

Wesclin Board of Education  
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting  
Monday, December 15 , 2025

The Board of Education of Wesclin Community School District # 3, Clinton and St. Clair Counties, Illinois, met in a public hearing session on Monday, the 15th day of December 2025, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., at the Wesclin High School in said district.

C. Roll Call

At the above-named time and place there were present the following officers and members of the Board:

	<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
Jeff Stroot, President:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Jared Poettker, Vice President:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Tina Litteken, Treasurer:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Dustin Biggs, Secretary:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Zach Peters:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Samantha Mohme:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Stephen Brown:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>

A quorum of the Board members being present, the current president called the meeting to order and declared the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

Administrators present:

Jennifer Filyaw, Superintendent:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Jamey Rahm:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Angela Woll:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Zack Huels:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Patrick Weathers:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>
Jaime Bonsall:	<u>X</u>	<u></u>

D. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the previous regular meeting and of the executive session of November 17, 2025 were approved on a motion by Zach Peters, seconded by Dustin Biggs.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Samantha Mohme, Jared Poettker-aye. Motion passes 7-0

E. District Finances

Motion made by Tina Litteken, seconded by Zach Peters to approve The Treasurer's Report and payment of payroll in the amount of \$1,092,704.78 and bills in the amount of \$1,028,278.34.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Samantha Mohme, Jared Poettker-aye. Motion passes 7-0

F. Agenda modification

Motion made by Jared Poettker, seconded by Tina Litteken to approve agenda as presented.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Samantha Mohme, Jared Poettker-aye. Motion passes 7-0

G. Superintendent Report

January Board Meeting

Due to Martin Luther King Day, the January board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 20th.

Community Survey Rough Draft

Mrs. Filyaw provided a rough draft of the community survey that was discussed at the Board of Education retreat.

Robotics Newsletter

Mrs. Filyaw shared the newsletter that was provided to her by the Robotics Team.

Listing of Novels Taught in Classrooms

Mrs. Filyaw stated that last month, a request was made for a listing of the novels taught in the district. She provided the board with that information.

Small Bus Purchase

Mrs. Filyaw shared that the district's small bus fleet is aging, and it is necessary to purchase a small bus this year.

H. Principals' Report

Mr. Rahm shared that he went to tour the Boeing facility with the High School Robotics Team and it was a great experience! He wants to give a thank you to the Middle School for hosting Alumni Night, and to Justin Dunning for all of his hard work organizing the event!

Mr. Huels shared that the Middle School Student Council raised \$3,000 for gifts to families in the district during the food drive! He wanted to give a thank you to a St. Rose Golf Coach, for his \$1,000 donation to the golf program! He finished by congratulating Andy Cooper for winning the Holiday Card Contest!

Mr. Weathers wanted to shout-out the 3rd Graders at New Baden Elementary for their successful Dollar Day! He shared Winter Benchmarking has been completed and a lot of students have shown great growth! A big Congratulations to Joe Tropeano for his retirement as a Bus Mechanic in the District!

Mrs. Woll stated Trenton Elementary had a successful Dollar Day! Also a huge shout out to Mrs. Musenbrock for her hard work decorating the gym and organizing the Midnight Crazy Bowl event!

Mrs. Bonsall shared Benchmarking is complete and there is a lot of growth from Fall to Winter test scores!

II. Reception of Visitors

III. Discussion-  
District Facility Plan

Mrs. Filyaw said that the Building and Grounds Committee met with FGM, and reviewed the meeting notes and presentation that was shared.

Mr. Biggs inquired about the Capital Improvement Plans he shared.

Mrs. Filyaw stated that FGM is working on a proposal to complete a Capital Improvement Plan for Wesclin School District.

Mr. Biggs inquired about the full spectrum of the projects that are going to occur. He was inquiring about the age of the buildings/plumbing/etc. He also stated that since the bond is for 3 years, if that was enough time to spend those funds, and if Building and Grounds Committee discussed which project will be completed first.

Mrs. Filyaw reviewed a tentative timeline and also stated that unless a request for an extension, the 3 years is the total amount of time to use the funds.

#### IV. Celebration of Success

- A. Congratulations to Brad Burcham, Jessica Pilgreen, Brianne Kuhn, Tammy Kreke, and Kim Spanhook for being awarded the Touchstone Energy Grant. Each teacher will be given \$500 to implement a project. The projects are:

- Brad Burcham- Mr. Burcham will have the students design and build scaled mock homes in his Drafting 1 class. The students will draw the scaled house using paper and pencil, AutoCAD 2D, AutoCAD 3D, then build the house from wood to a scaled model size.
- Jessica Pilgreen- Mrs. Pilgreen's proposal was called "Plot , Print, Play: Bringing Stories to Life in 3D." She will be purchasing a 3D printer to create reusable manipulatives for classroom simulations and hands-on activities with the goal of increasing student engagement and motivation.
- Brianne Kuhn- Mrs. Kuhn plans to purchase 25 of Julia Cooks' books along with 11 activity books, and a few curriculums aligned with the books to help incorporate social emotional learning into her special education classroom. By introducing SEL into her classroom, it is her goal to see improvements in behavior which in return will then lead to improvements in academics.
- Tammy Kreke- Mrs. Kreke will be doing a Bug Unit. She will be purchasing bug kits, microscopes, and some other items to go with the unit. They will attend a field trip and will collect bugs at Whispering Pines.
- Kim Spanhook- Mrs. Spanhook will be purchasing the Tonies for Teachers Audio Player Starter Kit, headphones, and extra stories for the Tonies box, a screen-free, interactive audio system that supports early literacy development through engaging storytelling, music, and themed content.

- B. The Senior Citizen Luncheon was a success. Everyone enjoyed the event. A special shout out to Danielle Schmitt for organizing the day. This was one of our highest attended luncheons.
- C. Congratulations to our music department, under the direction of Amy Page, Collin Johnson, and Megan Washburn for their outstanding Christmas performances.
- D. Thank you to Mrs. Perez for organizing the Warriors Wipe Out Hunger food drive and shopping event on Sunday, November 23. We also extend our gratitude to the Michael Brown family for assisting with the food distribution that day in his honor. This event was an incredible success, and the generosity of our community was overwhelming. In addition to thousands of dollars in monetary and food donations, our food service vendor, Sodexo, kindly donated milk. The families we served were extremely grateful for the opportunity to "shop" for the items they needed rather than simply receiving a pre-packed box of food. It was truly a community coming together to support one another.
- E. Thank you to the Cable family for donating proceeds from the Sportsman Haunted Trail Food Stand to pay off lunch accounts at Trenton Elementary, to support students shopping at Santa's Cottage, and to contribute items to Warriors Wipe Out Hunger.
- F. Every year, students from Wesclin have the option to audition for a chance to participate in the Illinois Music Education Association's annual musical festival. We are part of District 6 which includes the metro

east and all of southern Illinois. The audition material is very challenging and only the best musicians in our district are chosen to participate in the festival. This year we had the following students chosen:

- Jr. Vocal Jazz- Aubrey Page
- Sr. Vocal Jazz- Emma Page
- Jr Chorus- Emma Mueller, Ella Ranz, Sydney Ranz, Adysen Pitts, Carly Zotz, Ella Rosen, Aubrey Page, Addison Hogan
- Sr Band- Emma Page, Callie Ferguson, and Raymond Pfeffer

V. Items Requiring Board of Education Action

A. Adopt the 2025 Certificate of Tax Levy

The district is requesting a tax levy with an overall increase of 10% in the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) as compared to last year. Mrs. Filyaw stated that it is important to remember that this does not mean a 10% tax increase. The district will only receive the money that is entitled to us and the increase is used to protect the district from any unforeseen increases in the EAV.

Motion by Tina Litteken, seconded by Stephen Brown to approve the adoption of the 2025 Certificate of Tax Levy.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-no, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-no Motion passes 5-2

B. Overnight Field Trip

The High School Cheerleaders will be attending an overnight competition in Springfield, IL. It is only an overnight trip if the parents attend the trip and transport their child or should they have an early call time.

Motion by Jared Poettker, seconded by Dustin Biggs to approve the overnight trip for the Wesclin High School Cheerleading Team to Springfield, IL.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

C. Wesclin High School Turf and Track Proposal

Mrs. Filyaw presented the proposal to the board along with the cost information.

She also stated that the Building and Grounds Committee is recommending the Turf proposal that was presented at the meeting, after speaking with the turf company.

Although the Building and Grounds Committee initially considered only a track respray, the proposal showed that a full removal and resurface, costing an additional \$92,300 and including a five-year warranty, would be the best long-term option. The committee is now recommending the complete removal and resurface, which remains within the original estimated range of \$200,000 to \$400,000.

Mr. Biggs raised questions regarding the quote for the turf and how long the quote is good for. Also, Mr. Biggs said if there is a limit on time of 3 years, the board may need to wait and see what projects will come first and how much money is being spent on each one, for the Facility Plan to be completed prior to proceeding on any projects.

Jared Poettker asked if something happened or needed replaced/upgraded after the 3 years, would the working cash funds be available to use? Also, he questioned if all of the funds were not used, can the district return what is left early to pay off the bond faster.

Stephen Brown stated he would like to see the remaining funds that are left from the cash bond to go toward the welding program.

Samantha Mohme stated that there needs to be a meeting to discuss what the leftover funds will be used for and what the plan will be. She stated that she would like to see more direction toward academics.

Motion by Dustin Biggs, seconded by Zach Peters to table the turf and track project.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-no, Tina Litteken-no, Zach Peters-no, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-no, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion Fails 3-4

Motion by Tina Litteken, seconded by Stephen Brown to approve Geo Surfaces, a Tencate Company, to install a structural base system with pivot 100oz turf on geoFlo + 15mm pad at the Wesclin High School stadium at a cost of \$1,567,000 as outlined in the proposal.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-no, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-no Motion passes 5-2

Motion by Tina Litteken, seconded by Stephen Brown to approve Geo Surfaces, a Tencate Company to complete full resurface of the track with a BMSS basemat structural spray at a cost of \$306,000 as outlined in the proposal.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

#### D. Workman's Compensation Renewal

The district currently uses Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) for our workers' compensation insurance. They recently proposed a 20% increase due to two or three significant claims, which would raise the districts cost from approximately \$93,000 to \$113,000. Because of this, our agent requested proposals from other companies. MEM is the requested company, with their proposal being \$92,285.00, which is less than what we paid last year.

Motion by Jared Poettker, seconded by Dustin Biggs to approve MEM as our workman's compensation carrier for the 2026 calendar year.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

#### E. Consent Agenda

##### A. Hire:

- i. Brandon Baird- We are recommending Mr. Baird as a full-time bus driver upon obtaining CDL
- ii Tim Bruner- We are recommending Mr. Bruner as the bus mechanic. This will be a position change from the assistant bus mechanic.

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B. Leave Without Pay:

- i. Gretchen Rakers- Mrs. Rakers is requesting 1 day without pay to attend a family wedding.

Motion by Zach Peters, seconded by Jared Poettker to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

- I. Closed Session for the purposes of discussing appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Board or legal counsel for the Board, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the Board or against legal counsel for the Board to determine its validity pursuant to Section 2©(1) of the Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Zach Peters seconded by Dustin Biggs to move into closed session for the purposes of discussing personnel and student discipline. 7:34 p.m.)

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

Motion by Jared Poettker, seconded by Dustin Biggs to return from closed session into the regular meeting. ( 8:06 PM)

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

VI. Adjournment:

It was moved by Zach Peters, seconded by Jared Poettker that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Vote: Dustin Biggs-aye, Stephen Brown-aye, Tina Litteken-aye, Zach Peters-aye, Jared Poettker-aye, Jeff Stroot-aye, Samantha Mohme-aye Motion passes 7-0

  
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President

  
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Secretary