BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 170

Dixon, Illinois
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 21, 2026

The Board of Education met in regular session in the Board Room at the Administrative Center on Wednesday, October 21, 2026. The regular meeting was called to order at 6:02 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, October 16, 2026, and to the news media on Monday, October 19, 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: Mrs. Linda Wegner, President; Mr. Brandon Rogers, Vice President; Mrs. Melissa Gates, Secretary; Mr. David Fritts, Mrs. Linda LeBlanc-Parks, Mrs. Kathleen Schaefer, and Mr. Jon Wadsworth

Electronically Present: None

Absent: None

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. 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. Janine Huffman, Principal at Thomas J. Dempsey School; Mr. Bob Wendt, Technology; media, staff, and community members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mr. Dwight (Pete) Hill led the Board of Education, administrative staff, and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA
A motion was made by Mr. Rogers, 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, Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Wegner. 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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Magnafici announced the October Students of the Month as Finnegan Shaw and Kenneth Chavez Renoj. Both students were acknowledged for their leadership, character, academic excellence, and involvement in activities at Reagan Middle School. Both students provided a video for the Board to view.

Mr. Shaner announced that Sebastian Seibel was selected as the Dixon Public Schools Foundation Student of the Month for September, and Sophia Wendt was selected as the Dixon Public Schools Foundation Student of the Month for October. Both students received this award based on their excellence in academics, character, and involvement in activities at Dixon High School. Both students submitted videos for the Board to view.

The Dixon High School NAMI students provided a presentation on the NAMI on campus club at DHS.

Mr. Pete Hill, Physical Education Teacher at Dempsey Day School, provided information on the Outride Ride for Focus program at Dempsey Day School.

Mrs. Alicia McPhillips, DEA Co-President, announced the October teachers of the month – Carie Ramirez, Candace Buikema twice, Danielle Andrews, Lisa Hellyer, John Barker, Elizabeth Bushman, Sarah Hansen, Amanda Sawyer twice, Candy Lind, Allison Goley, Sara Ganther, Nathan Geeves, Amy Abell, Addie Pace, Charlie Bishop, Jessica McKanna, and Jamie Brigl.

CITIZEN'S AGENDA

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ACTION ITEMS

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks, to approve the insurance renewal for the FY 27, as presented. The Board was able to make comments and ask questions. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Schaefer, to approve the DEA MOU for the introduction of the high deductible health plan effective January 1, 2027, as presented. The Board was able to make comments and ask questions. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaefer, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to approve the DESPA MOU for the introduction of the high deductible health plan effective January 1, 2027, as presented. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to approve the naming rights contract with Sauk Valley Bank, as presented. The Board was able to make comments and ask questions. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, Schaefer, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks, to approve the adjusted timeline for the Byrne and Jones track and field project, as presented. The Board was able to make comments and ask questions. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Fritts, LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Wegner. Voting nay - Gates. Motion approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Campbell went over his Business Report. He highlighted the following: the SMPG grant project that will be voted on at the November board meeting; county facilities sales tax; CPPRT; and tax rate information as a precursor to voting on the levy in December.

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

Mrs. Wegner gave an update from the DEA-PRC meeting on October 5th.

Mr. Rogers gave an updated from the Curriculum Committee meeting on October 15th.

Mrs. Gates gave an update from the DESPA-PRC meeting on October 13th.

Mrs. Gates gave an update from the Special Education Committee meeting on September 30th.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Huyett presented information on a request for a new truck for the maintenance department. The purchase of a truck will be an action item at the November Board meeting.

Dr. Huyett shared highlights from the IASB meeting on October 8th that featured Mr. Tim Zollinger as the speaker. Dr. Huyett also shared that the district will be hosting an IASB meeting in March at Dixon High School.

Dr. Huyett shared a reminder for Trunk or Treat at Washington School on Wednesday, October 28th.

There has been 1 FOIA request since the last Board meeting: Fillip Freeman from Sunlight Access requested purchase orders from 3/1/26 through 7/31/26. We have complied with this request.

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

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

New Hires

Heriberto Brito, Custodian at Dixon High School, effective October 22, 2026
Clayton McThenia, Custodian at Reagan Middle School, effective October 22, 2026
Melisa Welton, Lunchroom Supervisor at Jefferson School, effective October 14, 2026

Change in Status

Chad Isley, from Seasonal Grounds to Maintenance, effective July 1, 2026

Recommendation for Tenure

Alyssa Hanrahan, Kindergarten Teacher at Washington School, effective for the 26-27 school year

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to adjourn to executive session at 8:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; Evidence or testimony presented to a school board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to Section 24-24 of the School Code, provided that the school board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning; The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; Student disciplinary cases; Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea- LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, Fritts, Gates, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Gates, and seconded by Mr. Rogers, to return to Open Session at 9:22 p.m. This motion was submitted to a roll call vote with the following results: Voting yea – Fritts, Gates, LeBlanc-Parks, Rogers, Schaefer, Wadsworth, and Wegner. Voting nay--none. Motion unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Fritts, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc-Parks, to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m. All were in favor.

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President Secretary