

WOODRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 68
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Woodridge School District 68 Board of Education, DuPage County, Illinois, was held Monday, March 16, 2026, at the District Administrative Center, 7925 Janes Avenue, Woodridge, Illinois 60517 at 7:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Mr. Madden, Mrs. Barber, Mr. Lathrop, Mrs. Hebreard, Mr. Christ, Mr. Vanorny

Absent: Dr. Molina de Mesa

Also Present: Dr. Broncato, Mr. Wolcott, Dr. Schmidt, Mr. Saindon

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Superits joined the open session

CLOSED SESSION 6:30 p.m

Josh Christ made a motion, and Lorie Barber seconded the motion to recess the Board of Education to Closed Session for the purpose of considering information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and discuss 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)(3).

Motion Passed by roll call vote at 6:31 pm.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea,

David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea.

Dr. Molina de Mesa joined Closed Session remotely.

Closed Session concluded at 7:34

Dr. Molina de Mesa did not return to the open session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Goodrich Students: Dwayne Curiel, Caleb Lee, Claire Upton, and Liam Garvey.

DISTRICT 68 HIGHLIGHTS

Golden Apple Awards Finalist: Congratulations to Megan Fitzsimmons, a teacher at Thomas Jefferson Junior High, for being named a finalist for the 2026 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, recognizing her positive impact on students.

Sock Drive Success: Murphy students organized a sock drive for DuPagePads, donating two large bins of socks to support local housing initiatives.

Read Across America Day: On February 26, every elementary classroom featured guest readers, fostering students' love of reading. A big thank you to all community members and organizations who participated!

Art Fair Achievements: Two students from Murphy and Siple schools won Best in Show at the Darien Women's Club Art Fair:

- Alice Fukushiro (Murphy) – 1st & 2nd Grade Division
- Alaska Tkachev (Siple) – 3rd & 4th Grade Division

Student Artwork Display: Throughout March, Edgewood student artwork is showcased in the children's section of the Woodridge Public Library.

Wrestling Team Success: Jefferson Junior High's wrestling team excelled at the IESA State Meet, finishing 10th overall with four state placers:

- Thatcher Christ (3rd place, 112 lbs)
- Angelo Pizza (6th place, 145 lbs)
- Eric Roberson (4th place, 167 lbs)
- Frankie Martinez (4th place, 215 lbs)

CONSENT AGENDA

Josh Christ made a motion, and Bob Lathrop seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items: A - Open Session Minutes, B - Personnel, C - Treasurer's Report, D - Monthly Budget and Program Report, and E - Accounts Payable. Motion Passed by roll call vote.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea, David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea

A. Minutes - 2.23.2026 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

B. Personnel Recommendations - March 2026

APPOINTMENT(S) - EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

De Lara Serna, Leslie, Executive Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, DAC, \$28.93, 03/17/26

RESIGNATION(S) PROFESSIONAL

Cook, Carly, Grade 5, Meadowview, 05/28/26, Personal

Groves, Kamron, Debate & Discourse, Jefferson JH, 05/28/26, Personal

Teplitsky, Mariya, Bilingual Resource, Edgewood, 05/28/26, Personal

RESIGNATION(S) – EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Pellegrini, Kristen, LRC Assistant, Meadowview, 03/06/26, Personal

Rodriguez, Nelida, MLP Teaching Assistant, Meadowview, 03/06/26, Personal

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Grissom, Cassandra, Teaching Assistant, William F. Murphy, General, 02/20 – 03/16/26

Grist, Katy, MLP Learning Behavior Specialist, Meadowview, FMLA, 03/06 – 04/24/26

Hughes, Kara, Teaching Assistant, Goodrich, FMLA, 03/16 – 03/27/26

Kash, Sara, Principal Edgewood, General, Extended, 11/10/25 - 06/30/26

Langosch, Hannah, Learning Behavior Specialist, Edgewood, Parental, 05/01/26 – 26-27SY

Lewandowski, Tina, Inclusion TA, Meadowview, FMLA, 04/27 – 05/28/26

Saindon, Curt, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, DAC, FMLA, 03/18 – 04/07/26, intermittent thereafter

Wiggins, Amanda, MLP Teaching Assistant, Meadowview, FMLA, 03/11 – 03/17/26

TENURE

The Administration recommended the following staff members be placed on tenure, effective with the 2026-2027 school term:

Buena, Alyssa, Learning Behavior Specialist, Goodrich

Bumbarovska Zaharieva, Vesna, Music, William F. Murphy

Castillo, Betsy, MLP Learning Behavior Specialist, Meadowview

Champion, Christopher, Physical Education, William F. Murphy

Collins, Kara, Learning Behavior Specialist, Edgewood

Dinon, Nina, Early Childhood, Edgewood

Dobry, Anacely, Bilingual Kindergarten, William F. Murphy

Driscoll, Kristin, Learning Behavior Specialist, Meadowview

Flores, Julissan, Bilingual 1 st Grade, William F. Murphy
Harmon, LeighAnne, EC Psychologist, John L. Siple
Kim, Kayla, Math, Jefferson JH
Koclanis, Susan, Learning Behavior Specialist, Willow Creek
Kreffit, Michelle, Grade 4, Meadowview
Remar, Jennifer, Learning Behavior Specialist, Goodrich
Ririe, Emma, Grade 5, Meadowview
Rutledge, Isaac, Band Jefferson, JH

THIRD YEAR PROBATION

The Administration recommended the following staff members be placed on third year probation, effective with the 2026-27 school term:

Birks, Jocelynn, MLP Learning Behavior Specialist, Meadowview
Cochrane, Andrew, Gifted Specialist, Jefferson JH
Dakak, Jude, Learning Behavior Specialist, Edgewood
Dennie, Alice, Psychologist, Edgewood/Goodrich
Hendricks, Heidi, Kindergarten, Meadowview
McAllister, Jill, Learning Behavior Specialist, William F. Murphy
McCoy, Grace, Math, Jefferson JH
Mulcahy, Lia, Learning Behavior Specialist, Willow Creek
Ries, Colin, Grade 4, William F. Murphy
Rodriguez, Lizette, Bilingual Kindergarten, William F. Murphy
Travers, Brianna, Grade 4, Meadowview
Zych, Grace, Grade 5, Goodrich

SECOND YEAR PROBATION

The Administration recommended the following staff members be placed on second year:

Ayer, Emma, Grade 1, Meadowview
Alexander, Brianna, District CSN, District
Baffes, Andrea, Grade 4, Goodrich
Bossler, Annalise, Grade 4, John L. Siple
Bruce, Melissa, Speech Pathologist, Goodrich
Bundy, Ryan, Psychologist, John L. Siple
Cavalleri, Giorgia, Kindergarten, William F. Murphy
Curran, Grace Grade 4, John L. Siple
Duax, Olivia, Language Arts, Jefferson JH
Durkin, Jessica, MLP Learning Behavior Specialist, Meadowview
Evans, Audrey, Tech Coordinator, Jefferson JH
Fatima, Ruqqaiya, Grade 2, Meadowview
Finin, Leah, Grade 3, William F. Murphy
Fleck, Chloe, Speech Pathologist, Meadowview
Galvan, Janette, Bilingual Resource, William F. Murphy
Jaquez, Isabel, Grade 4, Co-Teacher, William F. Murphy
Jason, Marina, Grade 1, Goodrich
Legg, Samantha, Grade 2, William F. Murphy
LoBianco, Alyssa, Grade 2, CoTeacher, John L. Siple
Masood, Sofia, Grade 1, William F. Murphy
Miesse, Anna, Grade 6, Meadowview
Newtoff, Luke, Physical Education, Jefferson JH
Opoka, Brian, STEM, Jefferson JH
Perez, Elsie, Social Worker, Jefferson JH
Sehgal, Natalie, Pre-K/Early Childhood, Edgewood
Smith, Sadie, Grade 3, John L. Siple

Stewart, Karoline, Art, Goodrich
Streich, Julia, Learning Behavior Specialist, Jefferson JH
Timejardine, Alexis, Social Worker, William F. Murphy
Watson, Noof, Learning Resource Special, Meadowview

- C. Treasurer's Report - February 2026
- D. Monthly Budget and Program Report - February 2026
- E. Accounts Payable - March 2026

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. School Improvement Update
Paul Scaletta, Goodrich Principal, provided the Board of Education with a School Improvement Update.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PRESENTATION OF OTHER COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND REQUESTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public comments were available both in person and submitted in writing prior to the meeting. One (1) Woodridge 68 parent made a public comment, Sarah Schawbroec. Two (2) written comments were received prior to the meeting by the following individuals: Melanie O'Reilly-Rogers and Lauren Ligammari.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

AC: 26-10 Approval of 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Josh Christ made a motion, and Donna Hebreard seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2026-2027 board meeting schedule as presented.
Motion Passed by roll call vote.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea, David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea

AC: 26-11 Approval of 2026-2027 Fee Schedule

Lorie Barber made a motion, and Bob Lathrop seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2026-2027 fee schedule as presented.
Motion Passed by roll call vote.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea, David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea

AC: 26-12 Approval of Resolution Authorizing Reduction in Force to Part-Time And Temporary Non-Tenured Teachers

Bob Lathrop made a motion, and Josh Christ seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution authorizing Reduction in Force to Part-Time and Temporary Non-Tenured Teachers from Woodridge School District 68 of DuPage County, Illinois, as presented.
Motion Passed by roll call vote.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea, David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea

DI: 26-13 Discussion on Jefferson Gifted Science and Social Studies

The Board of Education requested that the Jefferson Gifted Science item be returned as an action item at the April meeting, at which time the Board will vote on a proposed timeline and the transition from Gifted Science to Honors Science at Jefferson. Gifted Social Studies will continue under the current program structure.

DI: 26-14 Intergovernmental Agreement, Woodridge School District 68 AND Village of Woodridge, 75th Street Corridor Increment Financing (TIF)

Dr. Broncato introduced the Intergovernmental Agreement and is scheduled to return in April as an Action Item for Board of Education approval.

DI: 26-15 Discussion on Budget Update — Expenditures

Mr. Saindon presented the Board of Education with an update on projected expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year. In light of current general economic instability, overall expenditures are anticipated to increase by approximately 5–6%.

DI: 26-16 Discussion on Tax Appeals

Mr. Saindon updated the Board of Education on the 2025 tax appeals and will have more information as the process proceeds through the finalization cycle in the spring.

BOARD REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Dr. Schmidt presented two Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the Board for information. Board members Lorie Barber and Donna Hebreard spoke about attending the COSBBA (Consortium of State School Boards Associations) National conference in Louisville, Kentucky, March 13-15th, 2026. The conference discussed some challenges that schools across the United States are facing. Mr. Christ spoke about the Jefferson Jr. High wrestling team attending the IESA State meet and the team taking 10th place.

ADJOURNMENT

Josh Christ made a motion, and David Madden seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Passed by roll call vote at 9:31 pm.

Lorie Barber: Yea, Josh Christ: Yea, Donna Hebreard: Yea, Bob Lathrop: Yea, David Madden: Yea, Stuart Vanorny: Yea

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Superits, Board Secretary 4.20.2026

Approved: Stuart Vanorny, President 4.20.2026