Caleb Piercefield addressed the board with his concern of the proposed tax levy increase.

Consent Agenda Items –The regular and closed minutes of the October 16, 2025 regular board meeting and the October 28, 2025 special board meeting, destruction of the audio recordings of April 9 & 18, 2024, October FOIA requests, building reports, fundraiser requests, and Policy 5.30 for second reading and adoption were approved as presented.

Reports, Updates, & Informational Items
Financial Reports - The October financial report was included in the board packet. The monthly bill listing in the amount of $1,465,977.89 was approved.

Superintendent's Report

1. Mrs. Rodgers presented information on the 2025 School Report Card. She reported that the Summative Designation for RCES, RCMS and RCHS all received Commendable status.
2. Mr. Fox advised the board that Keystone Power Holdings is still currently working on the solar panel contract. The land behind the truck stop is not eligible and they are currently securing the land next to the Bus Barn.
   Drew Mueller with Straight Up Solar and Ross Rubenacker with AGE (Affordable Gas and Electric) presented information on solar panels on school property.
3. American Education Week is November 17-21. All RCCU #1 employees will receive a gift to thank them for their service to the district.

Discussion/Action Items

1. Approved the 2025 Tax Levy as presented.
2. Approved a resolution providing for the issue of General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018 & Series 2019, of the District, for the purpose of improving school facilities of the District, providing for the pledge of certain revenues and the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchase thereof.
3. Approved the MOU Alternate Care Site Planning with CarleRMH.
4. Approved the School Resource Officer Contract with the Richland County Board for three SRO's for the school district.
5. Approved the Electric Service Agreement with Homefield Energy beginning December 2025 ending June 2027 for Ameren utilities.
6. Approved issuing requests for proposals for a district beverage company.
7. Approved issuing requests for the 2026 Fuel Bids.
8. Approved that RCCU1 will make a good faith effort to execute a construction contract within 30 days with a company approved by the Board of Education to initiate a project to provide for a complete renovation of the RCHS athletic field, said project to be funded by:
   a.) the refunding of the District's existing Alternative Revenue Bonds with additional proceeds in amounts and terms such that the total annual debt service of the new bonds to be paid by revenue from the 1.0% sales tax does not exceed $1.5 Million dollars annually and
   b.) cash from the Capital Projects fund and future payments of Illinois General State Aid resulting from the Equity Based Funding formulas in an amount not to exceed $15,500,000.

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Board of Education

President
Scott Snyder

Vice-President
Jeff Wilson

Secretary
Cindy Lockley

Member
Dennis Anderson

Member
Jake Anderson

Member
Cindy Bailey

Member
Dusty Kocher

Superintendent of Schools
Jason Fox

District Office
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Olney, IL 62450
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Quick Board Summary

Discussion/Action Items

9. Approved contract with GeoSurfaces for the Athletic Complex and the proposed pricing of $14,478,000.00 for Pivot Football, Pivot Baseball, Pivot Softball all with structural base and with the bleacher upgrade of 2000 seats with 32" depth for $48,000.00 for a total of $14,886,000.00.
10. Approve resolution to sell surplus district supplies and equipment on December 6, 2025 via live auction.

Personnel Matters:

Resignation(s) – The board approved the resignations of Sandy Wieneke as Assistant Paymaster effective November 24, 2025, Dawn Hemrich as RCES Paraprofessional effective November 3, 2025, Brooke Wheeler as RCHS Assistant Cheer Coach effective November 4, 2025, and Jason Burckhartt as RCHS Boys Soccer Coach effective October 31, 2025.

Employment – The board approved the transfer of Trinity Milburn from RCHS Food Service Manager to RCMS Food Service Staff Member effective December 1, 2025.

The board approved the employment of Kaila Kirkwood as RCHS Food Service Manager and Madelyn Rusk as Mental Health Counselor at RCES for the 2025-2026 school year, and the employment of Dan Brant as District Maintenance effective January 5, 2026.

The board approved the extra-duty assignments of Sarah Stevens as RCHS Assistant Girls Track Coach for the 2025-2026 school year, Yvette Baltzell as RCHS Assistant Cheer Coach for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, Keith Kermicle as a Volunteer for RCMS 6th Grade Boys Basketball, Alisha Duenas as a Volunteer for RCMS 6th Grade Girls Basketball, Gabe Henson as a Volunteer for RCHS Wrestling, and Brooke Wheeler as a Volunteer for RCHS Cheer for the 2025-2026 school year.

The board approved the extra-duty assignments of Cassie Britton, Katherine Heckenbach, Amy McVicker, Melissa Mitchell, Anita Seiler, Elizabeth Sparks, and Kerrie Weidner as RCES After-School Tutors for the 2025-2026 school year.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting

December 18, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting
6:00 PM – Richland County High School (RCPAC)