

Pleasant Hill CUSD #3  
Regular School Board Meeting  
March 18, 2026

The Board of Education of Pleasant Hill CUSD #3 met for a regular meeting in the All-Purpose Room at the Pleasant Hill Elementary School on March 18, 2026.

1. Board President Steve Hammitt called the regular meeting to order at 6:06 pm.
2. Upon roll call the following members were present: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse. Also present were Superintendent Kylee Orr and High School Principal Ryan Lowe.
3. Member Damon motioned and Hammitt seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse.
4. There was no public participation.
5. There was no correspondence.
6. Reports
  - a. Committee Reports: None
  - b. Principal Report: Mr. Lowe presented the High School Principal Report.
  - c. Superintendent Report: Mrs. Orr presented the Elementary Principal and the Superintendent Report.
  - d. FOIA Requests: None
7. In discussion items, Mrs. Orr advised the Board a Special Board Meeting may be needed to discuss funding for building improvements.
8. Mrs. Orr presented the final amendment to the 2025-2026 calendar. Member Carpenter motioned and Hammitt seconded to approve the Amended 2025-2026 School Calendar. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
9. Mrs. Orr presented the final draft of the Health Life Safety Survey. Member Damon motioned and Rodhouse seconded its approval. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
10. Member Carpenter motioned and Damon seconded to renew membership in the Illinois High School Association for the 26-27 school year. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
11. Member Damon motioned and Hammitt seconded to renew membership in the Illinois Elementary School Association for the 26-27 school year. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.

12. Member Hammitt motioned and Damon seconded to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District at 6:40 pm. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”. The Board returned to open session at 7:27 pm.
13. Personnel Action resulting from Executive Session
  - a. Member Damon motioned and Carpenter approved to employ Madelynn Herkert as a full-time Social Studies and English Language Arts teacher beginning immediately and extending through the 26-27 school year (movement from substitute teacher). Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
  - b. Member Damon motioned and Rodhouse seconded to approve a one-year extension on Superintendent Orr’s contract with an expiration date of June 30, 2028. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
  - c. Member Damon motioned and Carpenter seconded to approve a 3-year contract for Ryan Lowe with an expiration date of June 30, 2029. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.
14. There were no other items.
15. Member Buchanan motioned and Damon seconded to adjourn at 7:36 pm. Upon roll call, the following members voted “Yes”: Traci Buchanan, Shawn Carpenter, Braden Damon, Steve Hammitt, and Aaron Rodhouse (5 yes). No members voted “No”.