

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 170

Dixon, Illinois
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BUDGET HEARING
September 23, 2026

The Board of Education met in regular session in the Board Room at the Administrative Center on Wednesday, September 23, 2026. The Budget Hearing was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:11 p.m. Notification of the meeting together with an agenda and other Board material had been electronically downloaded to the individual Board members on Friday, September 18, 2026, and to the news media on Monday, September 21, 2026.

The meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Dixon Public Schools YouTube channel the day after the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Physically Present: Mr. Brandon Rogers, Vice President; Mrs. Melissa Gates, Secretary; Mr. David Fritts, Mrs. Linda LeBlanc-Parks (in at 6:01 p.m.), Mrs. Kathleen Schaefer, and Mr. Jon Wadsworth

Electronically Present: None

Absent: Mrs. Linda Wegner, President

Also present were: Dr. Melydi Huyett, Superintendent; Mr. Doug Stansford, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Marc Campbell, Chief School Business Official; Mr. Kevin Schultz, Director of Building and Grounds; Mr. James Manley, Director of Technology; Mr. Jared Shaner, Principal of Dixon High School; Mr. Matt Magnafici, Principal at Reagan Middle School; Mr. Joey Sagel, Principal of Madison School; Mrs. Crystal Thorpe, Principal of Jefferson School; Mrs. Kellie Glenn, Principal at Washington School; Mrs. Janine Huffman, Principal at Thomas J. Dempsey School; media, staff, and community members.

In the absence of President, Linda Wegner, Brandon Rogers was named President – ProTem. Dr. Huyett asked if anyone would be willing to serve as Vice-President – ProTem. Mr. Fritts agreed to serve as Vice President ProTem.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Sagel led the Board of Education, administrative staff, and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUDGET HEARING

Mr. Rogers declared the budget hearing open at 6:02 p.m. Mr. Campbell provided information on the FY 27 budget and a budget summary overview. A \$3.8 million deficit budget was presented. After comments and questions from the Board concerning the FY '27 proposed budget, Mr. Rogers declared the budget hearing closed at 6:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mr. Fritts, to close the budget hearing. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Rogers. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

The regular meeting began at 6:11 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaefer, seconded by Mrs. Gates, to approve the consent agenda items as presented. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Rogers. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Approve DPS and LCSEA Treasurer's Report and DPS Monthly Bills
- C. Approve Balance Sheet and Monthly Expense Report
- D. Approve the Discipline Report
- E. Approve the Staff Development Report
- F. Monthly Website and Social Media Activity
- G. Building Reports
- H. Natural Gas Purchase

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Mary Oros from Sauk Valley Bank shared that the bank is partnering with Dixon Public Schools to support and fund the new DHS video board. The video board will be operational for the Homecoming game on Friday, September 25th. Tonight is also the kick-off to the fundraising campaign for the new football field and track project at DHS.

Mr. Sagel recognized the Young Authors recipients for the 25-26 school year. The Young Authors will also be recognized Monday, September 28th, at 6:00 p.m. in the RMS cafeteria.

Mr. Magnafici announced the August and September Students of the Month as Myles Love, Nolan Reinhold, Madison Dobie, and Nora Jean Grobe. All students were acknowledged for their leadership, character, academic excellence, and involvement in activities at Reagan Middle School. All students provided a video for the Board to view.

Mrs. Alicia McPhillips, DEA Co-President, announced the September teachers of the month – Maria Peterson, Kim Conderman three times, Danielle Andrews twice, Teesha Kingham three times, Alexis Point twice, Amy Scott, Kasi Bass, John Barker, Hallie Nelson, Kelsey Middleton, Clara Haas, Jen Hall, Natalie DeWitt, and Ben Sutton.

CITIZEN'S AGENDA

Mrs. Bryn Slager addressed the Board regarding her concerns with the turf field selection for the new football field.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Schaefer, to approve the FY27 budget adoption, as presented. The Board was able to make comments. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, and Rogers. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaefer, seconded by Mrs. Gates, to approve the first reading of Board policies, as presented. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, and Rogers. Voting nay—none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mr. Fritts, to approve that the closed session minutes remain confidential, as presented. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea—Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, and Rogers. Voting nay—none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks, to approve the Middle School Activities Director job description and stipend, as presented. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, and Rogers. Voting nay—none. Motion unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Campbell went over his Business Report. He highlighted the following: information on data centers, recognition to Sauk Valley Bank and Mrs. Oros for their invested efforts in the school district, a county facilities sales tax summary, and a Health Life Safety update.

Board members who attended other committee meetings had the opportunity to share discussions from those meetings:

Mrs. Gates gave an update from the DESPA-PRC meeting on September 8th.

Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks gave an update from the DEA-PRC meeting on September 14th.

Mr. Wadsworth gave an update from the Community Engagement Committee meeting on September 15th.

Mr. Rogers gave an update on from the Insurance Committee that met on September 21st.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Huyett thanked Mrs. Oros, Sauk Valley Bank, Mr. Shaner, and Mr. Fegan for their work on the capital campaign for the new football field and track. Dr. Huyett invited the community, staff, and Board members to attend.

Dr. Huyett explained that every IASB member school district is entitled to one voting delegate at the Delegate Assembly at the Joint Annual Conference in November. School districts are encouraged to select an alternate delegate in case the primary delegate becomes unavailable. Mr. Wadsworth volunteered as the delegate, and Mr. Fritts volunteered as the alternate.

Dr. Huyett provided information on the Northwest Division hybrid meeting on Thursday, October 8th in Lanark. Any Board members wanting to attend need to let Mrs. Grubic know by Friday, September 25th.

Dr. Huyett let the Board know that the Washington Trunk or Treat is October 28th, at 5:00 p.m. Board members were asked if they would like to participate and have a trunk or table available at the event.

Dr. Huyett asked for two board members interested in being a part of the interview and scoring process for the RFQ for architect and engineering. Mrs. Gates and Mr. Wadsworth volunteered.

There have been 5 FOIA requests since the last Board meeting: Bianca Hayes from the Data Branch requested contracts, agreements, and purchase orders from Bob National Time & Signal, and Pyramid Time Systems; Gavin Prescott from Bobrick, Georgia Pacific, Kimberly Clark, Excel Dryer, World Dryer, and Custom Products Corporation; Landon Barrett from the Data Branch requested contracts, agreements,

or purchase orders from BusRight, edgenuity, edmentum, and Edulog (Education Logistics); Veronica Miles from The Data Branch requested contracts, agreements, and purchase orders from Pathwise, subject ai, transfinder, and Tyler Technologies, Inc.; and CT Mills from Public Info Access LLC requested district issued work telephone numbers for Central Office staff. We have complied with all requests.

PERSONNEL REPORT (new hires, resignations, retirements, and coaches)

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks, to approve the following personnel items. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results; Voting yea – Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Rogers. Voting nay—none. Motion unanimously approved.

New Hires

Nisansala Gurusinghe, Paraprofessional at Reagan Middle School, effective September 24, 2026

Ansaya Richardson, Paraprofessional at Madison School, effective September 24, 2026

Kelli Spray, Office Assistant at Jefferson School, effective September 24, 2026

Change in Status

James Hodder, from Custodian at Dixon High School to Head Custodian at Reagan Middle School/Madison School, effective September 24, 2026

Retirements

Kern Smith, Head Custodian at Reagan Middle School/Madison School, effective August 31, 2026

Dixon High School Coaches/Activities

Jana Cox, Accompanist All stipends, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Aaron Eddy, Class Officer Sponsor, effective for the 2026-2027 school year

Zack Heitz, Fall Head Strength Coach, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Ben Lightner, Fall Play Director, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Mercedes Maglio, Band Non-Musical, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Abby Risner, Vocal Non-Musical, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Grace Wadsworth, Assistant Fall Play Director, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Reagan Middle School Coaches/Activities

Kolten Dorty, Boys Basketball – ½ stipend, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Doug Hicks, Boys Basketball – ½ stipend, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Jake Hubbell, Boys Basketball, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Mark Morris, Boys Basketball – ½ stipend, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Kelly Nicholson, Cheer Coach, effective for the 2026-2027 school year

LaQuan Pittman, Boys Basketball, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Volunteer Coaches/Activities

Jennifer Atkinson, Volleyball Coach at Reagan Middle School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year

Cory Lance, DHS Assistant Wrestling, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Logan Moeller, DHS Assistant Girls Tennis, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Tony Siebert, DHS Assistant Wrestling, effective for the 2026-27 school year

Coaching/Activities Resignations

Seth Nicklaus, Basketball Coach at Reagan Middle School, effective August 31, 2026

Chad Weigle, Basketball Coach at Reagan Middle School, effective August 31, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Schaefer, to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. All were in favor.

President

Secretary