

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

School District 45, DuPage County

Villa Park, Illinois

Regular Board Meeting: September 15, 2026

The Board of Education of School District No. 45, DuPage County, Illinois, met on the 15th day of September 2026, in regular session in the Administration Center Board Room, 255 W. Vermont Street, Villa Park, Illinois, at 6:42 p.m., according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order by President Judith Degnan, who presided. Members of the Board were present and absent as follows:

PRESENT: Mrs. Deborah Cain
Mrs. Judith Degnan, President
Mr. John Dorhauer
Mrs. Sarah Godzicki
Dr. Allen Legutki, Secretary
Mrs. Katie Wagner

ABSENT: Mrs. Carol Klamecki, Vice President

Administrative staff members were present and absent as follows:

PRESENT: Ms. Christine Arado, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Brian Graber, Superintendent
Dr. Adam Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/CSBO
Mr. Mike Pinney, Chief Information Officer

ABSENT:

091526 (1) Call to Order
091526 (1a) Pledge of Allegiance
091526 (1b) District 45 Mission Statement
091526 (1c) Student Board Member Presentation

Kristy De La Torre, Student Board Member from Jefferson Middle school, greeted everyone. Kristy went on to talk about some recent activities happening at Jefferson Middle School which included the Wheel of Wisdom. Kristy spoke about getting chosen for the Wheel of Wisdom. Kristy went on to talk about Field Day which was held on September 10. Kristy commented that sports have begun this school year. Kristy expressed her enthusiasm for being a Student Board Member. Kristy offered thanks for this wonderful opportunity. A discussion ensued.

(See official board book)

091526 (1d) Middle School Presentation

Dr. Adam Bulfer, Jefferson Middle School Principal, and Ms. Jill Amrhein, Jackson Middle School Principal, presented the Middle School Principal Report to the Board of Education. A discussion ensued.

(See official board book)

091526 (2) Comments Regarding Agenda: None

091526 (3)

Public Comments:

Taylor Thinnes addressed the Board. The Board thanked her for her comments.

(see official board book)

091526 (4)

Board of Education and Superintendent Comments:

Dr. Graber highlighted some upcoming activities. Dr. Graber stated that the PTA 5k and Fun Run will be held this coming Saturday. Dr. Graber spoke about the upcoming Crosstown Classic between Jackson and Jefferson Middle Schools will be held at the Willowbrook High School this Monday. Dr. Graber commented that a week from this Saturday Frida Fest will be held at Schafer Elementary School. Dr. Graber spoke about a recent visit from the State Representative, Dr. Tony Sanders. Dr. Sanders visited York Center and Westmore Elementary Schools. Dr. Graber spoke of what a phenomenal job both schools did at showcasing some of the great things happening at their buildings. Dr. Graber noted that originally on tonight's agenda the approval of the Athletic Boosters was on there but was pulled because they're still finalizing their bylaws. Dr. Graber anticipates that it will be approved at the next meeting. Dr. Graber stated that later on in the agenda under appointments, we will be asking the Board to approve the appointment of our new Community Engagement Coordinator, Michael Tilden. Dr. Graber commented that Mr. Tilden comes with nearly twenty-five years of experience in youth and community service roles.

Mrs. Wagner attended Westmore's Curriculum Night last week. Mrs. Wagner commented that it was nice to meet some of the teachers and to see some of the classrooms.

Mrs. Degnan spoke about the first District Advisory Council meeting of the school year. Mrs. Degnan stated that last year the focus was on the referendum and student discipline while this year the focus is on MTSS implementation and student technology use and screen time. Mrs. Degnan stated that Mrs. Cain is also on the committee.

(See official board book)

091526 (5)

Approval of Action Items (Discussion Agenda)

091526 (5a1-5a2)

**Approve District 45 Financial Reports (5a1-5a2)
5a1 Operating Statement; 5a2 Balance Sheet**

Dr. Legutki moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, to approve the Financial Reports as presented in Agenda Items 5a1-5a2.

Dr. Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/CSBO, reviewed the financial information with the Board of Education.

(See official board book)

Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Degnan, Mr. Dorhauer, Mrs. Godzicki, Dr. Legutki, Mrs. Wagner
Nays: None

091526 (5b)

Approve 2026-2027 Adopted Legal Budget Resolution

Dr. Legutki moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, to approve the 2026-2027 Adopted Legal Budget Resolution as presented in Agenda Item 5b.

Dr. Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/CSBO, reviewed the 2026-2027 Adopted Legal Budget Resolution with the Board of Education.

(See official board book)

Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Degnan, Mr. Dorhauer, Mrs. Godzicki, Dr. Legutki, Mrs. Wagner
Nays: None

091526 (6)

Approval of Action Items (Consent Agenda): 6a – 6h

Dr. Legutki moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, to approve the Action Items as presented in Agenda Items 6a-6h.

091526 (6a)

Approve Payrolls

091526 (6b)

Approve Check Listing

091526 (6b1)

Manual Checks

091526 (6b2)

Bills Payable

091526 (6c)

Approve Personnel Changes

091526 (6c1)

Termination(s)/Resignation(s): None

091526 (6c2)

Appointment(s)

091526 (6c3)

Leave(s) of Absence: None

091526 (6d)

Approve Meeting Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of September 1, 2026

091526 (6e)

Approve Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Employees Total Compensation Report - Public Act 97-0609

091526 (6f)

Approve Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report - Public Act 97-0256

091526 (6g)

Approve Concussion Oversight Team

091526 (6h)

Approve Salary Adjustment(s): None

(See official board book for copies of agenda items 6a--6h)

Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Degnan, Mr. Dorhauer, Mrs. Godzicki, Dr. Legutki, Mrs. Wagner
Nays: None

091526 (7)

Information and Consideration

091526 (7a)

Presentation of School Improvement Plans

Ms. Arado, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, shared the School Improvement Plans with the Board of Education.

(See official board book)

091526 (7b)

Referendum Update

Dr. Graber, Superintendent, shared a Referendum Update with the Board of Education. A discussion ensued.

(See official board book)

091526 (8)

Requests under Freedom of Information Act

Dr. Graber, Superintendent, reviewed with the Board of Education the FOIAs.

(See official board book)

091526 (9)

Adjournment

At 7:49 p.m., Dr. Legutki moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, to adjourn the Board Meeting.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned.

(See official board book)

President

Secretary

