Board of Education Minutes
Harrisburg Community Unit School District No. 3
Harrisburg High School, Media Center, 312 Bulldog Boulevard, Harrisburg, IL
Secretary Minutes for *Regular* Meeting of October 20, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Harrisburg Community Unit School District #3, Saline County, Illinois, was held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, as announced by posted public notice and by mail. The following members of the Board were present: Mr. Billy Smith, Mr. Ryan Lambert, Mr. Brandon Henshaw, Mr. Nathan Howton and Mr. Randy Smithpeters. Mr. Kevin Dowdy and Mr. Steve Smothers were absent.

The following administrators were present: Dr. Amy Dixon, Debbie McGowan, John Crabb, Alesha Allen, Lana Bell, Amanda Stone, Elizabeth Dawe, Andy Fehrenbacher, and Whitney Tripp.
The following Unit #3 staff members were present: Keri Holland, Lenae Milam, Russell Hunt, Jennifer Irvin and Amanda Schmitt. The following members of the public were present: High School Students

With a quorum of the members of the Board being present, President Smith called the meeting to order and declared the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

President Smith led the Board, staff and attendees in the *Pledge of Allegiance.*

Mr. Lambert moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **enter into Executive Session to discuss:**
A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees in an educational setting. Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
B. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
Upon a call of the President for a vote to be taken, it was determined the results of said motion carried.
Board entered into Closed Session at 5:01 p.m.

Mr. Lambert moved and Mr. Smithpeters seconded the motion **to reconvene in open session** at 5:50 p.m. Upon a call of the President for a voice vote to be taken, it was determined the results of said motion carried.

There were no Public Comments.

Mr. Henshaw moved and Mr. Smithpeters seconded the motion to **approve the minutes of the September 8, 2026 Special Board Meeting.** On a call of the roll, Mr. Smithpeters, Mr. Henshaw, Mr. Howton, and Mr. Smith voted **yea.** Mr. Lambert **abstained.** Motion carried.

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **approve the minutes of the September 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.** On a call of the roll, Mr. Henshaw, Mr. Howton, Mr. Smithpeters, and Mr. Smith voted **yea.** Mr. Lambert **abstained.** Motion carried.

Mr. Howton moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve the Bills Due and Payable.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **approve the Treasurer's Report.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Howton moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve the Expenditure and Revenue Reports.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

The Board of Education reviewed the monthly Activity Fund Summaries from each building.

RECOGNITION OF DISTRICT 3 SUCCESSES

Student Board Member Report – Adilyn Lane

Superintendent – Dr. Amy Dixon
- After 21 years of service, Russell Hunt is retiring as Director of Maintenance. The district is grateful for his commitment to keeping our facilities safe and running smoothly.

BELA – Principal Alesha Allen
- A new pergola is being built with the assistance of the HHS Building Trades, HHS Art class, and HMS Garden Buddies.

West Side Primary – Principal Elizabeth Dawe
- Students celebrated good behavior and safe choices with an extra recess and popsicles at the PBIS Event.

East Side Intermediate - Principal Amanda Stone
- New attendance incentives are underway.

Harrisburg Middle School - Principal Debbie McGowan
Harrisburg High School - Principal John Crabb
Special Education – Whitney Tripp
Technology, Media, Grants, Curriculum – Natalie Fry
Transportation – Andy Fehrenbacher
- Has been notified that the silver passenger van can no longer be used to transport students due to safety concerns.

Mr. Henshaw moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **approve the purchase of property at 910 and 912 Granger Street.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Henshaw moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **approve the $300,000 FY 25 Tax Levy reduction.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Howton moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **award the bid for the HHS Band Room Lift to H.E. Mitchell.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **approve to post the FY 26 Tax Levy.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **approve to move to a self-funded insurance model through Farmers Insurance.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Howton moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve to submit the School Maintenance Grant.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Lambert moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **approve to apply for the STOP School Violence Grant.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve the Executive Session minutes of the September 8, 2026 Special Board Meeting.** On a call of the roll, Smithpeters, Mr. Henshaw, Mr. Howton, and Mr. Smith voted **yea.** Mr. Lambert **abstained.** Motion carried.

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve the Executive Session minutes of the September 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.** On a call of the roll, Mr. Henshaw, Mr. Howton, Mr. Smithpeters, and Mr. Smith voted **yea.** Mr. Lambert **abstained.** Motion carried.

Mr. Henshaw moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **accept the Resignation of Catrina Butler as Prom Sponsor.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Howton moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **approve the Maternity Leave request of Sophie Penrod.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Henshaw moved and Mr. Lambert seconded the motion to **employ Hunter Smith as HHS Assistant Boys Track Coach.** On a call of the roll, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Smithpeters, Mr. Henshaw, and Mr. Howton voted **yea.** Mr. Smith **abstained.** Motion carried.

Mr. Lambert moved and Mr. Howton seconded the motion to **employ Brandy Millis as a 6 hour cook at HHS.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Smithpeters moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **approve Brandon Reynolds as volunteer HMS Boys Basketball Coach.** On a call of the roll, the motion received a unanimous vote of **yea.**

Mr. Lambert moved and Mr. Henshaw seconded the motion to **adjourn the meeting.** Upon a call of the President for a voice vote to be taken, it was determined the result of said motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Mr. Nathan Howton, Secretary Mr. Billy Smith, President