

LEND COUNCIL MEETING

Friday April 25, 2025

8:00 AM

ZOOM



AGENDA

- Welcome- LEND Co-Chair
- Directors Report
 - Session Update
- FY26 Organization Preparation for Final Meeting
 - FY26 Proposed Dues- Curt Saindon, Greg Harris
 - FY26 Proposed Budget- Curt Saindon, Greg Harris
 - Executive Committee Slate- LEND Co-Chairs
 - FY26 Proposed Meeting Dates- Jen Figurelli
 - Ethekos Survey - LEND Co-Chairs
 - New LEND Logo
- Member Concerns
- Adjourn



BILLS IN COMMITTEE THIS WEEK



APPROPS ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY EDUCATION

Subject matter hearings took place on the following bills:

HB1072 (Yang Rohr) Mobile Panic Alert

- An important part of the continued fight for common sense school safety legislation. In an emergency situation, quick response is key. Alyssa's law will ensure mobile panic alert systems to notify law enforcement.
- The sponsor testified that there is a provision in the bill that asks ISBE to solicit "bulk orders" to save districts cost.
- Estimated cost to districts was said to be \$1400 - \$1800 per school building
- The sponsor made it clear that she is trying to garner support to move this legislation.
- We will continue to monitor

HB1250 (Vella) Pupil Transportation

- The bill changes the free transportation requirement from 1 ½ miles to ½ mile.
- The Representative filed the legislation so that refugee students in his district have access to transportation.
- ISBE estimates the cost to be beyond \$1 million statewide.
- There was pushback from the Chair of the Appropriations committee asking if the sponsors district (Tier 1) could cover the cost themselves.
- There was also a suggestion to reach out to IDOT to designate a pathway for safe school route.

EDUCATION POLICY

SB1519 (Villa/Ford) Refer Law Enforcement

- This is the ticketing bill that was negotiated by stakeholders containing the following provisions:
- Requires any district that uses an SRO to enter into an MOU with their local law enforcement no later than July 1, 2026.
- A student must not be issued a monetary fine, fee, ticket or citation as a school-based disciplinary consequence or for municipal code violation on school grounds during school hours or while taking school transportation by any person.
- Still allows for restitution payments.
- Continues to allow for police discretion in determining whether an offense constitutes a criminal act (ex: disorderly conduct vs assault)
- School personnel (instead of school districts) may not refer a truant, chronic truant, or truant minor to a local entry, SRO, or law enforcement office for that SRO or law enforcement officer to issue a fine or fee for punishment for his or truancy.

SB1983 (Edly-Allen/Didech) Gifted & AMP

- Current statute for gifted programming still relies on General State Aid and grant programs that no longer exist. This legislation allows for local control enabling school districts to utilize their EBF dollars for gifted programming as they see fit.

ADMIN LICENSING CHARTER COMMITTEE

SB28 (Lightford/ Faver Dias) Employee Evaluations

- SB28 modernizes teacher and principal evaluations.
- Makes the student growth calculation permissive in evaluations.
- Growth data is used for teacher evaluations when agreed upon by the joint committee.
- Growth data is used for principal evaluations at the discretion of the evaluator.

SB1616 (Villivalam/Katz Muhl) Major School Events

- ISBE will publish a calendar for school districts which includes a non-exhaustive list of the identified days and dates of cultural, religious, or other observances.
- This calendar may be used as a resource for planning major events in the school calendar.

Insurance Costs on School Districts

- A subject matter only hearing was held to discuss insurance costs for school districts. There were four panels, two were union representation and two were management representation.
- An IASB resolution was adopted at the Triple I conference that would require CMS to create a unified health plan for school districts to opt into to provide equitable insurance coverage to all school staff across the state of Illinois.
- All panels agreed that costs were increasing.
- Representative Stuart has a resolution creating a taskforce to further analyze this concept.

LEGISLATION IN OPPOSITE CHAMBER



Legislation in Opposite Chamber

HB1237 (West/Hilton) Mascots

- It is still not assigned to a Senate committee for a hearing.
- We will meet with the Senate President's office and the Senate Sponsor to see if they plan to move the bill.
- We will continue to advocate for an option for all districts to request approval from federally recognized tribes to continue using these mascots in a respectful way.

HB1787 (Hirschauer/Cappel) Safety Drills Subs

- A school district must provide training on school evacuation and law enforcement lockdown procedures to all personnel serving in a substitute capacity. Whenever possible, this training should be conducted in person. In addition to this training, the school district must support substitute personnel by implementing recommended practices, including but not limited to:
 - Clearly displaying maps with all school exits in every classroom; and
 - Including district-approved materials on evacuation and lockdown procedures in the information packet provided to full-time-equivalent employees.

HB2962 (Crawford/Fine) Vehicle Cd Third Division

- The Secretary of State shall issue a school bus driver permit for the operation of:
 - First or second division vehicles used as school buses
 - First division vehicles used as school buses, or
 - First division vehicles or multifunction school activity buses (carrying up to 15 passengers, including the driver) when used for curriculum-related activities.

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

HB2970 (Moeller/Turner) Remove/Dismiss Teachers

- HB 2970 proposes changes to how school districts may issue and enforce Notices to Remedy (NTRs) for educator misconduct. Specifically, it:
 - Subjects the issuance of a NTR to the grievance and arbitration process.
 - Limits the effectiveness of a NTR to just four years, after which it must be removed from a personnel file.
- Undermines District Oversight of Teacher Misconduct
 - Limits the authority of school districts to take timely and appropriate action when misconduct arises. A Notice to Remedy is a critical tool to correct unprofessional behavior and protect students. Subjecting this to arbitration delays needed intervention and compromises student safety.
- Enables Repeated Misconduct
 - The requirement that all evidence of a Notice to Remedy be expunged after four years opens the door for patterns of misconduct to recur, with no documented history to guide future decisions or protect students.
- Threatens Student Safety
 - NTRs are issued for a range of unprofessional behaviors, including:
 - Repeatedly leaving students unsupervised
 - Harassment of colleagues or students
 - Boundary violations that may escalate into grooming

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

HB2966 (Katz Muhl/Morrison)- Consolidation Analysis

- Requires ISBE to analyze the use of grant funds for consolidation analysis in relation to school districts reorganization feasibility studies.
- ISBE may give grants to school districts to incentivize conducting feasibility studies.
- If a district chooses to proceed with the study and it's approved by the ROE or ISC they can apply for grant funding with ISBE.
- Effective FY2030

HB3097 (Ortiz)- FAFSA Completion

- Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, each school district shall provide appropriate support to assist high school students with understanding and completing a financial aid application. This support may be offered in various formats and settings and shall include an opportunity for the student to request and receive help during the school day for completing their portion of the financial aid application. Use of the support or assistance offered under this Section shall be voluntary for students.
- *The amendment was drafted by LEND and others ensuring that assistance during the day and only at the request of the student.*

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

HB3037 (Yang Rohr/Villivalam) Right to Play Act

- A student participating in a school athletic activity may also take part in a non-school athletic activity in the same sport during the same season, provided they receive a waiver from the school principal or athletic director. This waiver may also extend to participation in "all-star team" events.
- The language allows principals or ADs to waive IHSA consequences twice per year for tryouts, practices, team membership, or full-season play—even in the same sport and season as school athletics.
- This proposal raises serious safety concerns—risking overexertion, overtraining, and disrupting the balance between athletics, academics, and other activities.

HB3039 (Yang Rohr/Villivalam) High School Credits

- Allows a student enrolled in grade 7 or 8 to enroll in a high school in a required high school course if the student (i) participates in the course at the location of the high school and the elementary student's enrollment in the course would not prevent a high school student from being able to enroll OR (ii) enrolls in a required high school course if the course is offered by the high school that the student would attend and the student participates in the course where the student attends school as long as the student passes the end of course exam given at the high school granting the credit for the same course, demonstrating proficiency at the high school level OR (iii) the course is taught by a teacher who holds a professional educator license issued under Article 21B of this Code and endorsed for the grade level and content area of the course.

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

HB3275 (Davis/Edly-Allen) Cardiac Emergency Response

- Requires all paid school head coaches or chief sponsors of the activity to obtain and maintain certification in:
 - CPR, First Aid and the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)
- Also makes changes to cardiac emergency response plan; Requiring the emergency response team to also be trained in CPR and the use of an AED.
- Cardiac response drills may be conducted without students present.

HB3772 (Davis) Suspension/Expulsion

ISBE provided us with a draft amendment following a discussion in Springfield with Leader Lightford, Representative Davis and other stakeholders. While we appreciate movement on some of our concerns the following concerns remained and were provided to ISBE last Friday in an amendment drafted by school management and the IEA:

- The necessity of providing the superintendent up to three days to approve suspensions of longer than 3 days. The rationale is to ensure that the approval process does not impede the immediate removal of a student when necessary.
- Removing the definition of a weapon but clarifying that objects other than firearms would only be considered weapons if used to cause, or intended to cause, serious injury.
- Removal of suspension duration being limited to the amount of time a district needs to create a Behavior Implementation Plan (BIP).

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

SB1560 (Feigenholtz/Lapointe) Mental Health Beacon

- Beginning September 1, 2026, ISBE will make available resource material, model procedures and guidance on implementing mental health screening in schools.
- Parents can opt-out of screening.
- Screening shall be offered by districts to students in grades 3-12 at least once a year
- A district can apply for an extension for the 27-28 implementation deadline if the guidance is not available.
- This only applies if the State has successfully procured a screening tool that offers a self-report option and is available to districts at no cost.
- This amendment was drafted and offered by *LEND and the IASA*.

SB1672 (Belt/Mussman) Early Literacy Screening

- I was contacted by the proponents of the bill this week requesting an amendment in the House. This legislation was negotiated in the Senate, and I am confident that the bill reflects our conversations and offers insights into school district data for their groups.
- I will continue to monitor in case it is amended.

Legislation in Opposite Chamber

SB1799(Villivalam/Olickal) Non-instructional Service

- The bill is posted for a hearing in the House Labor committee but did not move this week.
- In a meeting with Representative Olickal.....
- We offered an amendment to Senator Villivalam on Tuesday that would remove our opposition.
- More to come.....

SB2427 (Castro/Mussman) Wireless Comm Device

This legislation was negotiated in the Senate with Leader Castro. There were multiple cell phone ban bills in the beginning of session, and this became the compromise between the most and least restrictive versions:

- Device includes cell phones, wearable devices, laptop, tablets
- Does not include device that district or teacher provides
- Instructional time, so not recess, passing and lunch
- Policy at a minimum:
 - Can't be used during instructional time
 - Guidance for secure and accessible storage
 - Doesn't prohibit use during instructional time:
 - If a licensed physician allows for use of the phone
 - Is required based on IEP 504 plan
 - Necessary for EL's
 - Can allow for the following exceptions:
 - Teacher authorizes the use
 - Emergency situation

Dual Credit Still Moving?

SB404, SA1 (Castro) Education Tech

We were asked by the Senate sponsor and staff to provide an amendment that would provide compromise between the Community College President's (SB404, SA1) and K-12 (SB1960

- **COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S WANTS:**
 - Right of First Refusal
 - Out of State Partnerships
- **K-12 WANTS:**
 - APPEALS PROCESS
 - CREDENTIALING
 - We need to add Fully qualified instructor master's degree within the discipline to be taught 2) any master's degree and not more than 18 graduate hours in the academic field of study or the discipline to be taught
- **FOR BOTH K-12 AND CC PRESIDENT'S**
 - DUAL CREDIT COMMITTEE
 - Remains the same but add credentialing, class size decisions, etc
 - Add PDP plan in perpetuity

Legislation Deadline Extended

SB191 (Morrison)- Bus Seat Belts

- Effective July 30, 2031
 - Newly purchased school buses are required to have seat belts.
 - Nothing in the bill requires staff, bus drivers, or other school professionals to teach students how to use the seat belts.
 - Does not apply to school buses that are leased or a school bus that is legally registered in another state and displays valid registration plates of the state.

SB1615 (Villivalam)- Foreign Language

- Requires a school board to offer courses in Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati, Telugu, and Malayalam as a part of its school foreign language curricula.

FY26 ORGANIZATION PREPARATION

SAVE THE DATE

End of the LEND Year Meeting

May 23, 2025

8:00 a.m.

In-Person CCSD 89

LEND DUES ALLOCATION For Fiscal Year 2025-2026

****Proposed****

\$242,840 (2024-25 Dues)

2.90% % Increase

\$7,042 \$ Increase

\$249,882 (2025-26 Dues)

District	2023-2024 Dues (Actual)	2024-2025 Dues (Actual)	2025-2026 Dues (Proposed)
Bensenville Elementary 2	\$4,874	\$5,118	\$5,266
Addison SD 4	\$5,467	\$5,741	\$5,907
Wood Dale 7	\$4,736	\$4,972	\$5,116
Itasca 10	\$4,445	\$4,667	\$4,803
Medinah 11	\$4,550	\$4,777	\$4,916
Roselle 12	\$4,452	\$4,675	\$4,810
Bloomingtondale SD 13	\$4,716	\$4,951	\$5,095
Marquardt SD 15	\$4,923	\$5,170	\$5,320
Queen SD 16	\$4,642	\$4,874	\$5,016
Keeneyville SD 20	\$4,608	\$4,839	\$4,979
Benjamin SD 25	\$4,411	\$4,632	\$4,766
West Chicago 33	\$5,307	\$5,572	\$5,734
Winfield SD 34	\$4,380	\$4,599	\$4,732
Glen Ellyn SD 41	\$5,488	\$5,763	\$5,930
Lombard SD 44	\$5,310	\$5,575	\$5,737
DuPage SD 45 (Villa Park)	\$5,328	\$5,594	\$5,756
Salt Creek SD 48	\$5,382	\$5,651	\$5,815
Butler SD 53	\$6,006	\$6,306	\$6,489
Downers Grove 58	\$6,465	\$6,788	\$6,985
Maercker SD 60	\$4,776	\$5,015	\$5,161

FY26 PROPOSED DUES

Curt Saindon, Greg Harris

Darien 61	\$4,666	\$4,900	\$5,042
Gower 62	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cass SD 63	\$4,517	\$4,743	\$4,881
Center Cass SD 66	\$4,704	\$4,939	\$5,082
Woodridge SD 68	\$5,142	\$5,399	\$5,556
Hinsdale SD 86	\$6,736	\$7,073	\$7,278
Glenbard SD 87	\$7,453	\$7,826	\$8,052
DuPage HS Dist. 88	\$6,055	\$6,358	\$6,543
CCSD 89 (Glen Ellyn)	\$4,995	\$5,245	\$5,397
CCSD 93 (Carol Stream)	\$5,387	\$5,656	\$5,820
West Chicago SD 94	\$5,141	\$5,398	\$5,554
Downers Grove 99	\$6,579	\$6,908	\$7,109
Fenton SD 100	\$5,194	\$5,454	\$5,612
Lake Park HS 108	\$5,600	\$5,880	\$6,050
CCSD 180 (Burr Ridge)	\$4,641	\$4,873	\$5,014
CCSD 181 (Hinsdale)	\$5,887	\$6,182	\$6,361
Wheaton SD 200	\$8,387	\$8,807	\$9,062
Community Unit SD 201 (Westmont)	\$4,681	\$4,915	\$5,057
Lisle Community Unit School Dist. 202	\$4,757	\$4,994	\$5,139
Naperville 203	\$9,954	\$10,452	\$10,755
Indian Prairie CSD 204	\$13,348	\$14,015	\$14,421
Elmhurst CUSD 205	\$7,187	\$7,547	\$7,765
	\$ 231,277	\$ 242,840	\$ 249,883

Deposits:

FY26 PROPOSED BUDGET

Curt Saindon, Greg Harris

LEND							
Tentative FY26 Budget							
						(3/7/25)	
		Budget	Acutal .	Budget	Acutal	Tentative	
		FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2025	FY 2026	
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE:		\$ 29,448.19	\$ 29,448.19	\$ 14,703.18	\$ 14,703.18	\$ 20,880.54	(est.)
REVENUE:							
Membership Dues		\$ 226,832.00	\$ 220,826.00	\$ 242,840.00	\$ 242,783.00	\$ 249,883.00	+2.9%
LEND III Breakfast Sponsorships		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	
LEND III Breakfast Registration Fees		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,980.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,680.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Miscellaneous Revenues (overdue accts.)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,843.00	\$ -	
TOTAL REVENUES		\$ 239,832.00	\$ 230,306.00	\$ 255,840.00	\$ 263,306.00	\$ 262,883.00	
EXPENDITURES:							
Ethekos Fees		\$ 229,733.00	\$ 229,733.04	\$ 237,544.00	\$ 158,362.64	\$ 244,433.00	+2.9%
LEND Breakfast		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,803.88	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 11,666.68	\$ 13,000.00	
Internet, Legislative Tracking Website		\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,514.09	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	
Bank Fees		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Miscellaneous Expenses (reimbursements)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,418.00	\$ -	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 241,833.00	\$ 245,051.01	\$ 253,044.00	\$ 175,447.32	\$ 259,933.00	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(2,001.00)	(14,745.01)	2,796.00	87,858.68	2,950.00	
ENDING CASH BALANCE:		\$ 27,447.19	\$ 14,703.18	\$ 17,499.18	\$ 102,561.86	\$ 23,830.54	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SLATE

Kristin Fitzgerald, Jeff Schuler

	LEND EXECUTIVE BOARD SLATE		
TERM ENDING 2026			Outgoing Member
Hector Garcia Allison	Superintendent	CCSD 181	
Fosdick Donna Cain	Board Member	IPSD 204	Kara Caforio
Greg Harris	Board Member	LEND Co-Chair	
	Business Manager	Roselle 12	
TERM ENDING IN 2027			Outgoing Member
Kara Casten	Board Member	CSD 99	Kristin Fitzgerald
Jeff Schuler	Superintendent	LEND Co-Chair	
Curt Saindon	Business Manager	Woodridge 68	

FY26 PROPOSED MEETING DATES

Jen Figurelli



Advocating for DuPage Schools

LEND FY26 Proposed Council Meeting Dates (Council meets on the 4th Friday of each month unless otherwise specified)

September 26, 2025
In person

October 24, 2025

November 22, 2025
Swiss Hotel
Eleve' Ballroom
7:30am

January 23, 2026

February 27, 2026

March 20, 2026 (3rd Friday)

April 24, 2026

May 2026 - TBD
In Person
Subject to legislative calendar

ETHEKOS SURVEY

Kristin Fitzgerald, Jeff Schuler

New LEND Logo



Advocating for DuPage Schools

MEMBER CONCERNS

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