

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Newark Community High School District #18 Board of Education was called to order by President Jacobs at 6:31 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, Jacobs, Seyller, Steffen, and Thompson. Board Members absent Bromeland, and Smith.

Welcome guests and visitors: Holly Larson

Public Comment: None

Teacher/Staff Comment: Mrs. Larson shared with the Board of Education that finals went well.

Communications: Jean Fletcher and Don Smith were recognized as established Board Leaders through the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Consent Agenda Item:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Seyller to approve the Consent Agenda items: (a) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2026; (b) approve the Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting of April 23, 2026; (c) approve the Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting of May 14, 2026; (d) approve the Financial Report-Fund Balances as of April 30, 2026; (e) approval of Bills and Requisitions.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

The board went over the financial reports as of May 21, 2026:

April 2026, Treasurer's Financial Report of operational account balances:

- ☐ Education Fund: \$320,875.39
- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$54,036.41
- ☐ Transportation Fund: \$56,918.65
- ☐ IMRF/SOC Fund: \$15,300.96
- ☐ Working Cash Fund: \$0
- ☐ Tort Fund: \$4,444.03
- ☐ Health/Life Safety Fund: \$15,131.30

April 30, 2026 Total Funds Balance: \$466,706.74

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- ☐ April 2026 payrolls in the amount of \$139,483.01

May 2026 list of bills amounting to:

- ☐ Education Fund: \$27,510.27
- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$42,483.86
- ☐ Transportation Fund: \$10,941.94
- ☐ Tort Fund: \$153.75

May Board bills subtotal: \$81,089.82

Extra bills for May:

- ☐ Education Fund: \$1,538.95
- ☐ Operations and Maintenance Fund: \$4,662.64

Extra bills subtotal: \$6,201.59

Board Business:**Textbook adoption:**

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Steffen to approve the English Novel to be used in the classroom.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

Textbook adoption:

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Seyller to place two Science Textbooks and Related Materials on a 30-day public display.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

Parent Student Handbook 2026-2027:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Steffen to approve the Parent-Student Handbook for 2026-2027.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

Renewal of Property and Casualty:

A motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Fletcher to approve the Renewal of Property and Casualty with Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust.

Voting Aye: Steffen, Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

Title 1 Parent-Compact:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Thompson to approve the Title 1 Parent-Compact 2026-2027 School Year.

Voting Aye: Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland, and Smith

Authorize Ratification:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Seyller to approve Ratification Authority for the Superintendent for Hiring of Staff Purposes Effective Immediately and Expiring on August 20, 2026.

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

Overnight Trip:

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Fletcher to approve the Overnight Bass Fishing Trip to Lake Springfield May 30-31.

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

Mr. Ulrich shared with the Board of Education Financial support for IVVC.

Early Graduation:

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Thompson to approve an Early Graduation Request.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

Mr. Ulrich updated the Board of Education regarding the Technology Staffing plan to support QNS.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Steffen to reject all bids received for the 2026 Mechanical Work renovation project as the bids exceeded the project budget.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

Mr. Ulrich updated the Board of Education on the Building and Grounds activity.

Principal's Report:

- Students completed AP tests last week.
- Finals began on Tuesday May 19th and finished May 21st.
- Staff has been informed of their schedules for next year.
- Teacher appreciation was the first week of May the staff was well fed and had an enjoyable week.
- Prom and Prom walk went well.
- Honored students of the month for April and May.
- We had the student of the semester breakfast on May 8th.
- Spring Musical and the Band Concert went well.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Steffen to go into closed session at 7:27 p.m. to (a) review the closed session minutes from April 16, 2026 and March 19, 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) 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: Steffen, Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

The regular board meeting reconvened at 8:08 p.m.

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

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Fletcher to approve the Closed Session Minutes from March 19th 2026.

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

Voting Nay: None

Motion carried

Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Steffen to approve the Closed Session Minutes from April 16, 2026.

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Fletcher to approve Josh Cooper for Summer Maintenance at \$20.00 per hour.

Voting Aye: Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, Fletcher, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Fletcher to approve Jose Chapman for Summer Maintenance at \$15.00 per hour up to 15 hours per week.

Voting Aye: Steffen, Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Fletcher and seconded by Seyller to approve Joe Steffen's Retirement date of June 29, 2026

Voting Aye: Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, and Jacobs
Abstained: Steffen
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Seyller to approve an MOU for the Staff insurance cost for 2026-2027 School year.

Voting Aye: Thompson, Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

A motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Fletcher to approve Non-Certified staff raises effective July 1, 2026 for School Year 2026-2027.

Voting Aye: Fletcher, Seyller, Steffen, Thompson, and Jacobs
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith

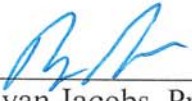
Upcoming Action items, Activities, and Events;

- a. Next Board Meeting Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
- b. Possible Committee Meeting- Policy
- c. Graduation – May 22, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
- d. Triple I Conference – November 20-22, 2026

Other Matters of Discussion: None

A Motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Fletcher to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

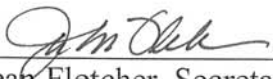
Voice Vote: 5 Ayes
Voting Nay: None
Motion carried
Absent Bromeland and Smith



Ryan Jacobs, President



Date



Jean Fletcher, Secretary



Date