Hartsburg-Emden Community Unit School District #21
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Hartsburg-Emden Community Unit School District #21 Board of Education was held Wednesday, January 21, 2026 in the Superintendent's Office

Call to order

President Aper called the meeting to order at 7:00

Roll Call
On roll call, the following board members answered present: Aper, Ballance, Cross, Wright and Sherwood.
Others present: Joe Yurko, Ashley Tetter-Rowden and Lauren DeJarnette
Absent: Cecil absent
Doolin arrived at 7:01pm

Consent agenda

A motion was made by Sherwood and seconded by Doolin to approve the consent agenda, including payment of bills and approval of minutes. Roll Call: Aper, yes; Sherwood, yes; Wright, yes; Doolin, yes; Cross, yes and Ballance, yes.

Opportunity for citizens/visitors to speak

Ron Spencer addressed the board

Executive session

At 7:02pm a motion was made by Cross and seconded by Ballance to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. Roll Call: Cross, yes; Wright, yes; Aper, yes; Doolin, yes; Sherwood, yes; and Ballance, yes. Motion 6-0

Return to open session

At 7:09pm a motion was made by Doolin and seconded by Sherwood to return to Open Session. Roll Call: Cross, yes; Sherwood, yes; Aper, yes; Doolin, yes; Ballance, yes; and Wright, yes. Motion 6-0

Superintendent's report
Roof Update*:** Surveyed the roof, w/ the repair should give us another 14 years; possible of architect and roofer involved; board was pleased with the cost of repairs it will take. ***Annual Audit Updates*:** Matt Koch is drafting a review that the board will have at next month's meeting. ***PRESS Policy Services Update: Board can approve today, only a few changes were made such as legislation choices and cleaning up certain sentences with word changes.

Principal's Report

RTI→ trainer did a great job of explaining details; Monday is 100th Day, all kids will have activities to do; Book Blast will be Thursday Jan.22-Feb. 6th; three new students were named student of the month.

JH/HS side: Helping kids out of their comfort zone, help them take different challenges w/ new curriculum

Elizabeth Hilgert will help w/ benchmarking coming up

Action Items

Approve cooperative agreements for track

A motion was made by Ballance and seconded by Cross. Roll Call: Sherwood, yes; Ballance, yes; Wright, yes; Aper, yes; Cross, yes; Cecil, yes; and Doolin, yes. Motion 6-0

Approve Resignation of Jay McAfee as JHBB Assistant Coach

A motion was made by Cross and seconded by Sherwood. Roll Call: Sherwood, yes; Ballance, yes; Wright, yes; Aper, yes; Cross, yes; Cecil, yes; and Doolin, yes. Motion 6-0

Approve Board Policy Manual Update

A motion was made by Ballance and seconded by Cross. Roll Call: Ballance, no; Cross, yes; Wright, yes; Aper, yes; Doolin, yes; and Sherwood, yes. Motion 6-0

Approve 10-year Health Life-Safety Surveys

A motion was made by Sherwood and seconded by Ballance. Roll Call: Cross, yes; Wright, yes; Ballance, yes; Aper, yes; Doolin, yes; and Sherwood, yes. Motion 6-0

Approve 2025 Financial Audit

Action item was tabled

Approve Roof Repair

A motion was made by Doolin and seconded by Ballance. Roll Call: Ballance, yes; Cross, yes; Wright, yes; Aper, yes; Doolin, yes; and Sherwood, yes. Motion 6-0

Approve Set Special Board Meeting for Goal Setting Work, Feb. 11, 2026, 5:30

Action Item was tabled

Adjourn

At 8:09pm a motion was made by Sherwood and seconded by Doolin. 6 yea, and 0 no.