



LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 7:30 PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Peter D. Theodore, *President*
Myra A. Foutris, *Vice President*
John P. Vranas, *Secretary*
Ted Kwon
Jay Oleniczak
Elissa B. Rosenberg
Mihra Seta

ADMINISTRATION
Dr. David L. Russo, *Superintendent of Schools*
Dr. Dominick M. Lupo, *Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction*
Courtney L. Whited, *Business Manager/CSBO*

***Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Lincolnwood School District 74,
Cook County, Illinois, was held in the Lincoln Hall Auditorium
6855 North Crawford, Lincolnwood, IL 60712, on Wednesday, September 2, 2026.***

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Theodore called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>
Myra A. Foutris Jay Oleniczak Elissa B. Rosenberg Mihra Seta Peter D. Theodore John P. Vranas	Ted Kwon

<u>ADMINISTRATORS/STAFF PRESENT</u>		
Dr. David L. Russo Dr. Dominick M. Lupo Courtney L. Whited Mark Atkinson	Erin Curry Dr. Aliaa Ibrahim Jackie McGoey Jennifer Ruttkay	Katrina Schreck Joseph Segreti Jordan Stephen Renee Tolnai

2. DISTRICT RECOGNITION

a. 2026-27 Lincolnwood School District 74 New Staff Introductions by Principals

The Lincolnwood School District 74 principals introduced their school's respective new staff members.

3. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

I. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - **AUGUST 6, 2026**

II. Regular Board Meeting - Closed Session Minutes - **AUGUST 6, 2026**

b. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

I. Personnel Report

II. New Employment

- 1. Khanh Huynh**, Lunch/Recess Supervisor - Monday & Wednesday, Rutledge Hall, effective August 26, 2026, \$17.00/hr
- 2. Alison Gibbs**, Paraprofessional, Todd Hall, effective August 24, 2026, \$19.89/hr

3. **Alexander Tianis**, Paraprofessional, Todd Hall, effective August 24, 2026, \$19.50/hr

4. **Sarah Foy**, School Nurse, Lincoln Hall, effective August 24, 2026, \$37.34/hr

III. FMLA Leave Request

1. **Elizabeth Sterba**, Special Education Teacher, Lincoln Hall, effective October 6, 2026, with an expected return of December 30, 2026 (January 4, 2027 first day of school after winter break).

c. POLICY

I. Consent Only - Policies Excluded from 1st Reading for Approval

1. Press Plus Issue #122 - June 2026

(1) Draft Update

(1) 5:70 Religious Holidays

(2) 6:70 Teaching About Religions

(3) 6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues

(4) 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities

(2) Draft Update - New

(1) 2:120-E3 Exhibit - Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly

(3) Draft Update - Rewritten

(1) 2:220-E1 Exhibit - Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes

(2) 2:220-E5 Exhibit - Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

(3) 2:220-E8 Exhibit - Board of Education Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs

(4) Review & Monitoring

(1) 2:30 District Elections

(2) 3:40 Superintendent

(3) 3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent

(4) 3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal

(5) 3:70 Succession Plan

(6) 4:120 Food Services

(7) 4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications

(8) 5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

(9) 5:110 Recognition for Service

(10) 5:140 Solicitations By or From Staff

(11) 5:185 Family and Medical Leave

(12) 7:30 Student Assignment

(13) 7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

(14) 7:345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security

(15) 8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

d. Upcoming Staff Development Opportunity

I. **Amy Cattapan**, 6th Grade Language Arts/Reading, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, November 19-22, 2026

The Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approves all overnight conferences.

e. Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Township Trustee of Schools Representative

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to adopt this Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Township Trustee of Schools Representative, Courtney Whited, to the two-year term from October 2026 through September 2028.

f. Resolution Regarding IDOT Hazardous Transportation Routes

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution regarding IDOT Hazardous Transportation Routes, as presented.

g. 2025-26 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report Pursuant to PA 97-256

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to post the Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report Pursuant to PA 97-256, as presented.

h. 2025-26 IMRF Salary and Benefits Report Pursuant to PA 97-0609

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to post the IMRF Pursuant to PA 97-0609, as presented.

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Foutris that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approves those items on the Consent Agenda as appear above.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Seta, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) entered into between the Board of Education of Lincolnwood School District No. 74, Cook County, Illinois ("District" or "Board") and Lincolnwood Support Staff Union, Local 1274, IFT/AFT ("LSSU" or "Union") for the creation of a Business Services Coordinator title.

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Seta that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education accept the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) entered into between the Board of Education of Lincolnwood School District No. 74, Cook County, Illinois ("District" or "Board") and Lincolnwood Support Staff Union, Local 1274, IFT/AFT ("LSSU" or "Union") for the creation of a Business Services Coordinator title, as presented.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Seta, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

- b. Approval of Kim Nowak, Business Services Coordinator Employment Contract

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Oleniczak that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approves the employment contract for Kim Nowak, Business Services Coordinator, as presented.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Seta, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- a. NTDSE/District 807: **John P. Vranas/Elissa B. Rosenberg**

The NTDSE Governing Board met on June 24, 2026, and approved the following items:

- The 2026-2027 workers' compensation, property/casualty, and cyber insurance coverages through Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative (CLIC).
- The construction contract to for the Summer 2026 Renovation Project at the Molloy Education Center.
- The salary recommendations for the 12-month support staff.
- Administrator contracts and compensation packages

The NTDSE Governing Board also met on August 13, 2026. The following are brief highlights:

- Tarin Kendrick, Executive Director, reported on the following:
 - New teacher onboarding.
 - Full Staff Orientation to take place on 8/20 at D69 Edison School.
 - Progress of the SPED Audit that will inform our Strategic Plan
- Candice Hartranft, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reported on the staff training for the new language arts curriculum.
- Christine Perry, Principal of Molloy, reported on ongoing student registration and the transition of the High School students to D219 and the relocation of staff back to Molloy.
- Heather Lane, CSBO, presented the First Reading of the FY27 Budget.

The next meeting of the NTDSE Governing Board is scheduled at the NTDSE Administrative Center on September 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. after a 5:30 reception honoring Christina Dimas who has served as Secretary to the Executive Director and the Governing Board for 18 years.

b. IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards): **Ted Kwon/Jay Oleniczak**

No report.

c. Finance Committee: **Jay Oleniczak/Mihra Seta**

The Finance Committee last met on August 20, 2026.

- The Committee sent four (4) items to the Agenda:
 - Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Township Trustee of Schools Representative
 - Resolution Regarding IDOT Hazardous Transportation Routes
 - 2025-26 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report Pursuant to PA 97-256
 - 2025-26 IMRF Salary and Benefits Report Pursuant to PA 97-0609
- Courtney Whited, Business Manager/CSBO, summarized the proposed Lincolnwood School District 74 Budget for the Fiscal Year 2027 on the agenda for adoption after the Public Hearing.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

d. Facilities Committee: **John P. Vranas/Myra A. Foutris**

The Facilities Committee last met on June 9, 2026. The August 2026 Facilities Committee meeting was canceled due to a light Agenda. The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

e. Policy Committee: **Myra A. Foutris/Ted Kwon**

I. 1st Reading by the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education

1. Press Plus Issue #122 - June 2026

(1) Draft Update

(1) 2:230 Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board

(2) 6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

(3) 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

The Policy Committee last met on Friday, August 21, 2026. The Policy Committee sent 23 policies to the Consent Agenda, and 3 policies to 1st Reading by the Board of Education.

- Policy 5:240 - Suspension was “Kept in Committee” for further discussion.

The September Policy Committee meeting has been canceled due to a light agenda. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 23, 2026 at 8:30am in the Administration Building. The public is welcome.

f. President's Report: **Peter D. Theodore**

i. Important District Dates

President Theodore shared important District upcoming dates. Please see the District website for information: sd74.org.

8. COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

a. LTA (Lincolnwood Teacher Association): **Jenny Bejna / Mark Laske / Erin Raffaele (Co-Presidents)**

The LTA Leadership team provided an overview of their titles and duties for this school year.

- Jenna Benja – External Relations
- Mark Laske – Internal Operations
- Erin Raffaele – District Relations

b. LSSU (Lincolnwood Support Staff Union): **Arleen LaRosa (President)**

No report.

c. PALS (People Active with Lincolnwood Schools): **Stacey Johnson (President)**

- President Stacey Johnson thanked all for their participation in the highly successful SD74 Ice Cream Social on August 28, 2026.
- PALS is selling Domino's BOGO cards for just \$20! Each card unlocks unlimited Buy-One-Get-One-Free large pizzas at participating Domino's locations through June 30, 2027. [Buy yours today!](#)
- The next PALS meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Superintendent's Report: **Dr. David L. Russo**

i. District Updates

- The District had a tremendous first week of classes last week! It was so wonderful to see all our students and staff back on campus. You could just feel the energy return. We had our new Jaguar mascot around all three schools taking pictures and making memories of these first days of the year. Our staff is using these first days to prioritize creating a classroom environment whereby all students can maximize their learning. We are also here to help your child transition to their new grade and routines as seamlessly as possible.
- Thank you to all those who helped to plan, staff, and attend our annual Ice Cream Social last Friday night. Without a doubt, it was our biggest event in recent years and the weather could not have been better for everyone to gather and connect. It was a terrific evening of community and relationship building! It seemed to be the perfect ending to such a fun, productive first week of school!
- Picture Day is Tuesday, September 8, 2026 for all three buildings. Consult this week's *Tuesday Newsday* for pre-ordering information to get your pictures faster and to save on shipping costs.
- The District sent an email communication to the community about our traffic pattern. All families are asked to please use the published drop-off and pick-up traffic patterns to ensure the safe arrival and dismissal of students. Families are requested to not use Crawford Ave. for any drop-off and pick-up. Also, students should cross at East Prairie and Pratt and proceed down East Prairie and walk in front of Rutledge Hall. We ask for there to be no pedestrian traffic on the island in the parking lot. Finally, no one should cut into the line nor wait for students along East Prairie adjacent to the New Light Cemetery. Thank you for your cooperation to keep everyone safe!
- The District is partnering with Victor Pacini for a series of keynote talks with students on September 3, 2026. Our Administration has worked with Mr. Pacini to tailor a message of kindness and respect to help establish a

positive start to the year and to reinforce our behavioral expectations through our PBIS guidelines. We are looking forward to hosting Victor and his team.

- There are 1,152 students enrolled in the District PK-3 through 8th Grade. We have over 800 students signed up for the bus. We encourage all families to consider the District's free bus service.

b. Curriculum and Instruction, Assistant Superintendent's Report: **Dr. Dominick M. Lupo**

I. Curriculum Department Update

- The District kicked off the 2026-2027 school year with two institute days on August 24-25, 2026. Over the course of the two days. Staff collaborated on preparing for a positive start to the school year and new staff and administrators were welcomed. Overall, it was a positive experience with a lot of energy going into our opening days with students.
- The fall benchmark season is opening with NWEA MAP testing that will be underway soon at each building.
 - Todd Hall: September 9 and September 10, 2026
 - Rutledge and Lincoln Halls: September 16 and September 17, 2026
- The District is looking forward to building upon the success of our recent curriculum program adoptions. The Administration thanks the Board of Education for their support in those adoptions, along with the support for the professional development efforts that goes along with those adoptions.

c. Business and Operations, Business Manager/CSBO: **Courtney Whited**

I. Finance Report - **JUNE 2026**

Business Manager/CSBO Whited presented the June 2026 Finance Report.

II. Public Hearing and Adoption of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Budget for Fiscal Year 2027

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Seta that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education open the public hearing regarding the Budget for Lincolnwood School District 74 for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None.

Courtney Whited, Business Manager/CSBO, provided an overview of the FY27 Budget, and the potential \$6 million bond issuance is in anticipation of the planned 2027 Todd Hall building renovations.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Foutris that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education close the public hearing regarding the Budget for Lincolnwood School District 74 for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

BUDGET APPROVAL

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Seta that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2027, as recommended by the Finance Committee members in attendance, and as presented.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Seta, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

III. Bills Payable in the Amount of \$549,250.29

Bills reviewed this month by: Elissa B. Rosenberg and Myra A. Foutris

It was moved by Member Rosenberg and seconded by Vice President Foutris that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve invoices and bills in the amount of \$549,250.29.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Seta, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

10. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None.

11. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by President Theodore and seconded by Member Rosenberg that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education recess into Closed Session for the purposes of: **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459 – Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) - The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10) - The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) - Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes.**

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by President Theodore and seconded by Member Rosenberg to adjourn the Regular meeting of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed at 9:03 p.m.

Peter D. Theodore, President

John P. Vranas, Secretary