



“Soar to Excellence.”

LIBERTY COMMUNITY UNIT #2 SCHOOL

505 N. PARK ST. LIBERTY, IL 62347

www.libertyschool.net

Board of Education

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Jody Obert, PreK-5 Principal

Kimberly Harrison 6-12 Principal

***Liberty School District will equip the whole student with knowledge,
skills, and character to achieve personal success as they “Soar to
Excellence.”***

Board Meeting Agenda for September 23, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chorus Room.

1. Public Hearings on the FY27 Proposed Budget and the FY26 Administrative Expenditure Limitation Waiver.
2. Routine Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of the Agenda
 - B. Approval of the following Minutes:
August 19, 2026 Board Meeting
 - C. Approval of the Bills, Payroll, Journal Entries, and Additional Bills
 - D. Approval of the Treasurer's Report
 - E. Approval of the Activity Report
 - F. Approval of the Imprest Fund
3. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approved the FY27 Proposed Budget.
 - B. Approved the Seniority Lists for certified and support staff for 2026-27.
 - C. Approved the first reading of the Cell Phone Policy 6:238
 - D. Approved the Bus Driver/Monitor Collective Bargaining Agreement for August 1, 2026- to July 31, 2029.
 - E. Approved the revised job descriptions for the Grounds Maintenance Worker and the Transportation Supervisor.
 - F. Approved the two new Student Activity Accounts from the JH/PBIS Restricted Funds for:
 - Soar More Squad—focusing on fun activities for students
 - Soaring Strong—focusing on soft skills and student achievement
 - G. Approved the revised waiver for the FY26 Administrative Expenditure Limitation.
 - H. Approved the Memorandum of Understanding and SOPPA Agreement with Rural Behavioral Health Institute to continue doing the mental health screenings of 3-12th grade students.
4. Discussion and Action:
 - A. Consider applying for a matching FY27 School Maintenance Grant to replace the pipes, as noted on the Health, Life Safety Survey.
 - B. Approve the Keck bid on the exhaust fan and stove hoods for the Home Ec. room for \$8,754.
5. Reports:
 - A. Elementary Principal's Report
 - B. Junior High/High School Principal's Report
 - C. Superintendent's Report
 - D. Technology Coordinator's Report
 - E. Unpaid School Fees & Lunch Balance Report
6. Personnel Report:
 - A. Approved Mellia Treaster as a Sub Bus Monitor, effective August 26, 2026.
 - B. Approved Niover Wiewel as a Sub Teacher, effective September 23, 2026.
 - C. Approved Jason Bottorff as a Sub Teacher, effective September 23, 2026.
 - D. Approved Bill Beard as a Sub teacher, effective September 23, 2026

- E. Approved Michelle Steeples as a Sub Para Educator, Kitchen Helper, and Custodian, effective September 23, 2026.
- F. Approved Rhiana Meyer as a Sub Para Educator, effective September 23, 2026.
- G. Approved Madison Otwell as a Pre K Bus Monitor, effective September 8, 2026
- H. Approved Morgan Suhling as the Assistant JH Track Coach, effective September 23, 2026.
- I. Approved Kim Gilbert as the Part-time Pre-K Para Educator, effective September 28, 2026
- J. Approved Karla Ellerman on her intent to retire as a Para Educator, effective May 31, 2027.
- K. Approved Kelle Bunch on her intent to retire as Superintendent, effective June 30, 2027.
- L. Approved Volunteer Assistant Coaches for HS Boys Basketball:
Mike Fray, Madelyn Hyer, Kyle Hannel, & Justin Edgar
- M. Approved Frank Mayfield for a medical leave, effective September 21, 2026.



Superintendent Comments:

Proposed Budget

The school board approved the Proposed Budget for FY27. The superintendent summarized what happens in each fund. As a result, we have a balanced budget except for the Fire Prev. Fund. This is due to refinishing the track, which had to be paid from current Fire Pre. income and reserves. Overall, the budget for the fiscal year 2026-27 is balanced.

Seniority Lists

Annually, the school board must approve seniority lists for bus drivers/monitors, support staff, and teachers. The teachers list indicate years of experience, education, and endorsements, and are used if there is a reduction in force. For now, the teacher and support staff list was approved. The bus driver/monitor list will be approved next month due to finishing contract negotiations in August 2026

Cell Phones

The school board approved the first reading of the Cell Phone Policy, as listed in the handbooks. Illinois public schools are required to have a policy on this in place by the new calendar year.

Agreement

The school board approved a 3-yr. collective bargaining agreement between the Liberty School Board and the Bus Driver/Monitor Union.

Job Descriptions

Two job descriptions were updated and approved regarding Transportation director and Grounds Maintenance Worker.

Student Activity Accounts

The auditor requested that we move the JH/HS PBIS money from Restricted Funds to the Student Activity Funds. There will be two new student activity accounts. They are Soar More Squad, which focuses on fun activities for students, and Soaring Strong, which focuses on soft skills and student achievement.

Waiver

The Liberty School Board approved the revised waiver on the Administrative Expenditure Limitation, which exceeded 5% on the Amended Budget for FY26. A letter was sent to Rep Kyle Moore instead of CD Davidsmeyer, so the entire process had to be redone. This included a new application, public hearing, and school board approval.

Screener

The school board approved the continuation of the mental health screener with Rural Behavioral Health Institute paid for by the Tracy Foundation. This will soon be required for all K-12 public schools. Liberty has been part of this program for a couple of years. We are ahead of the game because we want to ensure that our students have good mental health.

Maintenance Grant

The school board has decided to apply for the Maintenance Grant for FY27 to..... We will use \$50,000 from the state and the remaining part from the Tort Funds.

Exhaust Fan

The school board approved a bid from Keck to upgrade the existing exhaust fan system in the Home Ec. room, as it does not currently work.