Winfield School District 34
Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2026 7:00 PM
Winfield School Central Cafeteria, 0S150 Park St, Winfield, IL 60190

I. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:00 PM

II. **ROLL CALL**
Board of Education Members in attendance: Lynn Kammes, Carrie Linden (left at 9:00PM), Dave Hempe, Alisa Wolfe, Dan Krasinski, Heather Armstrong, Matt Tibble,
Also, Present: Matt Rich, Superintendent; Melissa Doucet, Building Leader; Dave Baum, Tech Support; Lisa Honaker, CSBO; Amanda Melsa, Board Secretary; Jennifer Gendel, Student Services Coordinator;
Staff: Matt Wdowiarz,
Visitor(s): Vihnanek Family, Muan Family,

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA - ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
Action(s): I move to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Carrie Linden: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

VI. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

A. **Student Spotlight** - David Muan Sang & Adelyn Vihnanek

B. Fall Data Presentation: Presenter - Dr. Matt Rich
The administration presented the District's fall student assessment data, including FASTBridge, MAP, IAR, and ISA results. The presentation highlighted strong early literacy, reading fluency, and overall student performance across several grade levels, including notable achievement among middle school students. The data also identified areas for continued focus, including reading comprehension, foundational reading skills, and math achievement within specific grade-level cohorts.

Staff have begun reviewing the data through collaborative data teams to identify student needs, differentiate instruction, and determine appropriate interventions and supports. The Board also discussed the differences between MAP and IAR assessments, including MAP's use as a diagnostic tool for instructional planning and IAR's role as a state assessment. The administration emphasized the District's continued focus on student growth, strong instruction, problem-solving, and meeting individual student needs.

C. Facilities Committee Update: Presenter - Dr. Matt Rich
The Facility Committee reviewed the recent Health/Life Safety Assessment, mechanical assessments, and security audit findings. Items were categorized by priority, with immediate and five-year needs identified, along with longer-term capital needs. The committee discussed potential funding sources, including State Maintenance Grants, operating funds, and future capital planning.

The assessment identified approximately $110,000 in immediate and five-year items that may be eligible for State Maintenance Grant funding. Longer-term needs include HVAC equipment and controls, roofing, the seawall, pumps, asbestos abatement and flooring, and

fire alarm system updates. The committee also discussed opportunities to complete certain projects during the school year or off-season to reduce costs.

The committee continues to explore long-term facility planning, including potential use of space at Primary for expanded Early Childhood programming and opportunities for collaboration with community partners.

D. Program Committee Update: Presenter - Dr. Matt Rich

The Program Committee includes a broad cross-section of staff, parents, and community members and is focused on reviewing and strengthening the District's overall programming. Discussion topics included curriculum and instructional resources, extracurricular and elective opportunities, student engagement, early childhood programming, career pathways, learning spaces, and connecting students to Winfield's history and community. The committee reviewed the significant program additions and changes made over the past decade and discussed priorities for future growth, including expanding full-day preschool, strengthening career and trade experiences, evaluating learning environments and resources, and enhancing local history and community-based learning opportunities.

E. Consideration of Potential Early Childhood Expansion:

The Board discussed the potential expansion of the District's preschool program to include a full-day tuition-based option. Administration shared that the District has seen increased demand from families seeking full-day preschool and that some students who qualify for Preschool for All services are unable to participate because the current program is only half-day. The proposed expansion could utilize existing space at Primary School and build upon the District's current early childhood programming, staffing, and equipment.

The discussion highlighted potential benefits for students, families, and staff, including increased access to high-quality early childhood education, early intervention and inclusive programming, improved continuity for students who remain in the District through elementary school, and additional childcare options for families and staff. Administration also noted the potential for long-term cost avoidance by reducing the need for outside placements for students with significant needs.

Initial financial estimates, including tuition revenue, staffing costs, potential additional state funding, and facility/equipment expenses, were discussed. Administration noted that the District already has a significant amount of preschool equipment available for use. The Board requested additional financial information and cost scenarios, including projected enrollment, tuition rates, staffing, facility improvements, and potential grant/state funding.

Administration plans to visit other full-day preschool programs in the area, gather additional information regarding successful program models and outcomes, and survey families regarding interest in a full-day option. The goal would be to bring additional information back to the Board and, if the District moves forward, make a decision by December or January to allow families adequate time to plan for the upcoming school year.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action(s): I move to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

A. August 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
B. August 20, 2026 Budget Hearing Minutes
C. August 20, 2026 Interfund Transfer Hearing Meeting Minutes

D. August 20, 2026 Closed Session Minutes Part One
E. August 20, 2026 Closed Session Minutes Part Two
F. August 31, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
G. August 31, 2026 Closed Session Minutes

VIII. **CONSENT AGENDA (Routine matters that do not require discussion)**

Action(s): I move to approve the Consent Agenda action items A and B (read every listed item) as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

A. **Approval of Finance Reports**
   1. Bill List - Payable List and List of Other Payments
   2. Treasurer/Fund Balance/Bank Reconciliation Report

B. **Other Approvals**

IX. **COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD**

A. **Superintendent's Report**

1. **Legislative Update**:
   While many legislative bodies are on leave as the senators and representatives are on the campaign trail, there is some movement at the Federal level in areas that could impact. The Department of Justice is currently working on righting grant requirement rules that require compliance with Executive Orders. This initiative, Improving Oversight in Federal Grant Making, may cause significant changes in our access to grants from administration to administration. It will also be interesting to see if some States lose access to grants due to conflicts between state law and administrative Executive Orders. Additionally, the FCC has been having listening sessions regarding E-Rate and Screen time. I had the opportunity to join one of these listening sessions and there are concerns about how technology is used in classrooms throughout the nation. It's fascinating to listen to leaders from various parts of the administration seek to both limit AI and have AI only schools at the same time. E-Rate helps fund some of our internet infrastructure including firewalling, network access, switches, and access points. Even without devices, these components would be necessary simply to run the business of school. Loss of E-Rate would cause us to move to local funds from an increasingly limited set of Federal and State resources to support this infrastructure.
2. **Facility Updates:**
   As we shared earlier, the facilities committee met and began analyzing reports to help guide our Capital Plan development. We continue to work through a myriad of day to day issues including changing batteries and maintaining clean operating facilities. The light replacement project continues and we are continuing to nag the roofing contractor regarding the timeline for delivery of the siding for the one room school house.
3. **MS Digital Citizenship:**
   We have had a variety of low level age-typical middle school digital incidents. The majority of these occur outside of school, but the impact of the incidents comes into the school as it involves a wide range of our students. A couple of years ago, we began teaching digital citizenship to K-5 students. These concepts related to communication, identity protection, and reducing bullying, are introductory at these ages. We have a team including Megan Ryder, Jess Honaker, Abby McKenna, Melissa Doucet, Debbie Krygowski, and myself beginning to identify digital citizenship skills to be taught at the Middle Level. Once these are identified, we will work with the Middle School team and Specials team to determine how such learning experiences could occur in our school.
4. **WEF Update:**
   On Thursday, October 29th we will have our fall/halloween classroom parties for pre-K through 5th grade. After school that day we will be hosting a middle school Halloween

party from 5-7pm. Our annual Lou Malnati's pizza coupon fundraiser will be coming soon in October. With money that PTO/WEF raises through the pizza sales, Trivia Night and Tiger Run, we are able to offer a teacher grant program which provides classroom items not covered by the school's budget. We will be reviewing grant entries at the October or November PTO/WEF meeting.

B. **Principal's Report**: Principal Report

C. **Finance Report from Director of Business Services:**
The FY26 annual audit has been completed with no findings or concerns, and the report has been filed. The District's fund balances remain healthy, with an increase from the prior year. The increase was largely attributed to completion of the Primary addition and security camera system, as well as receipt of approximately $222,000 from the rental income from SASED.

The District's electricity contract is up for renewal at the end of September. The Board will consider approving an indexed agreement to allow the District's consultant to monitor the market and secure a favorable rate for a new contract through June 2029.

The Board was also updated on the District's lunch program. The kitchen recently completed an unannounced health inspection and passed with no issues. Staff continue to make improvements to the program, including menu changes, professional development, and increased use of the District's kitchen. The program has transitioned successfully to self-operation and is showing positive financial and operational results. Enrollment numbers are expected to increase as the school year progresses.

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Second Reading and Approval of Board Policies
Action(s): I move to complete the second reading of policies and approve these policies as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Lynn Kammes, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
Absent: Carrie Linden,

XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Personnel**

1. **Accept Notice of Retirement - Administrative Assistant**
Action(s): I move to accept the notice of retirement for Julie Samulski - administrative assistant for personnel and accounts payable as of January 15, 2027. A roll call cote was taken. This motion, made by Alisa Wolfe and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
Absent: Carrie Linden: Yea,

2. **Accept Resignation - Paraprofessional**
Action(s): I move to accept the resignation of Giselle Jacobo - paraprofessional as of August 28th, 2026. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
Absent: Carrie Linden,

3. **Accept Resignation - Crossing Guard**
Action(s): I move to accept the resignation of Nicole Weaver, crossing guard, as of December 18th, 2026. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

4. **Approve 3 Year Employment Contract - Principal**
   Action(s): I move to approve a 3 year contract for Melissa Doucet as Principal of Winfield Primary and Central Schools for the 2026-27 school year through the 2028-29 beginning with a salary of $137,000 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
   Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
   Absent: Carrie Linden,
5. **Approve 3 Year Contract Extension - Superintendent**
   Action(s): I move to approve a 3 year contract extension for Matt Rich as Superintendent of Winfield School District 34 for the 2027-28 school year through the 2029-30 beginning with a salary of $240,400 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
   Voting Detail: Dave Hempe: Nay, Heather Armstrong: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
   Absent: Carrie Linden,
6. **Approve Employment - Paraprofessional**
   Action(s): I move to approve the employment of Kareli Palacios as paraprofessional at a salary of $23,387 prorated for days worked for the 2026-27 school year. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.
   Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
   Absent: Carrie Linden,

B. **FY2026 Audit of Winfield School District 34**
   Action(s): I move to approve FY2026 audit of Winfield School District 34 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.
   Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
   Absent: Carrie Linden,

C. **Approve the Electricity Renewal Contract Bid**
   Action(s): I move to approve the electricity renewal contract bid as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.
   Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea
   Absent: Carrie Linden,

D. **Board Procedures and Exhibit Updates**
   For information only, no Board approval needed.

E. **Freedom of Information Act Requests**
   1. Leonie Guadalquiver - Edge Point
   2. Catarina Mascarenhas - Lake County Gazette
   3. CT Mills
   4. Sheri Reid - SmartProcure
   5. Jennifer Mitchell - Economic Research Institute
   6. Catarina Mascarenhas - Prairie State Wire

XII. **Items for Future Agendas**: *Preschool Expansion*

XIII. **ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – *Reason 1.*** *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony*

on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Action(s): I move to adjourn to closed session. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

XIV. **ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION TO REGULAR SESSION**

Action(s): I move to adjourn from closed session to open session. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Dave Hempe and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

XV. **ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

A. None

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Action(s): I move that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. A voice vote was taken at 10:20PM. This motion, made by Dave Hempe and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: Yea, Dave Hempe: Yea, Lynn Kammes: Yea, Dan Krasinski: Yea, Matt Tibble: Yea, Alisa Wolfe: Yea

Absent: Carrie Linden,

Regular Board of Education Meetings:

***Unless otherwise noted, all Board of Education Meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 7:00 PM. They are located in the Winfield Central School Cafeteria.**

Regular Thursday, September 24, 2026

Approved:

Dan Krasinski, President
Board of Education

Lynn Kammes, Secretary
Board of Education