

Central A&M Community Unit District #21
Board of Education
February 23, 2026
District Office - 406 E Colegrove - Assumption, IL

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Board Vice President Boltz. The roll was called and members present were:

- Brock Boltz, Vice President
- Kay Jordan
- Aaren Rutan, Secretary
- Chris Just, Treasurer
- Collin Townsend

Members Absent:

- Brian Bender
- Josh Burgener, President

Also present:

- Sacha Young, Superintendent
- Larry Daly, High School Principal
- Alexis Black, Bond Primary and Middle School Principal
- Brian Pekovitch, Gregory Intermediate Principal
- Carol Dance

Guests:

Michael Garner, Parents of fifth grade students presenting during the meeting, Ms. Dolan (fifth grade teacher), Ms. Rivera and Ms. Damery (special education teachers at Gregory).

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Jace Canaday.

Note- Member, Bryan Bender arrived at the meeting just after the Pledge.

3. Public and Employee Comments or Questions

- A. Student Talk - (will present later after they arrive from volleyball game)

- B. Teacher Talk - Natalia Rivera and Alex Damery, the special education teachers at Gregory intermediate presented information about their program and their individual classroom.
- C. Citizens Agenda - the opportunity for those present to address the Board
NA
- D. Request for Use of Facilities to be Added to the Agenda
 - 1. A&M Summer Baseball and Softball League
- E. Items to be added to the current agenda
NA
- F. 5th grade students, Madalynn Sanders, Jace Canaday, Izzy Wright, and Dalis Ashburn presented a proposal for a sidewalk to the outside basketball court at Gregory. They presented a powerpoint with pictures and points about their opinion of the need for this sidewalk.

4. Administrator Reports

- A. Principal Black presented information about the activities at Bond Elementary, which included: the Book Blast program, Daddy Daughter Dance planning for the March event to raise money for the Raider Rally program. She noted the sub shortage at Bond. She also presented information about the activities at the Middle School, which included: conference tournament update, framework for SIP leadership team, Volleyball 8th grade night. MS enrollment - 150.
- B. Principal Pektivitch presented information about the activities at Gregory Intermediate, which included: an update on IAR data dig to isolate areas of improvement and an update on the SIP work with teachers.
- C. Principal Daly presented information about the activities at the High School, which included the addition of 2-AP classes at that the high school.
- D. Principal Dance presented information about the activities at Kemmerer Village School which included student activities and upcoming changes to student placements that will see some students who will be leaving soon and some who will be moving into these vacancies.

5. Financial Report

- A. Business Manager Keown, who was absent, submitted the financial report in the Board Packet prior to the meeting. Superintendent Young noted the billing of the Moweaqua campus SRO and crossing guards with the city of Moweaqua.

6. Executive Session (Closed Meeting)

Action - A motion was made by Just and seconded by Bender to enter into Executive Session for discussion of matters relating to employment, compensation, or other matters appropriate for closed session as mandated per 5ILCS120/2-Motion. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session entered at 7:34pm.

7. Return to Open Session

Action - A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Just to return to Open Session. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Session entered at 8:17pm.

8. Adopt Agenda Motion

Action - A motion was made by Bender and seconded by Jordan to adopt the agenda as presented (adopt the agenda as presented). The roll was called and members voted as follows: Rutan - yes Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting - January 26, 2026
- B. Approval of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes - January 26, 2026
- C. Approval to keep confidential the entire body of Executive Session Minutes
- D. Approval of the Payment of Current Bills

10. Items for Discussion and/or Action

A. Employment Needs for the District

- a. **Action** - A motion was made by Just and seconded by Townsend to accept the retirement notice of Pam Moore effective the end of school year 25-26. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Action** - A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Bender to accept the resignation of Rob Smith as HS Assistant Football Coach effective immediately as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Action** - A motion was made by Bender and seconded by Just to accept the resignation of Jess Lehman as HS Assistant Track Coach effective immediately as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. **Action** - A motion was made by Just and seconded by Townsend to accept the resignation of Tyler Niebrugge as HS teacher and NHS sponsor effective December 18, 2025 as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. **Action** - A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Just to approve Kord Champley as MS girls track coach effective immediately as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes. The motion passed unanimously.
- f. **Action** - A motion was made by Just and seconded by Rutan to approve Joseph Rund as Long-term sub at the HS, filling the vacancy created on December 18, 2025 as presented. The roll was called and members voted

as follows: Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

- g. Action** - A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Bender to approve the assistant football coaches listed as presented pending background checks:

1. Paul Workman
2. Doug Morrell
3. Austin Donoho
4. Lane Whitney (volunteer)
5. Danny Higgins

The roll was called and members voted as follows: Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

- h. Action** - A motion was made by Rutan and seconded by Jordan to approve the employment of Vanessa Manuel as custodian at the Moweaqua Campus pending background check. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

- i. Action** - A motion was made by Bender and seconded by Just to approve the maternity leave of Hilary Bothwell as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

- j. Action** - A motion was made by Just and seconded by Jordan to approve the purchase of an Activity Bus for the amount of \$91,572 using transportation funds as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion - Superintendent Young noted the funding for this purchase will come from the \$1,000,000 transportation fund with an expected reimbursement from the State of Illinois up to 72% (projected).

B. Committee Items for Discussion

a. Student and District Activities

1. Projected numbers for some sports were reported: Girls Basketball - 12, Baseball - 15, Girls Track - 15, Boys Track - 15. It was also noted that the projected number.

This led to discussion regarding the proposal for a possible co-op with Member Boltz asking Principal Daly for a status update about the possible co-op. Mr. Daly noted that he had conducted a survey regarding the subject of a co-op. He noted that the survey resulted in “about half-and-half” about their willingness to co-op as well as a result of 60% of respondents said “maybe” they would participate.

Member Jordan shared that the softball coach projects 9, possibly 10, players.

Principal Daly shared that he has a coaches meeting coming up and requested a committee in order to process with a plan to have two meetings including multiple stakeholders and to promote transparency in the process.

Member Rutan expressed agreement with Principal Daly on the importance of transparency with all stakeholders throughout the process.

Member Jordan asked if we could have a deadline for the vote on the potential co-op.

Principal Daly suggested that it might be possible to have enough information to support a vote on the Co-op at the April Board Meeting.

Member Boltz inquired about the transportation issues presented in the co-op discussion.

Member Jordan noted that the new activity bus could help to address some of the concerns.

Principal Daly stated that there has been a suggestion of the following organization of a co-op if all sports were included. The suggestion was the following delineation of the sports:

All Fall Sports would be Raiders

Winter Sports would be: Boys Basketball would be Raiders and Girls Basketball would be Timberwolves

All Spring Sports would be Timberwolves.

b. Building and Grounds -

- i. Superintendent Young provided an update about a meeting tomorrow with the architect and engineers.
- ii. Superintendent Young provided an update about the door project at the Moweaqua Campus noting that it was almost complete.
- iii. Superintendent Young informed the Board that she is looking into grants for ADA accessible playgrounds.
- iv. Superintendent Young also stated her intent to look into the cost of a sidewalk as presented by the 5th Grade student group.

c. Transportation - NA

C. Action - A motion was made by Bender and seconded by Just to approve the use of facilities as requested by the Central A&M Summer leagues baseball and Softball Wiffle Ball / Homerun Derby event at CAM MS on February 26, 2026 from 6-8pm. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Rutan - yes, Just - yes, Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Additions to the Agenda - NA

At this time, Superintendent Young reminded Board members about their responses to the FOIA request for any Member communication with Moweaqua Village officials regarding discussion of payment of the Moweaqua SRO. The request was made by the Edgar County Watchdogs. She clarified what we were required to submit and was looking into the question about closed session meetings.

Superintendent Young also noted the increase in recent FOIA requests to school districts recently.

Member Boltz inquired as to trends in enrollment.

E. Correspondence - NA

F. Announcements/Reminders of Workshops/Meetings/Etc.

- a. Abe Lincoln Meeting

11. Adjournment

Action - A motion was by Townsend and seconded by Just to adjourn the meeting at 8:59pm. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Townsend - yes, Bender - yes, Boltz - yes, Jordan - yes, Rutan - yes, Just - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:59pm

Josh Burgener, Board President

Aaren Rutan, Board Secretary