

Coal City Community Unit School District #1
Grundy County
Board Study Session of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Call to Order

President Miller called the study session meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Board members answering roll call present: Dan Engelhardt, Cindy Klein, Mindy Rampa, Ryan VanDuyne, and Ken Miller. Also, in attendance were Superintendent Christopher Spencer, CSBO Jason Smith, Director of Student Services Luke Krippel, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Jennifer Kenney, Community Relations Specialist Ann Gill, and Secretary to the Board of Education LaWanda Gagliardo. Board member Quint Harmon arrived at 6:43 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Miller led the Board, and others present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion on RFP for Architectural Services: Master Facilities Planning

CSBO Jason Smith discussed the RFP for architectural services for master facilities planning for the district. Mr. Smith provided the Board with a summary of why this planning is done every 10 years and its importance. Mr. Smith provided the Board with a summary of what the process looks like from start to finish. The Board also discussed if the timing was right for this type of planning.

Discussion on Merger of District Attorney's Law Practice

Superintendent Christopher Spencer discussed the merger of district attorney's Kriha Boucek to Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost, LLP. The Board discussed if there would be changes to the services provided and pricing. The administration has been satisfied with the services provided and are looking forward to the additional resources that will be offered.

Discussion on State of Special Education

Director of Student Services Luke Krippel provided the Board of Education with the status of special education within the district. Mr. Krippel discussed the services that are provided in-house and went over some laws pertaining to special education. The Board thanked Mr. Krippel for the job him and his team are doing.

Discussion on Intermediate School Update

Superintendent Christopher Spencer provided the Board of Education with an update on the renovation project at the Intermediate School.

Discussion on Staffing for FY27

Superintendent Christopher Spencer discussed staffing for the FY27 school year at each building. Mr. Spencer discussed the posting of the CSBO position. Mr. Spencer also discussed the difficulty of hiring a third psychologist position for the district, and the creative way that other districts have been able to secure a candidate.

Discussion on School Therapy Dog

At the May 28, 2025, Board Study Session of the Whole Meeting, High School Principal Art Stafford was in attendance and spoke with the Board of Education regarding a therapy dog for the district. Director of Student Services Mr. Krippel provided the Board with an update on the status from that

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meeting. Mr. Krippel also provided the Board with the next steps to be taken to get the process started.

Finance Reports

The bank statements, monthly revenue, expenditure summary reports, check reconciliation report, cash reports, and cleared check report for November were enclosed for review. Detailed reports were available in the Business Office for review prior to the meeting. The Treasurer's report, investment report, and lunch report for November were also enclosed for review.

Open

- a) Items not known at agenda preparation time – none.
- b) Sharing Ideas / Information – Mr. Spencer informed the Board of Education about Step By Step's decision to no longer provide transportation for preschool students from their facility to the Early Childhood Center.

Closed Session

At 7:10 p.m. a motion made by Mr. Engelhardt and seconded by Mr. Harmon to go into closed session for the purpose of considering information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, dismissal of specific employees, administrative contracts, and pending litigation.

Mrs. Kenney, Mr. Krippel, and Mr. Smith left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Cindy Klein, Matt Melvin, Mindy Rampa, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller
Nays:
Motion: Carried.

Mrs. Rampa moved, and Mrs. Klein seconded to return to open session at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Mindy Rampa, Cindy Klein, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller
Nays:
Motion: Carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. the Board Study Session of the Whole meeting.

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Kenneth P. Miller, President

Cynthia Klein, Secretary