MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (1st Thursday)
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33, DUPAGE COUNTY, WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
November 5, 2026

President Rita Balgeman called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m. at Leman Middle School, 238 E. Hazel St., West Chicago, Illinois. On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Rita Balgeman, Mrs. Morgan Banasiak, Mrs. Sandra Garcia, Mr. Chad McLean, Mrs. Janette Hernandez, and Mrs. Kari McCue. Absent: Mrs. Molly Denton.

ALSO PRESENT

Kristina Davis, Superintendent; Lea Pizinger, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations; Sarah Burnett, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Fred Cadena, Director of Facilities and Grounds; Cathy Park, Director of Assessment and Accountability; Sarah Norton, Director of Partnerships; Janet Ayala, Director of Multilingual Learners; and Niko Bubaris, Director of Technology.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Rita Balgeman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Under item XIV-Closed Session, reason 4, collective bargaining was added.

SHARED AGREEMENTS

Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.

1. *Respect staff and other board members and their opinions.*
2. *Be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1).*
3. *Allow everyone to complete their thoughts.*
4. *Commit to shared leadership.*
5. *Respect confidentiality.*
6. *Adhere to our belief in our students' full potential and successful future.*

Strategic Plan Goals

Goal #1 – Student Achievement
Goal #2 – Engaged Learning
Goal #3 – Strong Teams
Goal #4 – Family & Community Partnerships
Goal #5 - Smart Resources

SHARED AGREEMENTS REFLECTION

At the July 18, 2013, meeting, the Board of Education finalized its "shared agreements" and agreed to begin each regular board meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The agreement's purpose is to help maintain a positive environment for conducting board work.
No shared statement at this time.

RECOGNITION/SHOWCASE PRESENTATION

Presentation

Cathy Park, Director of Assessment and Accountability, shared the summative designation results with the Board. Mrs. Park explained the new way performance levels are calculated and the core indicators. Mrs. Park also explained the core indicators and each school's overall performance level. Principals will share the results with their buildings and review the data to identify areas of growth. Mrs. Park will continue to monitor student attendance data as it is submitted to the state to ensure accuracy.

E.T.A.W.C. STATEMENT

No E.T.A.W.C. statement at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.
No follow-up comment at this time.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approve Current Expenditures

…approved the list of bills dated October 18, 2026, through November 6, 2026, in the amount of $1,373,379.92;

Approve Contracts

…approve the contract renewals with the following vendors: Practical Parenting Education;

Approve Personnel Items

… approved the following personnel report:
0 Administration:
1 Certified: Mackenzie Sarasin, Music Teacher at Gary, effective November 9, 2026;
3 Classified: Arecely Munoz, Lunchroom Supervisor at Gary, effective November 12, 2026; Lucia DePaz, Piano Accompanist at LMS, effective November 6, 2026; Anahi Silva, Paraprofessional at Indian Knoll, effective November 16, 2026;

6 Resignation: Guadalupe Garcia, Lunchroom Supervisor at Pioneer, effective October 15, 2026; Humberto Gomez, Head Night Custodian at Leman, effective November 5, 2026; Brooklin Swierenga, Dual Language Teacher at Gary, effective December 18, 2026; Alyssa Apostoli, Custodian at ESC, effective January 4, 2027; Bengu Aybaraz, Paraprofessional at IK, effective October 28, 2026; Maria Perezchica, Nurse at Gary, effective November 6, 2026;
2 Retirement: Andrea Bove, Secretary at Wegner, effective June 11, 2026; Deanna Spanu, LBS1 at Gary, effective end of the 2027-2028 School Year.
On roll call, the following members voted aye: McLean, Banasiak, Balgeman, Garcia, Hernandez, and McCue. Nays: None. Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

DISCUSSION OF NEW / ONGOING BUSINESS WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

Presentation Follow-up	No presentation follow-up at this time.
Director of Facilities, Grounds, and Safety Job Description	The Board received the updated job description for the Director of Facilities, Grounds, and Safety. The Board will review the information and vote at the November 19, 2026 board meeting.
Finance/Facilities	The Board of Education received a financial report from Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, stating that the district had received $1,212,423.00 in Evidence-Based Founding, $79,212.00 in IDEA Flow Trhough, $289.00 in IDEA PreK, $178,392.50 in National School Lunch Program, $70,467.14 in School Breakfast Program, $50,227.00 in Title I Low Income, $7,812.00 in Title I School Improvement & Accountability, $4,051.00 in Title III Lang Inst Prog-Limite Eng LIPLEP, and $25,162.00 in Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrich since the last meeting.
School Board Self-Evaluation	The Board will review the updates to the Board Protocols and Expectations and vote at the November 19, 2026 board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Closed Session Minutes	Motioned by Garcia, seconded by Banasiak, to approve the release of the following closed session minutes: July 11, 2024. On roll call, the following members voted aye: Garcia,

	Banasiak, Balgeman, McLean, Hernandez, and McCue. Nays: None. Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays.
Appointment of District 33 Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly	Motioned by Banasiak, seconded by McCue, to approve Molly Denton as Delegate and Rita Balgeman as the Alternate Delegate for the 2026 IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards). The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.
Proposed Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions for Consideration at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly	Motioned by Banasiak, seconded by McCue, to grant authority to the Delegate or Alternate Delegate to vote on the IASB resolutions at the 2026 Delegate Assembly in accordance with the consensus of the District 33 School Board on November 21, 2026. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.
Discard List	Motioned by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to approve the disposal of unneeded equipment and/or materials that are inoperable or too costly to repair, including the following equipment/materials: student desks, filing cabinet, student chairs, milk cooler, and storage cabinet at Currier; broken desk, old carpet areas, and broken rolling cart at Indian Knoll; student chairs, lab stools, student desks, cabinets, carts, projectors, standing desks, and wheelchair at Leman. On roll call, the following members voted aye: McLean, Banasiak, McCue, Hernandez, Garcia, and Balgeman. Nays: None. Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays.
Server Quotes	Motioned by Hernandez, seconded by Garcia, to approve the DNS Server Firewall. On roll call, the following members voted aye: Hernandez, Garcia, Balgeman, Banasiak, McLean, and McCue. Nays: None. Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Career Week Update	The Board received information on the second annual D33 Elementary Career Week held October 5th to October 9th.
Veterans' Day	The Board received the highlights of the activities and events held at each school in honor of Veterans' Day, which took place on November 11, 2026.
Current Job Listing	The Board received the most recent posting of available job positions in School District 33.
School Newsletters	The Board reviewed the School newsletters.

Suggested Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting	No suggested items at this time.
Board Outreach	Morgan attended the IASB Regional Division meeting to receive the School Board Governance Recognition for the district.
Parking Lot	No parking lot items at this time.

REPORT OF DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee Updates	Board members received the committee update slideshow.
Calendar Committee	Calendar committee information was shared.
LEND	Kristina Davis attended the October 23rd meeting and reported on the budget hearing, the testimonies, and the importance of continued state investment in public education. Kristina also attended the ISBE meeting with state representatives to advocate for the English Learners and the exit criteria.
Open Comments	No open comments at this time.

REVIEW OF UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

CLOSED SESSION Motion by Banasiak, second by McLean, to go into closed session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss **(1)** the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee(s), specific independent contractors, specific volunteers, or District legal counsel: 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 120/2c) (1), amended by P.A. 101-459. **(2)** Student disciplinary cases. Any matter involving an individual student. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(10). Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy. **(3)** Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public 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. **(4)** Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. On roll call, the following members voted aye: Banasiak, McLean, McCue, Hernandez, Garcia, and Balgeman. Nays: None. Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays.
ROLL CALL	On roll call at 7:55 p.m., the following members were present: Balgeman, Banasiak, Garcia, Hernandez, McLean, and McCue. Absentees: Denton.
ALSO PRESENT	Kristina Davis, Superintendent; Sarah Burnett, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Lea Pizinger, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations; and Justin Petrarca, District Attorney.
Out of Closed Session	Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to reconvene to open session at 9:43 p.m. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

Approve Closed Session Minutes	Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to approve closed session minutes of October 15, 2026, and October 21, 2026, as read. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT	Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

President, Rita Balgeman

Secretary, Sandra Garcia