

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Newark Community High School District #18 Board of Education was called to order by President Jacobs at 6:34 p.m. in the LRC at Newark Community High School with Superintendent/Principal Ulrich present.

Roll call was taken, showing the following Board members present: Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, and Jacobs.

Welcome Guests and Visitors: Tyler Carlson, Jimmy Kath, Brayden Miller, Camille Mukenschnabl, Megan Lenert, LeAnn Monsess, Avery Wickens

Public Comment: None

Teacher/Staff Comment: Mrs. Mukenschnabl said it has been a good start to the year. Her class is reading short stories. Mrs. Lenert said Spanish is going well and her AP class is doing great.

Communications: None

Consent Agenda Item:

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Fletcher to approve the Consent Agenda: (a) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2026 (b) approve the Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2026 (c) approve the Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2026 (d) approve the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2026 (e) Financial Report - Fund Balances as of August 31, 2026 (f) approval of Bills and Requisitions.

Voting Aye: Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

The board went over the financial reports as of September 24, 2026:
August 2026, Treasurer's Financial Report of operational account
balances:

- ☐ Education Fund: \$304,957.56
- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$235,066.39
- ☐ Transportation Fund: \$44,978.53
- ☐ IMRF/SOC Fund: \$60,419.17
- ☐ Working Cash Fund: \$60,432.88
- ☐ Tort Fund: \$7,452.34
- ☐ Health/Life Safety Fund: \$68,523.06

August 31, 2026 Total Funds Balance: \$781,829.93

- ☐ August 2026 payrolls in the amount of \$126,490.16

September 2026 list of bills amounting to:

- ☐ Education Fund: \$80,750.10
- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$12,055.35
- ☐ Transportation Fund: \$71,780.06
- ☐ Health/Life Safety Fund: \$2,245.43

September 2026 Board bills subtotal: \$166,830.94

Extra bills for September:

- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$108.73
- ☐ Transportation Fund: \$55.00

September Extra bills subtotal: \$163.73

Board Business:

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Steffen to approve the Fiscal year 2027 Budget.

Voting Aye: Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

Superintendent/Principal Ulrich read the fund balances.

Overnight Field Trip:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Bromeland to approve the overnight field trip for the FFA National Convention on October 20 - 24, 2026.

Voting Aye: Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

Purchase of a used Ford Expedition Max:

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Smith to approve the purchase of a used 2025 Ford Expedition Max for \$56,576.73.

Voting Aye: Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

Superintendent/Principal Ulrich presented the first reading of the 2027 - 2028 school calendar.

First Reading of Policies:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Bromeland to approve the first reading of the policies.

Voting Aye: Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

Superintendent/Principal Ulrich updated the Board of Education on the athletic field.

Superintendent/Principal Ulrich updated the Board of Education on the HVAC system. Following approval at the October Board meeting, the district will be prepared to move forward with the bidding process.

Principal's Report:

- Homecoming week is the week of September 28th and Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Kitora and the Student Council have planned a jam-packed week of activities.
- Wes and I are going into two classes per week unannounced and observing teachers and students.
- Wes and I are reviewing teacher gradebooks on a weekly basis to ensure that grades are kept up to date. We have seen improvement this year.
- We continue to focus on AI and how we can best prepare our students for a world with AI.
- We are working in conjunction with the Fire Department to have a mock accident for our students on Monday, September 28th as part of Homecoming Week.

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Smith to go into closed session at 7:20 p.m. to (a) review the closed session minutes from August 20, 2026 (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21)). (b) Discuss School Personnel matters (as per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, "the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of Newark Community High School (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)). (c) Discuss Student Discipline.

(As per the Illinois Open Meeting Act, “the discussion of student discipline” (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (9), (d) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2). (e) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). (f) Discuss the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined by the Open Meetings Act, including the vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (3))

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Smith, Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

The regular board meeting reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

Roll call was taken, showing the following Board members in attendance: Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, and Jacobs.

Action Taken as a Result of Closed Session:

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Smith to approve the closed - session Board minutes as corrected for August 20, 2026.

Voting Aye: Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Bromeland to accept Jose Chapman’s resignation from the custodial staff.

Voting Aye: Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Fletcher to hire Liam Begovac as custodial staff member at \$15.00 an hour.

Voting Aye: Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Smith to hire Elena Ortega as the Spanish substitute teacher at a rate of \$120.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$231.38 per day for the following 55 days.

Voting Aye: Bromeland, Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Seyller to accept Patti Smith's retirement no later than May 28th, 2027.

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Smith to approve Megan Lenert's leave of absence from November 30, 2026 through March 5, 2027.

Voting Aye: Seyller, Smith, Steffen, Thompson, Bromeland, Fletcher, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried.

Upcoming Action items, Activities, and Events:

- a. Next Board Meeting October 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.
- b. Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Conference –
November 20-22, 2026

Other Matters of Discussion: Superintendent/Principal Ulrich discussed school bus transportation, along with preliminary numbers for the EAV.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Bromeland to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

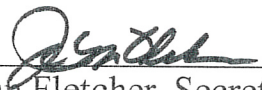
Voice Vote: 7 Ayes
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried



Ryan Jacobs, President

10-15-2026

Date



Jean Fletcher, Secretary

10-15-2026

Date