

Strategic Plan Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2026 5:45 PM Central

Lakeview Junior High School
701 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Steve Dlugo: Present
Megan DuPass: Present
Brian Liedtke: Present
Adam Sage: Absent
Darren Spiegel: Present
Tiffany Watson: Present
Doug Wiley: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

I. Call Meeting to Order

The Strategic Plan Meeting of Center Cass 66 was called to order by President Brian Liedtke at 5:46 pm on Thursday, August 13, 2026, in the Lakeview Jr. High LRC. There were no in-person attendees, but online visitors included Director Roberts, Kimberly Workman, and Reena Shah.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Brian Liedtke.

III. Public Comment

There were no scheduled speakers for the August 13, 2026 Strategic Plan meeting.

IV. Introductions

Board President Liedtke welcomed the committee and shared the importance of their work together. Strategic Planning participants introduced themselves to the group.

V. District Overview Slide Show and Review of Strategic Actions

Slideshow can be found in Boardbook.

VI. Review of Mission, Vision, and Values

Dr. Wise provided a historical recap of Center Cass School District which included changing demographics and community development. Assistant Superintendent Katie Matthews reported on progress toward Goal One (Learning), highlighting data that supports future efforts to improve core curriculum, college and career readiness, and the strategic use of technology. External audit reports indicate that Center Cass has enhanced its educational environment and established a solid foundation for an outcomes-based transformation. The school continues to outperform state averages by double digits. Assistant Superintendent Rhoads shared progress on Goal 2 (Essential Supports), noting strong Panorama SEL data with most students at the 90th percentile, but emphasizing the need for continued growth in human skills, citizenship, and student opportunities. External audits highlight Center Cass as a student-centered organization with dedicated staff, but also indicate targeted development is necessary to advance further. The District's focus on systems, staffing, and data analytics is positioning it for ongoing academic and human growth. Dr. Wise highlighted that the District has improved its financial standing from pandemic-era deficits to a \$3.5 million balance, excluding early tax dollars. However, to

strengthen its financial foundation, the District must achieve the state goal of 3-6 months of cash on hand, requiring significantly higher savings. Additionally, current space limitations for programming necessitate ongoing discussions and solutions.

VII. Creation of a Purpose Statement

VIII. Goal Work

The Strategic Plan committee divided into three groups, each focusing on a specific goal for further discussion.

IX. Review Take Home Survey

X. Adjournment

The August 13, 2026 Strategic Plan meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education