

**Committee of the Whole Meeting
August 4, 2026 - 7:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 94
COMMUNITY ROOM (ROOM 1114/1116) ENTRANCE 1
326 JOLIET STREET
WEST CHICAGO, IL 60185**

MINUTES

A. OPENING ACTIVITIES

1. Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Reading of the Mission Statement: Rich Nagel "Ignite a passion for learning, foster leadership and responsibility, and empower all learners to live their personal best."
4. Board Agreements: Lynn Casey-Maher
Closed session meetings
 - Board members respect the confidentiality of privileged information and will not divulge conversations, discussions, or deliberations that take place during a closed session meeting.
 - Board members understand that to divulge closed session information not only damages the relationship of the team, but has the potential for far reaching consequences which may impact future district operations.
5. Roll Call
Attendance:
Present: Bob Brown, Lynn Casey-Maher, Catalina Chavez, Katherine Doremus, Penny Munoz, Tammie Murphy, Rich Nagel.
Absent: None.
A quorum of seven board members was present at the time of roll call.
Also in attendance: Dr. Kurt Johansen, Dan Oberg, Dr. Jessica Iovinelli, Dr. Limaris Pueyo, Mary Howard, Megan Payleitner and Michele Celozzi.

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None submitted.

C. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

1. **Executive Director of Professional Learning Report**
Presenter: Mary Howard
 - a. Report Highlights:
 - New Faculty Cohort: Fifteen certified staff members joined the district.
 - Orientation Focus: Days one through three cover Professional Learning Communities (PLC's), mentorship and specialized student support (Multilingual, IEP and 504).
 - Community Integration: Onboarding includes a community bus tour and a welcome lunch sponsored by the West Chicago Rotary Club.
 - All-Staff Institute Days: Next week's training prepares Professional Learning Teams to evaluate student mastery using Mastery Manager data protocols.
 - Upcoming Initiatives: Faculty workshops will finalize rollouts for the updated grading practices and expanded Den Time academic support.

- District 94 is implementing standardized, equitable assessment practices for the 2026-27 school year, including a new 90% maximum score cap on summative retakes. The framework ensures consistent rubrics, a 20% weight for practice, and an 80% weight for summative assessments, with a specific grading scale for the English Division.
- Pre-ACT testing benefits was presented to the Board. Administration is proposing to offer the Pre-ACT to 9th graders and 11th graders during the fall of 2026 to provide equitable access to practice the ACT and to enable faculty and administration to disaggregate data so that the district will be able to look at subgroups as well as individual students who have needs in particular areas that align to the ACT college readiness standards.
- After the presentation, the administration answered questions.
 - Mrs. Murphy asked if the Pre-ACT test was mandatory for all 9th and 11th grade students and if they could opt-out if they choose to.
 - Mrs. Howard said that yes it is mandatory for those students however they may opt-out if they choose to.
 - Mr. Nagel asked if the PLC's were in the 2nd year and how do we evaluate the PLC's?
 - Mrs. Howard replied yes we are in the 2nd year and the PLC's are evaluated through the work as an administrative team with the consultant, Jack Balderman and with his staff. They walk us through and reflect on the materials and meet with teams and administration. Over time it will be measured by student learning.
 - Dr. Johansen added we took a very deliberate, methodical approach to PLC implementation.
 - Mr. Nagel asked about the assessment and grading practice sent to parents, he agreed that was valuable but not sure that every parent understands the value and importance to having their student graduate. He asked if the district is explaining that to them.
 - Mrs. Howard appreciates the question and explained the district does explain to the students the importance and started to target the parents as well in terms of looking at the idea of career exploration. We have made great strides through the addition of Nick Kempfski's role as Director of Post-Secondary Success, YouScience, offering CTE and Health Care with expanded courses in the Pathway piece, DEN speakers and Open House speakers for parents and PowerSchool. We are looking at ways to target parents to continue the conversation regarding the importance of attendance and graduation.
 - Mr. Nagel asked if we have done surveys or analysis to find out why students are not graduating.
 - Dr. Johansen stated there is not a single variable as to why but a lot of it has to do with attendance, also, some external factors why they don't graduate. The district did see an increase in graduation over last year to this past year, which is encouraging. Some of the programs in place and about to start in SY 27 will help pique interest of many of our students who might not be interested in the core classes but more of the elective classes, which will bring the sense of belonging which encourages attendance.

- Mrs. Munoz agreed with Dr. Johansen that attendance is a good place to start to understand the needs and barriers that students face coming to school and why they feel disengaged. She stated that curriculum is important because it can make the difference of a student feeling engaged and belonging. Mrs. Munoz asked if we currently have a presentation on grading for parents and to provide interpretation for parents.
 - Mrs. Howard said the district has done presentations for freshman parents over the past two years however we can do presentations annually for all parents.
 - Dr. Pueyo added we are working on a Parent University that meets 4 times per year and we are looking at ways to tailor those topics based on our families needs. The first meeting topic will be attendance and the priority for these meetings will be in Spanish. We will share the dates when established. All partner districts will be invited.

b. ISBE Report Card Accountability update

Presenter: Dr. Limaris Pueyo & Mary Howard

- The Board received a presentation regarding the ISBE updated School Accountability Model for 2026. The report outlined the new “Profile of Performance Model,” which transitions accountability metrics into Core Indicators (proficiency, growth, and graduation rates) and Elevating Indicators (English learner progress, consistent attendance, and climate surveys). The presentation also detailed the state’s updated five-tier school performance designation system.
- After the presentation, the board and administration had a discussion on the presentation:
 - The report presented was very complicated however when administration presents the December data information, it will be more user friendly.
 - When moving to Panorama, the board would like to see the data regarding how the parents feel engaged or connected to the school district.
 - 5 Essential Survey at the high school level is approximately 2-5% of the parents. The survey is not user-friendly and the hope is Panorama will be able to capture actual data back from our families.

2. Executive Director of Specialized Services Report

Presenter: Megan Payleitner

a. Special Education Services Overview

- The board was presented with an overview of what special education is, disability categories and a review of the current number of students receiving special education services in the district.
- Future plans for the district includes: Special Education needs assessment with a consultant including professional development recommendations for our staff, including programming change recommendations for the least restrictive environment for students and fiscal responsibility.
- Special Education Parent Advisory Committee will meet 4 times per year for resources, connections and parent education. Topics for this year include IEP 101, Behavior Supports, Community Services Fair and Executive Functioning.

- After the presentation, administration answered questions:
- Mrs. Doremus asked if early intervention, all-day kindergarten and other programming reflects the current students who can attend general education classrooms. Mrs. Doremus also asked if we have staff members to interpret meetings and conferences.
 - Mrs. Payleitner agreed the timeline from the funding benefits would be during this time period and yes we have a full-time Spanish translator who attends parent events and parent/teacher conferences. Many of our adult agencies also have translators on staff.
- Mr. Nagel asked if the percentage of special education students in general education settings is high school only? Mr. Nagel also asked for a clarification of the general education classroom.
 - Mrs. Payleitner said ISBE state report card is an average of all schools as we are a high school only she intends to ask ISBE if there is any consideration for high school only districts. Mrs. Payleitner explained the models for gen ed classrooms.
- Mrs. Munoz asked if there is a support group that will support bi-lingual help for parents at home.
 - Mrs. Payleitner said we will offer support including translation and child care.

3. Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget Presentation

Presenter: Dan Oberg

- Presented the FY27 tentative budget. The tentative budget will be on display for a minimum of 30 days.
- There will be an opportunity to review the budget at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 1, 2026.
- Final review and adoption of the FY27 budget will be held during the Regular Board of Education Meeting on September 15, 2026.
- The FY27 final budget will be submitted to ISBE and the County Clerk by September 30, 2026.
- Budget information is available on the school website and in BoardBook.
- Mr. Nagel asked if the salaries budget increased by 50%?
 - Mr. Oberg clarified the employee salaries represent 50% of the total budget.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Policy 2:260 (First Reading)

Presenter: Dr. Kurt Johansen

Action(s):

That the Board of Education review Policy 2:260 and share feedback prior to the August 25, 2026, Board meeting. This motion, made by Katherine Doremus and seconded by Lynn Casey-Maher, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2. Practice PreACT Administration

Presenter: Mary Howard

Action(s):

That the Board of Education review the proposal and share feedback prior to the August 25, 2026, Board meeting. This motion, made by Rich Nagel and seconded by Tammie Murphy, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

3. Northern Illinois University MOU - Clinical Experience

Presenter: Dr. Limaris Pueyo

Action(s):

That the Board of Education approve of the Memorandum of Understanding between District 94 and Northern Illinois University, as presented. This motion, made by Katherine Doremus and seconded by Lynn Casey-Maher, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

4. Software Renewals

Presenter: Dan Oberg

Action(s):

That the Board of Education approve the renewal of the contracts for 2026-2027, as presented. This motion, made by Lynn Casey-Maher and seconded by Katherine Doremus, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

5. SOPPA Agreement Approval

Presenter: Dan Oberg

Action(s):

That the Board of Education approve under New Business the proposed SOPPA compliance measures, including the Standard Student Data Privacy Agreements, as noted. This motion, made by Lynn Casey-Maher and seconded by Catalina Chávez, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

6. Disposal of Assets

Presenter: Dan Oberg

Action(s):

That the Board of Education approve the disposal, donation or recycling of broken or obsolete furniture/equipment, as provided in the agenda. This motion, made by Lynn Casey-Maher and seconded by Penny Munoz, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

7. Donations over \$500.00

Presenter: Dan Oberg

Action(s):

That the Board of Education accept the donations, as presented. This motion, made by Lynn Casey-Maher and seconded by Katherine Doremus, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8. Personnel Report

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Iovinelli

Action(s):

That the Board of Education approve the personnel report, as presented. This motion, made by Katherine Doremus and seconded by Catalina Chavez, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Personnel Report
Board of Education Meeting August 4, 2026

CHS D94

Community High School District 94

<i>Nam</i>	<i>Positi</i>	<i>Divisi</i>	<i>F.I</i>	<i>Effective</i>
LICENSED HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS				
SUPPORT AND CONFIDENTIAL STAFF HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS				
Viera, Ivonne	Administrative Assistant	Professional Learning & Pathways	1.0	08/10/26
ADMINISTRATIVE HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS				
CHANGE OF POSITION RECOMMENDATIONS				
LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS				
IRREVOCABLE NOTICE OF RESIGNATION				
Rivera, Destiny	Clerk - Receptionist	Deans' Office	1.0	08/07/26
IRREVOCABLE NOTICE OF RETIREMENT				
EMPLOYMENT OF COACHES & SPONSORS				
Itami, Daniel	Coach - Assistant	Basketball - Boys		26/27 School Year
Lopez, Abigail	Coach - Assistant	Volleyball - Girls		26/27 School Year
Santillan, Alexandro	Coach - Assistant	Football - Boys		26/27 School Year
Siegrist, Jamie	Coach - Assistant	Competitive Dance/Poms		26/27 School Year
Sollars, Jordan	Coach - Assistant	Volleyball - Girls		26/27 School Year
SEPARATION OF COACHES & SPONSORS				
Fantozzi, Brandon	Sponsor - Head	Marching Band		End of 25/26 School Year
Johnson, Samantha	Sponsor - Head (50%)	Wego Buddies		End of 25/26 School Year
Silva, Miguel	Coach - Head	Wrestling - Boys		End of 25/26 School Year
RECOMMENDED MOTION				
That the Board of Education approve the personnel changes as presented.				

E. CLOSED SESSION

1. No Closed Session held.

F. OPEN SESSION

1. No Closed Session held, no action needed.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Action(s):

That the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m. This motion, made by Katherine Doremus and seconded by Tammie Murphy, Passed.

Voting Summary (voice vote): Yea: 7, Nay: 0

ATTEST:

	August 25, 2026
Rich Nagel, Secretary	Date
	August 25, 2026
Bob Brown, President	Date